A close-up photograph of an orange t-shirt. The shirt is laid flat, showing the collar and a pocket. The text is printed in a bold, black, sans-serif font. A white t-shirt is visible in the top left corner.

**VETERAN  
&  
MILITARY  
CONFINEMENT  
WARD**



---

*“Honor to the soldier and sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country’s cause. Honor, also, to the citizen who cares for his brother in the field and serves, as he best can, the same cause.”*

- Abraham Lincoln

---



**ABOUT**

# EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

*Colorado Springs, Colorado*

---

El Paso County is one of the 64 counties in the State of Colorado. With a population of 688,284, El Paso County is the second most populous county in Colorado.

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office employs approximately 525 sworn Deputies and 250 civilians throughout the Criminal Justice Center, Courthouse, Sheriff's Office Administration, and eight patrol districts that span 2,158 square miles.

The El Paso County Jail also known as the Criminal Justice Center, provides over 1,800 beds averaging close to 1,600 inmates per day.



# MILITARY POPULATION

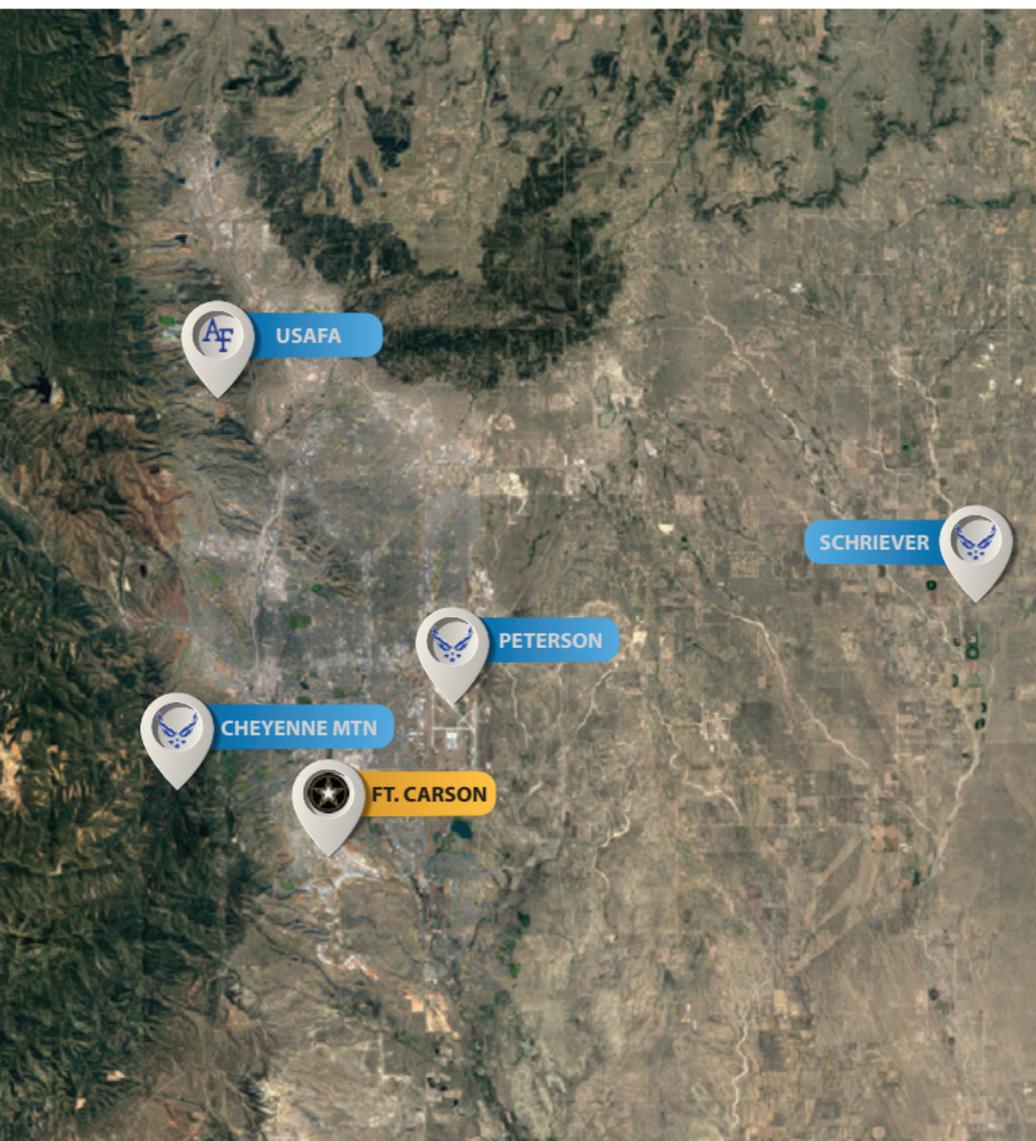
## *El Paso County*

---

Five active Military Installations call El Paso County home.

- *Fort Carson*
- *Peterson Air Force Base*
- *Schriever Air Force Base*
- *United States Air Force Academy*
- *Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station - NORAD*

Not only is the active duty population large, but the presence of the National Guard, Reserves, Retirees, and Veterans bring the El Paso County military population to well over 100,000.





# Veteran & Military Confinement Ward

## *How it Works*

---

### Ward Population

- Active Duty with Military Confinement Order
- Active Duty with Civilian Criminal Charges
- Veterans

### Inmate Classification

- Minimum Classification Inmates
- Non Disruptive Behavior
- Medium and Maximum Inmates on case by case basis

### Veterans Ward Deputies

- Sworn Staff  
*Preferred Military Background*
- Qualified to Instruct Time For Change (T4C)  
*Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)*  
*Therapeutic Intervention*
- Understands the Ward and the Program  
*Facilitates successful program management and oversight*

### Unique Challenges

- PTSD, TBI, Disability
- Substance Abuse
- Prone to Violence
- Homelessness

### Physical Space in the Facility

- Is it scalable to meet future needs?
- Long term population and resources
- Local VA facility

# **Veteran & Military Confinement Ward**

## *Community Involvement*

---

