

**BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN  
COUNTY OF SUSSEX  
RESOLUTION 2016-64 SUPPORTING VETERANS TREATMENT COURTS**

**WHEREAS**, in 2010 the NJ Legislature enacted an Act (A-161) establishing a statewide task force to study the treatment of veterans diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder ("PTSD") in judicial proceedings with a final report and recommendations due to be submitted to the Governor in May 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Veterans PTSD Task Force will identify and review the issues and concerns facing New Jersey veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces and/or New Jersey National Guard who have been diagnosed with PTSD and how that diagnosis has impacted their treatment in judicial proceedings; and

**WHEREAS**, Veterans Treatment Courts, which have been established in 37 other U.S. States, aim to provide veterans with substance abuse or mental health treatment as an alternative to incarceration whenever possible and appropriate; and

**WHEREAS**, Veterans Treatment Courts start with the premise of providing veterans involved in the criminal justice system with a program and services to overcome the challenges they face in civilian life, often with the assistance of other armed forces veteran mentors; and

**WHEREAS**, New Jersey is home to 712,000 veterans, the 16<sup>th</sup> highest state veteran population in the nation, yet New Jersey remains one of only 13 states without a Veterans Treatment Court according to the not-for-profit Justice for Veterans Organization.

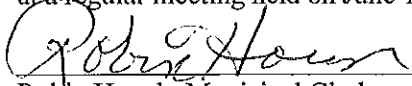
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Franklin, in the County of Sussex and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Borough of Franklin publicly supports the efforts of the New Jersey State Legislature and the New Jersey Veterans PTSD Task Force for examining such an important issue with the ultimate goal of potentially providing additional protections and/or alternative treatment options to veterans of the United States Armed Forces who provided tremendous service to our Country.

2. A copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Freeholders of Sussex County and our New Jersey Legislative Representatives.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

**CERTIFICATION:** I, Robin Hough, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Franklin, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Franklin at a regular meeting held on June 14, 2016.

  
Robin Hough, Municipal Clerk