



Services

- ⇒ Ongoing judicial supervision to monitor compliance with treatment recommendations
- ⇒ Ready access to Veterans Administration services and resources
- ⇒ Specialized substance abuse and mental health treatment services
- ⇒ Random drug and alcohol screening
- ⇒ Social service support
- ⇒ Employment and housing assistance
- ⇒ Veteran peer mentoring

Mission Statement

Promote recovery, stability, and accountability for veterans involved in the justice system through supervision, treatment, and service-oriented mentorship.



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Veterans Treatment Court



Fourteenth Judicial Circuit

Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson and Washington Counties



What is Veterans Treatment Court (VTC)?

The Veterans Treatment Court is a court program designed specifically for U.S. military veterans including Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve charged with misdemeanor or felony offenses struggling with addiction, mental illness, and/or co-occurring disorders that may be a result of their military/combat service.

The program diverts eligible veteran participants from the traditional justice system and provides them support and rehabilitation through comprehensive substance abuse and/or mental health treatment, education, vocational programs, and community resource referrals for housing, childcare, and transportation all while being judicially monitored.

Veterans Treatment Court is a collaborative effort among the Courts, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and community stakeholders to assist the veteran and promote recovery, stability, and accountability. It is a voluntary program with a duration of 12 - 18 months with an emphasis on outcome-based treatment.

Who is Eligible?

- ◆ A veteran as verified by their DD Form 214 or current Active Duty status charged with a qualifying misdemeanor and/or felony offense;
- ◆ A veteran experiencing a substance abuse problem and/or mental health issue including TBI, PTSD, and MST;
- ◆ A veteran who has the consent of the prosecuting attorney for referral to Veterans Court and the Judge's approval to participate; and
- ◆ A veteran who is willing to participate in treatment for the duration of their involvement in the program.

Program Outline

- ◆ Attend court hearings once or twice a month to review progress in the program;
- ◆ Attend substance abuse and/or mental health counseling as appropriate;
- ◆ Submit to random urine drug screens;
- ◆ Comply with individualized treatment plan as outlined by the VTC team; and
- ◆ Upon successful completion of the program charges may be dismissed. Non-compliance with program requirements could result in termination from program.

Goals

- ◆ Reduce criminal recidivism
- ◆ Facilitate recovery
- ◆ Increase compliance with treatment and other court-ordered conditions
- ◆ Improve access to VA benefits and services
- ◆ Improve family relationships and social support connections
- ◆ Improve life stability

