

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



19th Judicial District Court
300 North Blvd
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801

Baton Rouge, LA – September 29, 2022. The 19th Judicial District Court is pleased to announce an award of \$700,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance through the FY2022 Veterans Treatment Court Discretionary Grant Program. Funds from this four year grant will be used to establish a Veterans Treatment Court in East Baton Rouge Parish.

Veterans Treatment Courts are designed to provide opportunities for justice-involved veterans to receive treatment for substance abuse and/or mental health diagnoses, which are often a result of their service to this country. In coordination with the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System and several local service providers, veterans participating in the Court will receive support and resources to address any identified need or barrier to success, such as housing, employment, education, social, family, and medical assistance.

Once established, The Honorable Ronald R. Johnson will preside over the Veterans Treatment Court. The Court will complement two other successful 19th JDC specialty courts: The David O’Quinn Pre-Trial Diversion & Recovery Program and Adult Drug Court.

The federally funded project will be evaluated by local criminologist Dr. Steven Maberry from Envisage Research and Analytics, a nationally recognized research firm. The results of the evaluation will be showcased throughout the initiative.

We, the 19th JDC, would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all of the local and state organizations who provided support for the federal proposal, and we look forward to working with you all to make the Veterans Treatment Court a success:

Mayor-President Sharon Weston-Broome	Congressman Garrett Graves
Councilwoman Carolyn Coleman	Dr. Stephen N. Xenakis, Retired Brigadier General
District Attorney Hillar C. Moore, III	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of the Public Defender	Louisiana Department of Public Safety & Corrections
Sheriff Sid J. Gautreaux, III	Louisiana Department of Health
Police Chief Murphy J Paul Jr.	Louisiana Supreme Court
Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank	Elayn Hunt Correctional Center
Capital Area Human Services	Envisage Research and Analytics
O’Brien House	LaGratta Consulting
Impact Group Behavioral Health Services	SJ Community Collaborations
Fathers On A Mission	Baton Rouge Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
365 Labs	Clay Young Enterprises