DATE: July 31, 2013

TO: Michigan Drug Treatment and Sobriety Courts

FROM: Dana Graham

RE: Veterans Treatment Court Grant Funding Available

The Michigan budget for fiscal year 2014 has appropriated $500,000 to fund veterans treatment courts in the state. The application is open to any veterans treatment court that is or will become operational in the 2014 fiscal year. Applications are available and should be completed online through WebGrants, the State Court Administrative Office’s (SCAO) grant management software. SCAO website for a link and more information about WebGrants: http://courts.mi.gov/administration/admin/op/problem-solving-courts/pages/grants-and-funding.aspx. The application closes on August 30, 2013.

Veterans treatment courts in Michigan are governed by MCL 600.1200, which includes a requirement that veterans treatment courts adhere to the 10 Key Components of Veterans Treatment Courts. A copy of these components can be found at the Justice for Vets website, run by the National Drug Court Institute at www.justiceforvets.org.

In addition to the wide variety of publications and guides available from Justice for Vets, the SCAO has many resources available to assist courts that are interested in establishing a veterans treatment court. Courts can visit http://courts.mi.gov/administration/admin/op/problem-solving-courts/pages/veterans-treatment-court.aspx to obtain a copy of “Developing and Implementing a Veteran’s Court,” provided by the Ingham County Veterans Treatment Court or the “VCTRI Program Handbook,” provided by the 64A District Court. The SCAO website also includes a Model LAO and MOU for veterans treatment courts, a link to the veterans treatment court statute, a list of other veterans treatment courts in Michigan, and a link to contact information for current Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists with the federal Veterans Administration.

Courts that are interested in establishing a veterans treatment court can contact me with any questions. I can be reached at grahamd@courts.mi.gov or 517-373-2218.