

Eligibility Criteria

The potential participant **must** qualify under the guidelines as defined in Idaho Code §19-5604 for drug and mental health courts along with Title 38 USCS §101(2) "Veterans Benefits" with the following local conditions outlined:

1. The term 'Veteran' means a person who served in the active military, naval or air services, and who was discharged, or released therefrom pursuant to Title 38 USCS §101(2), or otherwise defined by Idaho Code §65-502 (17) which states "Veteran" means any person who has been discharged or released from active duty in the armed forces under honorable conditions and has:
 - (a) Served on active duty in the U.S. armed forces during a war, in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized.
 - (b) Served on active duty as defined in 38 U.S.C. section 101(21) at any time in the armed forces for a period of more than one hundred eighty (180) consecutive days.
2. Be an adult, eighteen (18) years or older, with current criminal charges or probation violations.
3. Must reside in the Fifth Judicial District at the time of opt-in and remain a legal resident of the city of Twin Falls for felony cases, and Twin Falls County for misdemeanor cases, throughout the duration of the program.
4. Have a DSM-IV TR or DSM-V primary diagnosis for a substance abuse and/or a mental health disorder.
5. The veteran has the mental capacity and ability to appreciate the consequences of the legal proceedings and fully understand the expectations and conditions of the Veterans Treatment Court contract.
6. The veteran must plead guilty to the pending offense and/or admit to the pending probation violation prior to acceptance in the program.



STATE OF IDAHO



FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT VETERANS TREATMENT COURT

For more information about Veterans
Treatment Court contact
Rich Neu at 208-735-4374

Problem Solving Courts
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MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the Fifth Judicial District Veterans Treatment Court to promote public safety by integrating, assisting and supporting veterans through a collaborative and coordinated response to include the Veterans service delivery system, community based services, court supervised treatment and accountability through a system of sanctions and incentives to help veterans in the criminal justice system while providing community protection. Veterans Treatment Court will hold defendants accountable and will assist the veteran to reintegrate in the community so they can once again become law-abiding citizens and successful family and community members.

**The Veterans Treatment
Court meets every Tuesday
afternoon at 04:30 P.M. with
Judge Eric J. Wildman
presiding.**

Rich Neu
Fifth Judicial District Coordinator
Veterans Treatment Court
208-735-4374

Disqualifying Factor(s)

Pursuant to Idaho Code 19-5604, the potential participant for Veterans Treatment Court **will be** disqualified if he/she:

Is currently charged with, or has pled or been found guilty of, a felony in which the person committed, attempted to commit, or intended to commit a sex offense. In the case of a historical sexual offense, the Idaho Department of Correction will be consulted to determine if the applicant should be supervised as a sexual offender and therefore excluded from participation.

What is Veterans Treatment Court ?

The Veterans Treatment Court is a problem solving court program that was developed using a broad base of veteran and community partners to address the local needs, relationships and circumstances of the justice involved veteran. The Veterans Treatment Court is patterned after a successful model and is consistent with veterans courts throughout the nation.

The Veterans Treatment Court is a court given the responsibility to handle cases involving qualified veteran offenders. This program includes, judicial and probation supervision, individualized substance abuse treatment, mental health

treatment, linkage with veterans benefits, mentoring and the use of incentives and sanctions. The Judge will be highly involved in the supervising of the Veterans Court Participants rather than just placing them on probation.

The Veterans Treatment Court removes the defendant from the traditional criminal justice system, and places them in a more informal courtroom environment where they undergo treatment and counseling, make regular appearances before the judge and are monitored closely for program compliance.

About the Fifth Judicial District Veterans Treatment Court Program

The 5th District Veterans Treatment Court is a voluntary post-conviction program for veterans who have a pending criminal charge that are also afflicted with a substance abuse and/or a mental health disorder(s). If you are determined to be eligible for participation in the Veterans Treatment Court, the judge has the option to sentence you to the Veterans Treatment Court as a condition of your probation. Keep in mind that at any time during your participation, you could be terminated from the program for not complying with the rules or treatment plan. Should this happen, a probation violation will be filed and your original suspended sentence could be imposed by the sentencing judge.

The Veterans Treatment Court is a four (4) phase program consisting of intensive supervision, treatment and monitoring by an interdisciplinary team. You will be required to make frequent appearances before the Veterans Treatment Court judge, follow an intensive, individualized treatment plan and meet with your probation officer regularly. You will be tested randomly for drugs and alcohol as required by your plan.

There will be a volunteer veteran mentor assigned to each participant once they have been accepted into the Veterans Treatment Court Program. The mentor is a veteran who understands where you've been and stands ready to help you problem solve, access services or just talk. With few exceptions, conversations with your mentor are confidential.

The program is a minimum of eighteen (18) to twenty-four (24) months. You will advance from one phase to the next based on your progress and your ability to comply with your treatment and probation regimen. Based upon program compliance and participation, some participants may advance faster than others. Following graduation from the Veterans Treatment Court you will be required to complete approximately 6 months of a standard probation before becoming eligible to have your charges reduced or dismissed.

**For more information about
Veterans Treatment Court contact
Rich Neu at 208-735-4374**