

Orange County Veterans Treatment Court Program Manual



Superior Court of California County of Orange

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Orange County Veterans Treatment Court is to provide an inter-agency, collaborative, non-adversarial treatment strategy for Veterans in the criminal justice system who suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), psychological issues, sexual trauma, or substance abuse problems as a result of having served in the United States military.

CA Penal Code 1170.9. (a) In the case of any person convicted of a criminal offense who could otherwise be sentenced to county jail or state prison and who alleges that he or she committed the offense as a result of sexual trauma, traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, or mental health problems stemming from service in the United States military, the court shall, prior to sentencing, make a determination as to whether the defendant was, or currently is, a member of the United States military and whether the defendant may be suffering from sexual trauma, traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, or mental health problems as a result of that service. The court may request, through existing resources, an assessment to aid in that determination.

(b) If the court concludes that a defendant convicted of a criminal offense is a person described in subdivision (a), and if the defendant is otherwise eligible for probation and the court places the defendant on probation, the court may order the defendant into a local, state, federal, or private nonprofit treatment program for a period not to exceed that which the defendant would have served in state prison or county jail, provided the defendant agrees to participate in the program and the court determines that an appropriate treatment program exists.

INTRODUCTION

The Orange County Superior Court's Veterans Treatment Court is designed to supervise veterans who are charged with felony and/or misdemeanor cases through a comprehensive judicially monitored program of treatment and rehabilitation services. This program is authorized under CA Penal Code section 1170.9.

Veterans Treatment Court is built upon a partnership among the Veterans Administration Long Beach Healthcare System (VA), District Attorney, Public Defender, Probation, the Court and other community partners. It is a program that structures treatment intervention around the authority and personal involvement of a single judge. Veterans Treatment Court is dependent upon the creation of a non-adversarial courtroom atmosphere where the judge, the dedicated court staff, and the treatment team work together toward the common goals of breaking the cycle of substance abuse and criminal behavior, addressing mental health issues, and reducing recidivism - thereby increasing the safety of the community. An environment with clear and certain rules is created, and each participant's compliance is understood to be his or her own responsibility.

Treatment and rehabilitation strategies must be "reality-based." The Orange County Veterans Treatment Court recognizes that:

- Veterans are most receptive to successful intervention when they are in the crisis of arrest and incarceration. Intervention should be immediate in order to take advantage of this window of opportunity.
- Preventing gaps in communication and ensuring offender accountability are of critical importance.
- Mental health issues and addiction can be longstanding, debilitating conditions. Treatment must be appropriate and comprehensive, addressing all the Veteran's needs.
- Mental health and addiction seldom exist in isolation from other serious problems that undermine rehabilitation. Treatment must include terms of probation, and educational assessments, as well as vocational assessments, training and job placement.
- Progressive sanctions and incentives are integral to the Veterans Treatment Court treatment strategy to address relapses and promote recovery.

The goals of the Veterans Treatment Court are to:

- Reduce participant contacts with the criminal justice system;
- Reduce costs associated with criminal case processing and re-arrest;
- Improve the quality of life of the Veterans, helping them to become stable, employed and substance-free.

The National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) has developed Ten Key Components which are the foundation for the Orange County Veterans Treatment Court. Those components are:

1. Integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice system case processing.
2. Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights.
3. Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in the Veterans Treatment Court program.
4. Provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitation services.
5. Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing
6. A coordinated strategy governs responses to participants' compliance.
7. Ongoing judicial interaction with each participant is essential.
8. Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness.
9. Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective planning, implementation, and operations.
10. Forging partnerships among public agencies, and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances effectiveness.

Veterans Treatment Court - Defined

The Veterans Treatment Court is a voluntary program that includes regular court appearances before the judge. Each participant is medically and psychologically assessed upon admission. Treatment includes weekly individual and group counseling, drug and alcohol testing, and, if applicable, mental health treatment, and regular attendance at recovery support/self-help meetings. Referrals for vocational training, education and/or job placement services are provided. The program's length is a minimum of 18 months. Ongoing aftercare services will be available to all graduates.

Veterans Treatment Court

The operation of the Veterans Treatment Court of the Superior Court of California County of Orange, as set forth in this Program Manual, will reflect overall uniformity of procedures and principals.

I. SPECIALIZED COURTROOM

Establishment of a Specialized Courtroom

The Court recognizes the Veterans Treatment Court as a priority and has established a specialized, separate court calendar dedicated to the evaluation, treatment, and supervision of eligible and suitable participants.

II. VETERANS TREATMENT COURT TEAM

Establishment and Purpose of the Veterans Treatment Court Team

The Veterans Treatment Court has established a team comprised of members representing the collaborative agencies. The team will meet on a regular basis to discuss issues and resolutions.

The Judicial Officer: supervises client progress based on regular court appearances, team input and client behavior. Leads the team in decision-making, and holds the participant accountable for their progress by use of incentives and sanctions.

