

Mission Statement

To help Justice Involved veterans by diverting them from the traditional justice system and providing them with the tools they need to reintegrate into a productive, law-abiding lifestyle through a collaborative effort of support, treatment, and accountability that leaves no Veteran behind.

Qualifications

In order for a person to be considered for Veterans Treatment Court (VTC), all of the following conditions must be met:

- Served in the US Armed Forces
- Charged with a Misdemeanor Offense in Comal County
- Diagnosed with PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), a mental health disorder, or a substance abuse disorder and a result of military service
- Connection between the disorder and the offense committed
- Willing to take responsibility for the wrongdoing
- Willing to accept help

Structure of VTC

The VTC program consists of four phases plus a community transition period that is tailored to each participant's individual needs and is designed to last for a minimum of twelve months. Each phase includes supervision requirements and addresses specific treatment and recovery goals with therapeutic interventions and rehabilitative directives to be completed in order to advance to the next phase.

The time it will take to complete VTC depends upon an individual's progress through the phases. Lapses in sobriety, incomplete requirements, and/or lack of progress will cause any given phase to last longer than the minimum guidelines set out in the handbook.

Both incentives and sanctions may be utilized by the VTC Treatment Team to encourage participants to stay on track, maintain sobriety and successfully complete the program.

Additional information is available in the VTC handbook, made available to interested parties upon request.

Goals of VTC

- Provide each participant with a judicially-supervised treatment program using a variety of methods and treatment options.
- Promote the achievement of educational, employment, and social goals that promote a healthy and productive lifestyle.
- Help each participant become a productive citizen in our community.
- Help each participant abstain from the abuse of substances by treating addiction and other underlying factors, thereby reducing contact with the criminal justice system.

Applying to VTC

Applications are available at County Court at Law 2 and the Criminal District Attorney's Office. An application must be COMPLETE for it to be considered. In addition to the application, prospective candidates must attach their DD-214, a written personal statement, and other documentation as listed in the application.

About VTC

The Comal County VTC was created on August 13, 2015 by the Comal County Commissioners Court to assist Veterans charged with misdemeanor offenses who are struggling with addiction, mental health illness, or co-occurring disorders. The VTC Treatment Team is led by the Honorable Judge Charles A. Stephens, II, and consists of representatives from the Criminal District Attorney's Office, the Defense Bar, Adult Probation, South Texas Veterans Healthcare System, the Military Veterans Peer Network, and local Law Enforcement, and local mental health authorities.

VTC has two tracks. Track I is structured as Pretrial Intervention, and can result in a dismissal of the charge upon successful completion. Track II is either regular or deferred probation, but the VTC rules and conditions are substituted for normal conditions of probation.

This program is supported by a grant from the Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans Assistance.



<https://www.tvc.texas.gov/>



Contact Information

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Comal County Veterans Treatment Court

