



DJJ FORUM

Where DJJ employees gather to stay informed and celebrate our victories

Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice

November 2021

VETERANS APPRECIATION ISSUE



We Honor Your Service

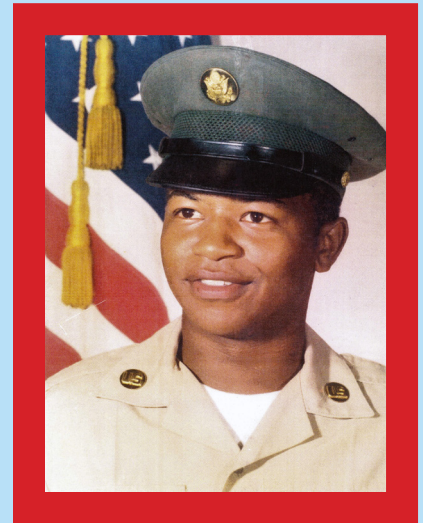
Greetings DJJ Family –

This week, we celebrate Veterans Day. We want to pause and take a moment to thank all of the veterans and family members serving across our department. I had hoped to offer comments live on Wednesday; however, we will need to reschedule our virtual Veterans Day celebration that had to be postponed due to a technology outage.

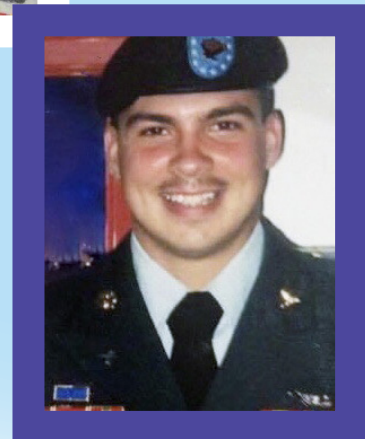
Veterans, we in the DJJ community and the community at large, honor the sacrifices you have made in defense of our country. I come from a long line of veterans with my grandfather serving in World War I, my father serving in the Korean conflict, my uncle serving in Vietnam, and my brother serving during Desert Storm. I have certainly heard of many sacrifices and have had a chance to witness some of it firsthand. Our most sincere gratitude is extended to you all for your service to the country and now your service to the youth and families of the Commonwealth, yet another noble cause.



*Karen Taylor
Residential
Program Assistant*



*Hamlet E. Hood Jr.
Special Agent*



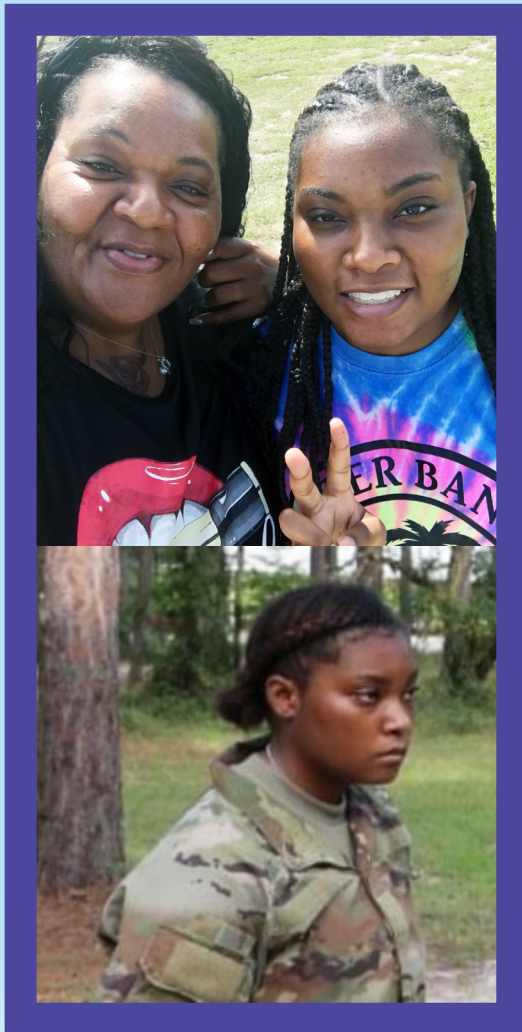
*Aaron Evans
Probation and Parole Officer
CSU 21–Martinsville*



