

# **Celebrating 15 years of providing FREE legal assistance to our active duty military, their families and veterans.**

Situated less than 4 miles from the Pentagon, on the doorstep of the nation's capital, and neighbor to several major military installations, George Mason prides itself on its commitment and support of those who wear or have worn a uniform in service to our nation.

Direct evidence of that commitment and support can be found in the law school's Mason Veterans and Servicemembers Legal Clinic (M-VETS). Founded in 2004 as the Clinic for Legal Assistance to Servicemembers and Veterans, its establishment was unique in legal education and has subsequently served as a model for the founding of other servicemember and veterans clinics at law schools across the nation.

M-VETS enables Mason law students to assist servicemembers, veterans and dependent family members in a wide variety of litigation and non-litigation matters. Since its inception, clinic students have assisted hundreds of clients from all five branches of the armed services with negotiation and litigation in consumer protection, expungements, family law (uncontested divorce, step-parent adoptions, name changes), landlord-tenant and contract matters. M-VETS services for civil matters are limited to matters located in courts in Northern Virginia. M-VETS services for administrative and military law and entitlements matters, Medical and Physical Evaluation Boards, discharge upgrade applications before

Discharge Review Boards and Boards for Corrections of Military Records are not restricted by State of residence.

M-VETS also provides assistance related to the appeal of initial (partial or total) denials of VA disability compensation claims, the filing of requests for increases in ratings, and appeals to the Board of Veterans Appeals and the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.