Look for community resources that would welcome new opportunities. Many organizations traditionally wait for clientele or patients to be released before assisting. Bringing in vetted volunteers from other organizations covers the gaps in care or service.

Volunteers in turn, become advocates to form community partnerships.

Identify the community resources, agencies, courts, and organizations that you can partner with. Partnership with other organizations is imperative to lateral community partnership.

### **Incarcerated Veterans Oversight Committee (IVOC)**

Community based partnership between Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations working with veterans in the criminal justice system.

Monthly meetings chaired by El Paso County Sheriff's Office to ensure all committee members are kept in close contact to guarantee continued flow of communication.

Addresses veteran needs during and after incarceration.

Looks at the totality of the veteran's situation with consideration to substance abuse, physical health needs, mental health needs, housing needs, employment needs.

Interacts to pool resources and streamline processes to help veterans

# **Veteran & Military Confinement Ward**

## *External Assets*

---

### **Colorado Springs Police Department**

*Homeless Outreach Team*

### **Colorado 4th Judicial District**

*Veterans Trauma Court*

### **University of Colorado - Colorado Springs**

*Academic Oversight*

### **Colorado College**

*Yoga and Meditation*

### **Aspen Pointe**

*Jail Diversion and Behavioral Health Consulting*

### **Colorado Department of Labor and Employment**

*Pikes Peak Workforce / Veteran Employment Team*

### **Rocky Mountain Human Services**

*Housing and Employment Assistance*

### **El Paso County Veterans Services**

*VA Ombudsman and Community Resources*

### **Community Counseling Veterans Services**

*Mental Health Counseling*

### **Mount Carmel**

*Veterans Resources, VA Ombudsman, Civil Legal Assistance*

### **Craig Hospital**

*Operation TBI Freedom and Peer Mentor Program*

### **Veterans Administration**

*Veterans Justice Outreach Program and Suicide Prevention*

---

## *Internal Assets*

---

### **El Paso County Sheriff's Office**

*Veterans Ward Deputies*

*Rural Enforcement and Outreach Unit*

# Veteran & Military Confinement Ward *Programs*

---

## **Time for Change (T4C)**

T4C is a cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) program that includes cognitive restructuring, social skills development, and the development of problem solving skills.

