



MARION COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL

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Vice-Chair: Bob Royer

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Marion County

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**John Van Dreal, Director of
Safety and Risk Management**
Salem-Keizer School District

January 10, 2017

Oregon Criminal Justice Commission
885 Summer St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Letter of Support for Marion County Veterans Treatment Court

To Whom It May Concern:

The Marion County Public Safety Coordinating Council expresses our strong support for the Marion County Veterans Treatment Court grant application.

The needs of the military veterans who have returned to Marion County from serving their country are an important priority to the council. These men and women continue to struggle to adjust to civilian life after completing their military service, often times carrying wounds that cannot be seen.

The Marion County Veterans Treatment Court is a much needed alternative treatment path in our court system that provides accountability, rehabilitation services, counseling, and structure to this unique population of individuals with the "warrior mentality" of self-reliance; making it difficult to admit the need for help. The court program provides a viable alternative to traditional sentencing and incarceration, thereby allowing the veteran to complete the program as a healthier more whole member of society.

Again, I would like to convey our support of our military veterans by endorsing this grant application for our needed court program.

Sincerely,

Commissioner Janet Carlson
Council Chair