

# **NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE READOPTION**

## **N.J.A.C. 5A:8**

### **New Jersey Veterans' Transitional Housing Program (Veterans' Havens South and North)**

#### **Operations, Personnel, Admission, Discharge and General Policies**

The New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has proposed re-adoption of N.J.A.C. 5A:8, New Jersey Veterans' Transitional Housing Program (Veterans' Havens South and North), Operations, Personnel, Admission, Discharge and General Policies. Veterans' Haven is a transitional housing program for homeless Veterans.

Veterans' Haven South is located on the grounds of the Ancora State Psychiatric Hospital in Winslow Township, (Camden County) New Jersey. Veterans' Haven North is located on the grounds of the Hagedorn Psychiatric Hospital in Lebanon Township, (Hunterdon County), New Jersey. Their goal is to rehabilitate homeless Veterans by preparing them to return to useful and productive lives through a program of treatment and support. Veterans account for an estimated 7,000 homeless individuals in the State of New Jersey. Their prior service in the Armed Forces of the United States indicates that they did have periods of adequate job performance, and even held positions of responsibility, before slipping into their current level of social functioning.

This program began providing services to homeless Veterans at its Veterans' Haven South facilities on January 18, 1995. Candidates for Veterans' Haven are identified through a system of outreach initiated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers such as in Philadelphia, PA, Lyons, NJ and East Orange, NJ. Eligible Veterans who have been stabilized with respect to their medical conditions, mental disorders and substance abuse treatment needs may be admitted into the program. Following entrance screening to insure their medical, mental, and substance abuse issues have been addressed, new residents begin an initial period of evaluation lasting 4 to 12 weeks; participating in an orientation designed to help resolve or mitigate their personal difficulties. At completion of this orientation period, the resident begins treatment, followed by the self-reclamation phase. During this period, the Veterans receive marketable job skills training. With employment and supportive services in place, Veterans return to society and to their families (where possible) during the community reintegration phase.

The proposed rule will be published in the December 21, 2021 edition of the New Jersey Register and can also be found at:

<http://www.nj.gov/military/admincode/proposedrules/NJAC5A-8VeteransHaven.pdf>

The deadline for comments is February 19, 2021. Comments may be submitted to:

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