This course consists of five sessions that are instructed by T4C trained ward deputies. Each session lasts from 45 minutes to 75 minutes depending on how detailed the discussion points and class size. Class size can vary depending on daily ward population. Most class sizes average 8-10 students.

On average, one session per week is taught with homework assignments given between each session. Upon completion of the course, students are given a certificate of completion.



# Veteran & Military Confinement Ward

## *Programs*

---

### **Veterans Trauma Court (VTC)**

The Veterans Trauma Court (VTC) is a state and grant funded program that provides an alternative to incarceration for U.S. military veterans with trauma spectrum disorders and/or substance abuse issues who have proven to be high risk and high need. With the collaboration of individuals from the 4th Judicial District Courts, District's Attorney's Office, State Public Defenders office, El Paso and Teller County Sheriff's Office, Colorado Springs Police Department, Probation Department, Veterans Administration, Haven Family Support Center, Operation TBI Freedom/Craig Hospital (Veteran Mentor Program), and alternate treatment providers; eligible veterans are moved from the traditional courtroom environment into the VTC under the supervision of Judge David Shakes, a former Judge Advocate with the U.S. Army.



The 4th Judicial District VTC is modeled after problem solving drug courts, which have proven to be effective in handling criminal cases of substance abusers by heavily focusing on treatment, close probation supervision, and regular drug testing. These courts have been found to restore lives and prevent future arrests. One of the primary goals of the judiciary is always to protect the public by reducing recidivism (re-arrests). The close monitoring by the courts and probation increases public safety.

# Veteran & Military Confinement Ward

## *Programs*

---

### **Family Care Center**

The Family Care Center, located near the World Arena in Colorado Springs, is a leader in comprehensive behavioral health services for military families and Veterans. Having retired military and military dependent staff makes us uniquely qualified to treat clients dealing with the challenges of a military lifestyle. Our Veteran services works with those suffering from PTSD symptoms and those involved in the Veterans Trauma Court. We are proud to announce that we are a Vets Choice participating provider and were awarded a national grant to see Veterans without TRICARE benefits for limited free sessions. We offer individual treatment for those dealing with depression, anxiety, trauma, a mood disorders and co-occurring substance use treatment. Our therapist also provide family therapy and marriage counseling. We have Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) therapists who provide DBT group therapy for adults, middle school and high school aged populations. We have certified play therapists to treat children as young as three years old. We also offer medication management for those adults and children needing this service.



# Veteran & Military Confinement Ward *Programs*

---

## Veterans Affairs

The purpose of the Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) Program is to avoid the unnecessary criminalization of mental illness and extended incarceration among Veterans by ensuring that eligible justice-involved Veterans have timely access to VHA services as clinically indicated. Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists are responsible for direct outreach, assessment, and case management for justice-involved Veterans in local courts and jails, and liaison with local justice system partners.



# Veteran & Military Confinement Ward Programs

---



*“At Rocky Mountain Human Services, we value the contribution of every Veteran, and we treat them with the honor and respect that they deserve.”*

- **Homes For All Vets:**

*Homes for All Veterans provides a wide range of services designed to promote housing stability and alleviate chronic homelessness.*

- **Operation TBI Freedom:**

*Assisting Veterans and active duty military personnel with traumatic brain injuries (TBI) that occurred on, or after, September 11, 2001.*



- **Veteran Employment Services:**

*We work in collaboration with public and nonprofit partners and the business community to create employment opportunities for Veterans*



- **Veterans Trauma Court Officers:**

*Diverts Veterans entering legal system from jail and instead links them to treatment services that will support recovery from trauma experiences and substance abuse. The VTC greatly reduces repeat offenses or relapse and ultimately helps Veterans contribute positively to the community.*

- **Veteran Mentor Program:**

*The Peer Mentor Program pairs VTC participants with fellow Veterans as peer mentors.*



