

Fayette County Problem-Solving Courts
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MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT

VETERAN'S DIVERSIONARY PROGRAM

Mission Statement: The mission of the Magisterial District Court Veteran's Diversionary Program is to successfully divert eligible Veteran's into a necessary treatment program post arrest in order to avoid accumulation of a criminal record, recidivism, and contribute to the overall safety of the community.

Program Outline:

Step 1: Identification of Veteran (by arresting officer or Magisterial District Judge (MDJ))

Standard practice upon presentation of defendant **must** include the following:

1. Have you served in the Armed Forces?
2. Branch?
3. Length of service?
4. Mental Health or Substance Abuse diagnosis and place of diagnosis.
5. Consents for verification must be signed (VA, place of diagnosis).

Step 2: Victims Approval

1. A referral form will be faxed to Crime Victims in order to get approval of program involvement from the victim (if applicable).
2. Form will need to be returned to the Problem Solving Court Manager/Liaison within 3 days.

Step 3: Continuation and referral for services

1. MDJ will continue the summary hearing for a period of 60-90 days to give the Veteran an opportunity to successfully participate in a treatment program.
2. A referral form will be completed and sent to the appropriate treatment agency as well as Keather Likins, the designated Veteran's Justice Outreach Specialist (VJO) at the time of continuation. The Veteran must schedule their initial appointment and contact the VJO within 24 hours of the referral.

Step 4: Monitoring of services

1. The Fayette County Problem Solving Court will monitor the treatment progress of the Veteran via weekly report from the treatment provider and VJO. A copy of the report will be sent to the MDJ office.
2. If non-compliant with treatment recommendations a hearing will be scheduled to either remove the Veteran from the program or address the issue.

Step 5: Completion of program

1. If the Veteran has been successfully participating in services during the continuation period they will be given the opportunity to continue for the final 4 months of the program.
2. At the time of successful completion all charges will be dismissed.
3. The Veteran will be awarded a certificate of completion.

Eligible Charges:

18-2709 Harassment

18-3503(b.1) Simple Trespasser

18-5503 Disorderly conduct

18-5505 Public Drunkenness

18-3929 Summary Retail Theft - this charge may require restitution to be paid before entering the program

18-3304 Summary Criminal Mischief which causes a loss less than \$150.00. This charge may require restitution to be paid before entering the program.