



Veterans Treatment Court and Military Diversion

www.slocounty.ca.gov/VTC

Interested in becoming a volunteer?

If you served in the U.S. Armed Forces and would like more information about becoming a Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) mentor, please contact the VSO at (805)781-5766.

Helpful Numbers:

County Behavioral Health:
805-748-2403

County Probation (ask for VTC officer):
805-781-5300

County Veteran Service Office:
805-748-0511

Veterans Affairs Justice Outreach
Coordinator:
424-362-4848



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Veterans Treatment Court (VTC)

The mission of the Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) is to enhance public safety and reduce recidivism of justice-involved military veterans whose needs are better met through treatment intervention rather than incarceration. It diverts veteran offenders to a specialized court docket that offers treatment, targeted resources and provides participants with the opportunity to establish clean and sober lifestyles, reduce criminality and psychiatric episodes, and improve the quality of their lives.

Admission Criteria

Cases considered for VTC include misdemeanor and felony offenses, except when the charges are related to serious or violent felonies, strikes, and/or sexual abuse. Each case is considered based on the treatment team's assessment and determination of a qualifying mental health condition related to one's military service. Veterans Treatment Court is a post-plea program.



Expectations and Outcomes

- Follow court ordered terms and conditions.
- Follow treatment plan designed for client.
- Attend court on the first and third Friday of each month.
- Upon graduation (18 - 24 months) possible relief depending on circumstances of case.

Screening Process

Veterans are screened by Veteran Service Office (VSO) to confirm military status (all discharges are accepted) as well as:

- County Probation Office to review case and criminal background
- County Behavioral Health Clinician to evaluate level of care, mental health diagnosis, nexus (nexus must exist between the crime, the mental health diagnosis and the Veteran's time in service), and treatment recommendations.

Military Diversion

Military Diversion is designed to reduce recidivism by providing low-level, non-recidivist veteran and active military offenders the opportunity for rehabilitative education and resources.

Admission Criteria

Cases considered for admission for Military Diversion include first time misdemeanor offenses. Each case is considered based on the treatment team's assessment and determination of a qualifying mental health condition related to one's military service. Military Diversion is a pre-plea program.

Expectations and Outcomes

- Comply with court directives, often related to alcohol/substance use and mental health treatment.
- Diversion grants typically range between 1 and 2 years in duration.
- Upon successful completion of diversion grant, charges will be dismissed.

Screening Process

Veterans and active military members are screened by Veteran Service Office (VSO) and County Behavioral Health to evaluate level of care, mental health diagnosis, nexus, and treatment recommendations.

**National Association of
Drug Court Professionals:**
www.nadcp.org