



**Vermont Judiciary Commission on Mental Health and the Courts**

**Third Annual Summit**

**Thursday, September 25, 2025 from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm**

**Vermont Statehouse**

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| <b>8:00 am</b>              | <b>Registration with Coffee/Fruit/Bagels</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>8:30 – 9:45 am*</b>      | <b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b><br><b><u>Vermont Supreme Court Chief Justice Paul Reiber</u></b><br><b><u>Vermont State Senator Virginia (Ginny) Lyons</u></b><br><b><u>VT Dep't of Mental Health Deputy Commissioner Samantha Sweet</u></b><br><b><u>Keynote Speaker Margie Balfour, MD, PhD</u></b>                                                                                               |
| <b>9:45 – 10:45 am*</b>     | <b>Topic One – SIM Exercise Region Reports</b><br><b><u>NE – Susan Russell, MSW, Community Restorative Justice Center</u></b><br><b><u>NW – Melinda White, CRC, Recovery Coach Supervisor</u></b><br><b><u>SW – Chris Davis, Rutland County Public Defender</u></b><br><b><u>CN – Josh O'Hara, Chittenden County Public Defender</u></b><br><b><u>SE – Mark Anderson – Windham County Sheriff.</u></b> |
| <b>10:45 – 11:00 am</b>     | <b>Break</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>11:00 am – 12:00 pm*</b> | <b>Topic Two – Opportunities and Recommendations</b><br><b><u>Scott Acus, Mental Health and the Courts Project Director</u></b><br><b>Statewide Advisory Group Representatives</b><br><b><u>- Hon. Thomas Zonay, Chief Superior Judge</u></b>                                                                                                                                                          |

*- State Representative Daisy Berbeco; Pathways*

*- Karen Godnick Barber, General Counsel VT Dep't of Mental Health*

*- Michelle O'Brien, National Center for State Courts Consultant*

12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch in statehouse cafeteria  Optional Q & A with Dr. Margie Balfour in Ethan Allen Room
1:00 – 2:30 pm	Topic Three – Break-Out Sessions by SIM Region  <u><i>CN Region Facilitator Hon. John Pacht</i></u>  <u><i>SW Region Facilitator Hon. John Valente</i></u>  <i>SE Region Facilitator Hon. John Treadwell</i>  <u><i>NW &amp; NE Regions Facilitator Hon. Mary Morrissey</i></u>
2:30 – 2:45 pm	Break
2:45 – 3:45 pm*	Topic Four – Break-Out Feedback  <i>Chief Justice Paul Reiber, Moderator</i>  <i>Break-Out SIM Region Reports by Facilitators</i>
3:45 – 4:00 pm*	Next Steps and Wrap Up

\*Option to connect remotely via zoom