



MICHIGAN COURTS NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

West Wing Actress Melissa Fitzgerald and Justice McCormack to Speak at Training Program for Michigan Veteran Court Mentors

Who: Justice Bridget M. McCormack, Michigan Supreme Court
Melissa Fitzgerald, National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) and Justice For Vets

What: NADCP's Justice For Vets will conduct a mentor training for veterans from across Michigan culminating in a special swearing-in ceremony and grant announcement featuring Justice McCormack and NADCP Director and former West Wing actress Melissa Fitzgerald.

When: Veteran Mentor Training
Thursday, October 26 8:30 AM – 5:15 PM
Friday, October 27 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM

Swearing-in Ceremony
Friday, October 27 2:45 PM – 3:30 PM

Editor's Note: *Both events are open to the media and interviews can be scheduled upon request.*

Where: Michigan Hall of Justice
1st Floor Conference Center
925 W. Ottawa Street
Lansing, MI 48915

Why: Veterans treatment courts have gained national recognition as the most innovative and successful intervention for justice-involved veterans. Key to the success of veterans treatment courts is the role of volunteer veterans who serve as mentors. This Justice For Vets mentor training is supported by the retailer Macy's through its annual fundraising campaign for Got Your 6 and its non-profit veteran partners. Since 2013, Macy's customers and associates have helped raise more than \$8.3 million for veterans and military families across the country. The Michigan training will include over 60 veterans representing 12 veterans treatment courts.

Michigan is a national leader in providing funding for veterans treatment courts to ensure more men and women who have served our country have access to the benefits and treatment they have earned. There are 24 operational veterans treatment court programs in Michigan. According to the most recent MSC report, "[Solving Problem, Saving Lives](#)," unemployment among Michigan veterans treatment court graduates was reduced by two-thirds from October 2014 to September 2016.