*Brian McGuire
Training and Development Coordinator*



*Tyrone Jackson, Video Intake Program
Manager, CSU 9–King William*



*Keisha Agosto Gerena, Probation/
Parole Officer, CSU 3–Portsmouth,
and daughter Zyiiea Graham*

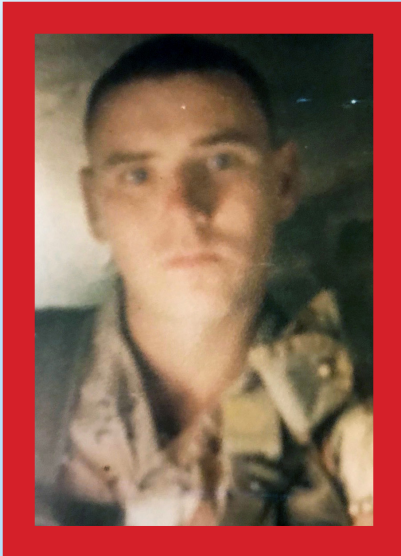
DJJ is a Virginia Values Veterans (V3) certified agency. We are also a past award winner in this effort. We pledged in our 2019 V3 plan to hire 20 new veterans. We beat that goal! As of October 29, 2021, I am pleased to announce we have hired 30 new veterans. Our work is not done: The V3 program now has an additional focus on military spouse support and we will provide focused recruitment efforts in that area. Even during the pandemic, our V3 coordinator, Sheanita Carter, is busy finding new ways to attract, retain, and recognize veterans and their families. We offer a big “shout out” to Sheanita for her work!

The photos of DJJ veterans featured in this year’s special Veterans Day *DJJ Forum* represent a small slice of the many among us who have served, or are currently serving, in a branch of the U.S. military. Thank you to those who sent photos ... but thank you especially to all our employees and their family members who have served.

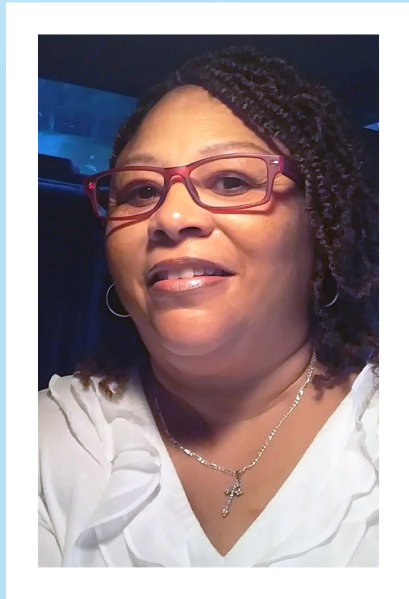
*– Valerie Boykin, Director
Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice*



*VyVyonne Dilbert
Administrative Supervisor
CSU 18-Alexandria*



*Darrin Stearrett
Administrative Security
Manager, Bon Air JCC*



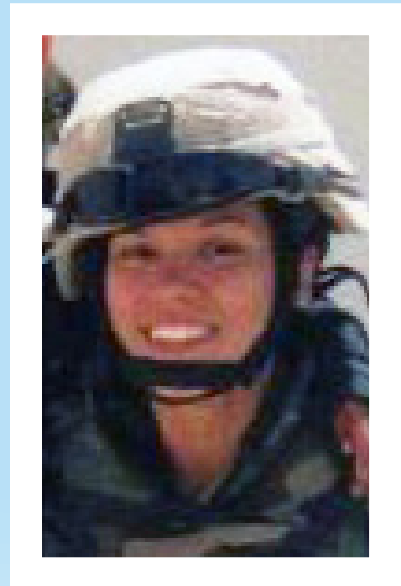
*Vanessa Broadnax
Trainer and
Instructor*



*Jerome Avila, Probation
Officer, CSU 24-Bedford*



*Jacqueline Allen
Intake Officer, CSU 4-Norfolk*



*Leticia Ortiz-Martinez,
Probation Officer,
CSU 16-Charlottesville*