

Who Is Eligible?

A defendant can only be accepted into VTC as follows (generally stated):

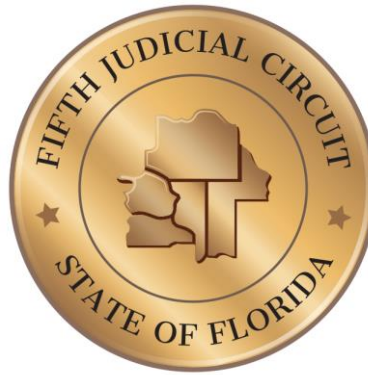
- Must be an Eligible Veteran (EVD)
- EVD status must be established by a DD-214
- Suffering from a military service-related mental illness, substance use disorder, or any other psychological problem.
- Must have been arrested for or charged with and/or sentenced on one or more crimes alleged to have been committed in Hernando County.
- Must be represented by an attorney or public defender.
- Must meet **residency requirements** (generally, 30 days in Hernando County prior to application).
- Must enter a guilty or no contest plea to each charge pending – sentencing may be deferred.
- Must have ability to comprehend & conform to the VTC program.

Participation in the VTC is optional & gives the qualified defendant an opportunity to become stabilized while starting to build a more successful life within our community.

Hernando County Veteran's Treatment Court

20 N. Main Street
Room 300A
Brooksville, FL, 34601
Phone: (352) 540-6780
Cell: (352) 397-5793
Fax: (352) 754-4235

Website: [Hernando County – Veteran's Treatment Court - State of Florida Fifth Judicial Circuit \(circuit5.org\)](http://Hernando County – Veteran's Treatment Court - State of Florida Fifth Judicial Circuit (circuit5.org))



The Hernando County Veteran's Treatment Court does not discriminate against qualified applications based on race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, marital status, handicap(disability) or veteran status or as otherwise prohibited by federal, state, or local law.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation, you are entitled, at no cost to you, provision of certain assistance. If you are hearing or voice impaired, please call (800) 955-877)

HERNANDO COUNTY VETERAN'S COURT (VTC)



What is the Hernando County Veteran's Treatment Court?

The Hernando County Veteran's Treatment Court (VTC) is a special division of the Hernando County Court system. It is a Court supervised program for those arrested in Hernando County who have a mental illness and/or a substance use disorder, who need treatment and other services, and who choose to participate in the VTC instead of having their case proceed through the regular court process. The Hernando County VTC is a problem solving and hybrid court, meaning it will handle misdemeanor cases and felony cases as a post adjudicatory diversion program.

There is a particularly high prevalence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Major Depressive Disorder among combat veterans. VTC's recognize the unique challenges facing veterans with PTSD and TBI and help link veterans with services.

Outcome of Case?

When you graduate from the Veteran's Treatment Court, **your case may be dismissed, and you may avoid jail time.**

What do I have to do?

The VTC Team will prepare an individualized treatment plan for you based on an assessment of your needs for mental health, substance use &/or alcohol treatment, case management

services, housing, and employment. To participate, you must agree to comply with your treatment plan.

How long will I be involved with the Hernando VTC?

The VTC is a **Five Phase Program**. The amount of time you spend in the program is determined by your participation & progress & is one year minimum. While you are participating in VTC, the Judge and Treatment Team will monitor your participation and progress in treatment and the program.

What's in it for me?

Opportunity: The VTC offers you a chance to avoid jail on your current charge and to move forward in your life. Remember that there are many people who make up the VTC Treatment Team and they all want you to succeed. If you take advantage of the assistance offered, you can discover many ways to make a better life for yourself.

Services: The VTC will help you coordinate case management services, mental health treatment, and if your treatment plan calls for it, substance use or alcohol treatment and supported housing.

Recognition of progress: As you progress through the phases of your treatment plan, the VTC Judge will recognize your achievements and you will receive certificates or awards to acknowledge your accomplishments.

What do I need to participate?

Be Honest. The Hernando County VTC Treatment Team is here to help you in your recovery process. We recognize that recovery is not an easy path, and we want to help you continue your progress around any obstacles that you may encounter. If you are not honest with the Team, we will be unable to help you appropriately.

Waiver of Confidentiality Consent: To participate in VTC, you must sign a waiver of confidentiality among Veteran's Treatment Team Members. This means that your doctor, social workers, and other team members are free to share amongst the members appropriate information about your treatment program and your progress.

If you are interested in participating in the Hernando County Veteran's Treatment Court Program, please notify your attorney or public defender.

Contact Us:

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Treatment Court
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Brooksville, FL, 34601
Phone: 352-540-6780