Coordinator: is the liaison between the judicial officer and other team members, facilitating communication and coordination between all team members to ensure the smooth operation of the program and also serves as the management information specialist, responsible for data collection, research, and program evaluation.

The Probation Officer: assists in the assessment and evaluation of potential participants by obtaining background information from available sources, including military records, and state/federal records databases. The Probation Officer helps to develop the case plan, and is jointly responsible for management of each case with the VA Justice Outreach Social Worker. The PO supervises participants with frequent office visits, periodic home calls, periodic searches and random drug/alcohol testing. Progress Reports are prepared by the probation officer for each court appearance.

The VA Justice Outreach Social Worker (Case Manager): screens potential participants, develops individual treatment plans, coordinates mental health and substance abuse specialty services, and is jointly responsible for ongoing support and monitoring of each case.

The deputy District Attorney: evaluates the potential participant's program eligibility based on potential disqualifying charges or prior convictions.

The deputy Public Defender: participates in the screening of potential participants and provides legal representation to each participant throughout his or her tenure in the program.

III. AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES

Term of Staff Assignment

The Court, District Attorney, Probation, Public Defender and Veterans Administration (VA) will, whenever feasible, make full or part-time staff assignments of interested, appropriate professionals to the Veterans Treatment Court for a minimum term of 24 months to ensure stability and continuity of day-to-day operations and to strengthen collaborative relationships among the key professionals.

Duty of Agencies to Make Necessary Adjustments to Programs

Participating agencies support the Veterans Treatment Court by making appropriate adjustments to internal policies, practices, and procedures to ensure successful day-to-day program operations. The Superior Court, the District Attorney, the Public Defender, the Probation Department and the VA Healthcare Systems agree, where appropriate, to:

- Provide administrative support for the development of and compliance with uniform policies and procedures for all Veterans Treatment Court operations;
- Encourage communication and cooperation among dedicated Veterans Treatment Court team members and supporting agencies; and
- Develop procedures to collect and maintain statistical and evaluation information based upon local, state and national standards.

Training and Orientation

Assigned staff are provided with an orientation to the Veterans Treatment Court concept during team staffing, and they are also directed to the websites of the National Drug Court Resource Center <http://www.ndcrc.org/> , the National Drug Court Institute www.ndci.org, and Justice for Vets www.justiceforvets.org for training materials that will further their understanding of the collaborative process. Additional training resources include a 14-hour self-paced online course that is designed to build a sequential understanding of the Essential Elements of Adult Drug Courts to help the team member understand the Collaborative Courts process. The team member can also earn educational or CEU credits for passing this course.

Adherence to Confidentiality of Client Records

Participating agencies strictly observe clients' rights to confidentiality in accordance with Title 42, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 2, "Confidentiality of Alcohol And Drug Abuse Patient Records", and section 11075 through section 11080 of the California Penal Code, "Criminal Record Dissemination," and Security Clearance Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-169 Statute 1009, H.R. 2419).

- The VA and residential treatment programs will obtain and file in client case records the "Consent to Release Information" forms signed by clients to authorize exchange of information among participating agencies and their representatives. Additional separate consent forms, specifying the Veterans Treatment Court Judge, the program coordinator, the deputy District Attorney, the Public Defender, and the Probation Officer, must be signed and placed on file. (Appendix A).
- The Probation Officer will complete a "Medical Release" form for each participant to authorize the exchange of information among participating agencies. (Appendix B).

Document Confidentiality

All treatment-related documents, including progress reports, drug or alcohol test results, etc., are placed in a confidential envelope in the court file. The envelope is ordered sealed at time of termination or graduation.

Should there be visitors to observe Veterans Treatment Court staffing, a confidentiality agreement is signed and all copies of progress reports that are shared are returned to the Coordinator for shredding.

IV. OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT

Operational Agreement among Agencies

Participating agencies may establish, as appropriate, a countywide operational agreement to ensure the continuity of legal policies, the integrity of the therapeutic intervention, and other standards necessary to the operation of Veterans Treatment Court.

Renewal of Operational Agreement

The operational agreement will be reviewed periodically and updated as needed.

V. PROMPT ASSESSMENT

Determination of Potential Eligibility

Cases will be referred to the Orange County Veterans Treatment Court by judicial officers in the outlying courts under CA Penal Code 1170.9 for eligibility hearing. Further, determinations regarding ongoing participation will be based on performance in the program, not legal aspects of the case, barring additional criminal behavior. All victims are entitled to make victim impact statements to the Court as part of the sentencing process. The victim's participation is welcome and their concerns are given high consideration.

Defendants will be referred to Veterans Treatment Court at the earliest opportunity to ensure prompt enrollment and participation.

Assessment for Suitability

The Probation Officer will provide an initial defendant eligibility assessment recommendation for the Court by running a criminal history. The VA Case Manager will run an inquiry in the National Health Eligibility Center (HEC) database, which records Department of Defense data on military records, to establish VA eligibility. The defendant must be Honorably Discharged in order to be eligible for the Veterans Treatment Court program and VA services.

