

DALLAS COUNTY VETERANS COURT PROGRAM

SUMMARY INFORMATION

Introduction

1. An alternative to traditional prosecution.
2. Treatment of mental health issues which caused or affected criminal conduct.
3. Eligibility is determined by the District Attorney's Office.

Benefits

1. Access to U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs medical treatment of mental health issues.
2. Continual Court monitoring of treatment progress.
3. Periodic appearances in Court with the judge.
4. Mentoring by fellow veterans. Many mentors participated in the Veterans Court Program.
5. Successful completion results in dismissal of the charges and eligibility for expunction from the veteran's record.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Charged with an offense which could or would typically receive a **community supervision recommendation** – such as probation.
2. Must have an **Honorable Discharge** or currently be a serving **Active Duty Member** in the Armed Forces.
3. No prior **felony convictions** or **felony deferred adjudications**.
4. Must be **employed full-time**, a **full-time student**, or a **part-time student** also **working part-time**.

5. **Must have a mental health disorder** resulting from or advanced by military service (such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder or Depression).

Process & Instructions

1. Consult with your attorney about applying for Veterans Court.
2. Contact the ***Community Supervision Officer*** (CSO) at **214-653-5935**.
3. Fill-out and submit waivers granting the Veterans Court access to your military service records and medical records for purposes of determining eligibility for, and course of treatment in, Veterans Court.
4. Charged offense is reviewed by the CSO and the District Attorney's Office to determine eligibility of acceptance into the program.
5. Appointment is set for mental health evaluation.
6. Veteran applicant is informed of their acceptance or denial into the program via phone call from the CSO.
7. Treatment Plan issued (treatments vary) and mentor assigned.
8. Judge monitors progress throughout treatment.
9. Once treatment is complete, case is dismissed and eligible for expunction.

Contact

The Veterans Court Program is administered by the District Attorney's Office and authorized by Texas Government Code Chapter 124.

**For more information and to see if you qualify, please contact the
Community Supervision Officer (CSO) at
214-653-5935.**