

Veterans Treatment Court

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can apply?

- Justice-involved veterans with pending criminal charges and/or probation violations. Both Magistrate level and General Sessions level charges are permitted in the program.
- Veterans must be eligible for all VA services.
- Veterans must have a substance use disorder, mental health diagnosis and/or trauma-related disorder.
- Transfers are permitted from throughout the state of South Carolina, however individuals must be willing to relocate to the Tri-County area for the duration of the program.

How to apply?

- Applications may be completed by defense attorneys with the applicants input.
- Applications may be emailed to the coordinator.
- Applications may be submitted online on the Solicitor's Office webpage.
- Applications must include a copy of the DD 214.
- Application to the program is free of charge.

What services are provided?

- Drug counseling
- Medication-assisted treatment
- Moral reconnection therapy
- Mental health counseling
- Employment assistance
- Medical appointments
- Psychiatric appointments
- Housing assistance

What are the requirements?

- Attend court sessions
- Pay court fees
- Attend a minimum of two self-help meetings per week
- Submit to random drug and alcohol testing
- Attend all treatment sessions as required
- Attain and maintain employment, education or waiver of disability
- Pay all restitution to crime victims, if applicable
- Maintain regular contact with Veteran Mentor

What happens at the conclusion?

- Upon successful completion, all charges are dismissed and/or probation ended. If the individual entered the program on pending criminal charges, that criminal record is eligible for expungement.
- Upon unsuccessful completion, the charges become convictions or probation is violated and the case returns to court for the negotiated sentence imposition.

**For more information, please contact
Coordinator Hollen Sellers at 843.958.5186 or
hsellers@charlestoncounty.org or go to our
website at www.scsolicitor9.org.**



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VETERANS TREATMENT COURT



The mission of the Ninth Judicial Circuit Veterans Treatment Court is to honor the service of justice-involved veterans by providing a rehabilitative program that combines intensive judicial supervision, mentorship, and treatment services to address veterans' needs, and enhances public safety by returning law-abiding and productive citizens to the community.

Veterans Treatment Court is a blend of traditional Drug Court and Mental Health Court with the emphasis on assisting justice-involved Veterans. A multidisciplinary team guides the court, including a judge, prosecutor, defense attorney, treatment, testing, coordinator, and veteran mentor.

Veterans Treatment Court is available in both Magistrate and General Sessions tracks. The Magistrate track requires a guilty plea to charges and deferral upon successful completion of the program. The program lasts a minimum of six months. The General Sessions track requires a guilty plea to charges with a negotiated sentence and deferral upon successful completion of the program. The program lasts a minimum of 15 (fifteen) months. Upon successful completion of Veterans Treatment Court, the charges will be dismissed or the probation supervision ended.

Participants are required to attend court appearances, meet with a veteran mentor regularly, attend self-help meetings, submit to random drug testing, and attend all treatment sessions.

The goal is to improve outcomes for justice-involved veterans by connecting them to needed services through the Veterans Administration. By doing so, Veterans Treatment Court reduces recidivism and enhances public safety.

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www.scsolicitor9.org/alternative-courts.php**