# Veteran & Military Confinement Ward

*Warriors First*

---



- A support group for veterans created by veteran offenders
- It's not a class or program, it is simply a safe environment for fellow veterans to come together and begin to build the camaraderie and friendship we once had while serving.
- Since transitioning out of the service or coming home from combat overseas, we are losing Veterans to suicide, addiction, and incarceration at an alarming rate. These losses are unacceptable.
- By creating camaraderie we hope to find our purpose again and realize that the battle for our lives has just begun... No matter where we go or what mistakes we make we must remember that we will always be **WARRIORS FIRST!**
- Each make a pledge to our families, our community and our brothers that we will begin the changes inside and have those changes reflected on the outside.



---

## I AM A VETERAN

I once raised my right hand and pledged to give my own life for our country. Somewhere along the way my actions have caused a deviation in the honor and selfless service that I once took an oath to uphold.

---

## *I HAVE FALLEN BUT I HAVE NOT FAILED*

---

I am still a warrior at heart. I have lacked the resources, leadership, and accountability that the military service instilled within me. Most of all I have lost the camaraderie and support. I pledge before my fellow brother veterans, leaders, and friends that I promise to continue those once proud traditions and values, that this group upholds and to carry those beyond these walls.

I promise to be a support system for any veteran that seeks information, guidance, and relief, unbiased no matter the situation of where he is or the situation I am in.

Once I set my foot outside these walls, I promise to uphold the standards we have set upon ourselves and continue to be the backbone of the community with hopes that those who have signed this before me will hold me accountable, as I will do the same for those who come after me.

I promise to continue a positive outlook for myself, adjusting and changing my behavior and to prove to those that I love that I am changing and most of all I promise to leave no man behind who desires the same path as I.





# Veteran & Military Confinement Ward

## *Warriors First*

---

The Warriors First Group is working toward becoming a 501(c)(3). The group is in the registration process to become nonprofit partner to the Veterans Administration (PHP) Program at the Crawford House. The group meets regularly at a local establishment (The Veterans Coffee Roasters) or the Veterans Administration Building. The group reaches out to ALL veterans to offer help and insure they have camaraderie and support.

The Warriors First Group offers transportation to all veterans leaving the El Paso County Jail. They also provide clothing and temporary safe housing through RMHS.

### **FREEDOM TO CHANGE**

The strongest member of our group, the one fighting the hardest, is the one who struggles with most. The one at the rear of our formation. So we do what we know how to do best: push through. We are here to help our brothers and sisters who are struggling the most, and not leave them behind, but bring them up front with us, taking them over life's obstacles, and through the battles that bare down on us. We have to strip our minds of what we think we know and listen to our hearts.

### **ON THE INSIDE LOOKING OUT**

I promise to continue my awareness of a positive outlook for myself, adjusting and changing my behavior so that I can achieve greater success on the outside in the civilian world. To prove to those that I love that I am changing through word, action and deed. I will work to create an environment of camaraderie and a win-win situation for all. But, most of all I promise to leave no man behind who desires to change and become the men we were destined to be...leaders of our communities



# Veteran & Military Confinement Ward

*Support and Aftercare*

---

## DURING CONFINEMENT



---

## SUPPORT INSIDE

IVOC members and El Paso County Jail Staff to set a foundation of life skills and to foster the “Change of Mindset.”

# Veteran & Military Confinement Ward

*Support and Aftercare*

---

## AFTER RELEASE



---

## SUPPORT OUTSIDE

To provide safety nets through support systems, encouragement and mentorship.



NO BICYCLES  
AND OTHER  
PERSONAL  
VEHICLES



EL PASO  
COUNTY  
JAIL





twitter @EPCSheriff Instagram @EPCSheriff facebook @EPCSheriffsOffice

Photos © 2017 El Paso County Sheriff's Office  
Media Services Unit



**El Paso County Sheriff's Office**

27 E. Vermijo Ave.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906  
[www.epcsheriffsoffice.com](http://www.epcsheriffsoffice.com)