



Turning lives around one child at a time.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 4, 2022

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JUVENILE COURT ADDS VETERAN'S RESOURCE CASE MANAGER TO STAFF

Summit County Juvenile Court Judge Linda Tucci Teodosio announced recently that the Court has hired Andrew Cox to the newly created position of Veteran's Resource Case Manager. The Court is the first Juvenile Court in the state of Ohio to hire a staff member responsible for working with Court-involved veterans.

Cox, a Norton resident, is an 18-year Air Force veteran. Among his duties will be to work with parents with a military background who are involved in custody issues. Cox will network with veteran services organizations throughout the Summit County community. He hopes to access benefits uniquely available to veterans with the goal to reunify them with their families. Mentoring, grants, support and spouse groups, even transportation are some of the benefits that Cox can offer to veterans and guide them through the application process.

Judge Teodosio noted that often she and the Court Magistrates hear cases that involved parents with military backgrounds who may be unaware of the numerous services that are available to assist them in gaining or maintaining custody of their children.

"I felt we had to do a better job of screening parents who identified as veterans and finding suitable benefits to help them," Judge Teodosio said. "That was the incentive behind creating this new position."

Cox will also work with relatives who are veterans and who have taken temporary custody of children and offer advice to delinquent youth who indicated an interest in joining the military and discuss with them the branch of the service that is most suitable for them.

Cox will develop individual case plans for parents who are referred to him with the ultimate goal of reunification with their children.

"I have full confidence that Andrew can assist our veterans with accessing these much-needed opportunities," said Judge Teodosio. "Andrew brings experience and enthusiasm to the job, and I know he is looking forward to helping his fellow veterans."