

Goals of Veterans Treatment Court

- Reduce criminal recidivism
- Stabilize mental health and increase compliance with treatment
- Facilitate participant sobriety
- Improve access to VA benefits & services
- Achieve stable housing
- Improve family relationships & social connections
- Advance employment & educational status



For more information please contact:

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Thank you veterans for your service!



A treatment-focused specialty court for court-involved individuals who have served in the nation's armed forces



Judge Laurie MacLeod
Holyoke District Court
20 Court Plaza
Holyoke, MA 01040

WHAT IS A VETERANS TREATMENT COURT?

The WMVTC offers a voluntary, 24-month probation term intended to serve veterans struggling with mental health and/or substance use disorders. The program involves ongoing judicial and probation supervision with input from a multidisciplinary team of professionals. The Court promotes sobriety, recovery and stability through collaborations with VA and community-based treatment providers. In addition, all participants are matched with a volunteer veteran mentor who will assist them through the program.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Eligibility is evaluated by the Veterans Court team on a case-by-case basis.

General requirements include:

- Served in the U.S. Armed Forces
- Charged with a misdemeanor or felony in Hampden, Hampshire or Franklin County (has not been indicted) and eligible for probation
- Currently experiencing mental health and/or substance use disorders

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION?

- Alternative sentencing options
 - Access to a comprehensive treatment plan through the VA service system and/or community providers
 - Vet-to-Vet peer mentor program
 - A team of support and case management to help reduce any barriers to success.
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WHAT IS THE PROCESS TO ENTER THE VETERANS TREATMENT COURT?

1. Notify ADA handling case or Probation Officer on violation that client is a Veteran and interested in court
2. Complete referral form and submit to coordinator
3. VJO will confirm Veteran status of the client
4. The Veteran will participate in assessment to determine clinical eligibility
5. The Treatment Court Team reviews Veteran's legal and clinical eligibility
6. Veteran observes court session
7. Veteran reviews and accepts plea agreement with attorney

Mission Statement

The mission of the Western Massachusetts Veterans Treatment Court (WMVTC) is to reintegrate court-involved individuals who have served in the nation's armed forces into society. Admission into the Veterans Treatment Court provides for competent assessment and treatment planning for both substance dependence and mental health disorders. The program includes supervision, monitoring and support to veterans while protecting public safety.

