

Introduced by Legislators C. William Gaylor, III, John Ferretti, Jr., and Thomas McKevitt

RESOLUTION NO. 252018

A RESOLUTION REQUIRING THE NASSAU COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT TO
NOTATE AN ARRESTEE'S VETERAN STATUS ON POLICE REPORTS AND ALL
OTHER DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE VETERAN'S ARREST.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Majority Counsel

Passed by Nassau County Legislature on
2-26-18 A voice vote was taken with 18
Legislators present.
Voting: aye 18 nay 0, abstained 0, recused 0
Became an resolution on 2-28-18
With the approval of the Deputy County
Executive acting for the County Executive

WHEREAS, veterans of the United States Military served their country and made sacrifices to themselves, their families, and their friends to protect the freedoms enjoyed by the nation's citizenry; and

WHEREAS, for some, these sacrifices have led to hardships, including, but not limited to, addiction, financial difficulty, and emotional distress that could culminate in a veteran's arrest; and

WHEREAS, the Nassau County Veterans Treatment Court was established to provide veteran arrestees charged with non-violent offenses stemming from combat related mental health

and substance abuse issues with specialized services and treatment, as opposed to sentencing veteran arrestees to incarceration; and

WHEREAS, part of the Nassau County Veterans Services Agency's vision is to enhance the quality of life for veterans, expand community outreach, and advocate for education, training, and vocational rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, a veteran who has been arrested will not be assigned to the Nassau County Veterans Treatment Court or be informed of the services provided by the Nassau County Veterans Services Agency if his or her veteran status is not known to members of the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, if an arrestee's veteran status is noted on police documents related to the arrest, his or her case can be adjudicated by the Nassau County Veterans Treatment Court, if appropriate, and he or she can receive information regarding veterans' services, both of which could alter the course of the veteran arrestee's life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Nassau County Police Department shall insert the word "Veteran" and check-off box located next to this word on police reports and all other documents completed by the Department that are associated with an arrest; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Nassau County Police Department shall make reasonable efforts to ascertain whether an arrestee is a veteran of the United States Military, and if the response is affirmative, mark the check-off box imprinted on police reports and all other documents completed by the Department that are associated with the veteran's arrest.

APPROVED
Halena Bull
County Executive
DATE 2-28-18