Suitability Screening

All defendants will be evaluated for suitability by the treatment team consisting of the VA case manager and probation officer. As the goal of the program is to restore participants to who they were before they served. Characteristics of suitability are based on:

- gang affiliation
- must not present a significant danger to the treatment team and public safety
- must be willing to comply with the Veterans Treatment Court probation terms and conditions
- must demonstrate a sincere willingness and ability to comply with all Veterans Treatment Court requirements, including (when appropriate) all requirements of outpatient and residential treatment programs.
- must live in Orange County.

Determination of Acceptance

Final determination for the admission of a defendant to the program will be made by the Judge based on recommendations from, and as appropriate with the concurrence of, the deputy District Attorney, Defense Counsel, VA Case Manager, and the Probation Officer. The defendant is required to plead guilty and/or reinstate probation, sentence is suspended, and he or she is placed on formal probation for a period of three to five years.

Referral for Orientation

If accepted into the Veterans Treatment Court, participants are referred to the VA where appointments for individualized assessments and evaluations are completed to guide initial treatment planning. Additionally, participants are scheduled to meet with the Probation Department for program indoctrination. Within 45 days of the participant's indoctrination the Probation Department will independently complete a risk assessment based on information acquired during the indoctrination process. The risk assessment is based upon the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) Model.

Admissibility of Statements During Assessment

No statement, or any information procured there from, made by the defendant to any assessment team member during the course of the assessment shall be admissible in any action or proceeding, including for the purposes of impeachment.

VI. ELIGIBILITY

Admission Criteria

Consideration for admission to Veterans Treatment Court will be available to United States military service veterans who have a criminal case and qualify for admission under CA Penal Code 1170.9. (a) In the case of any person convicted of a criminal offense who could otherwise be sentenced to county jail or state prison and who alleges that he or she committed the offense as a result of sexual trauma, traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, or mental health problems stemming from service in the United States military, the court shall, prior to sentencing, make a determination as to whether the defendant was, or currently is, a member of the United States military and whether the defendant may be suffering from sexual trauma, traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, or mental health problems as a result of that service. The court may request, through existing resources, an assessment to aid in that determination.

(b) If the court concludes that a defendant convicted of a criminal offense is a person described in subdivision (a), and if the defendant is otherwise eligible for probation and the court places the defendant on probation, the court may order the defendant into a local, state, federal, or private nonprofit treatment program for a period not to exceed that which the defendant would have served in state prison or county jail, provided the defendant agrees to participate in the program and the court determines that an appropriate treatment program exists.

To be accepted into the program, defendants are required to plead guilty and/or reinstate probation, be placed on formal probation, and agree to participate in a minimum 18-month intensive treatment program appropriate to their assessment. Defendants will be evaluated on a case by case basis with the admission dependent upon the team's assessment as to whether or not the individual can be successfully treated. The team will consider both public safety and likelihood of good treatment outcomes in their decision.

VII. BASIS FOR FEES

Requirement of Payment Of Fees

All participants are required to pay fines and fees as required by statute and/or ordered by the Court and based upon the ability to pay. No one will be denied treatment due to inability to pay.

- In that participants are on formal probation, they are required to pay the costs of probation supervision pursuant to Penal Code Section 1203.1b, based on ability to pay. The participant will meet with the Probation Department's financial officer and fill out the Orange County Probation Department Adult Financial Statement and sign stipulation for payments (appendix C, D and E). If restitution is ordered the participant will also be required to sign a Stipulation for Entry of Judgment and Judgment Pursuant to PC 1214 (appendix F, G and H).
- All restitution, fines and fees must be paid prior to graduating from the program.
- Participants may request voluntary community service (VCS) in lieu of **fines** which have been ordered by Court.

VIII. INCENTIVES

Program Plan for Graduated Rewards

The Veterans Treatment Court includes graduated rewards which may be applied by the Judge as an immediate and direct response to incremental success in program compliance. The Judge, with input from the team, will employ these rewards as encouragement for progress and program compliance. The rewards include:

- Court-announced perfect compliance list
- Fishbowl drawings for gift certificates
- Free day-planners
- Applause/praise from Judge & team
- Sports/concert tickets
- Advancement to next phase
- Fewer court appearances
- Called 1st & leave early
- Asked to give advice to group in court
- Adjust curfew
- Fun sober events
- Grant travel privileges
- Reduce some felonies to misdemeanors
- Possible dismissal of charges
- Graduation ceremony

Graduation from Program/Possible Dismissal of Charges/Sealing of Record

The Veterans Treatment Court team will determine the candidate's qualification for graduation. At the time of the graduation ceremony, the Court may dismiss some charges to which the participant previously pled guilty. Under CA Penal Code 1170.9. (D) A dismissal pursuant to this subdivision may, in the discretion of the court, order the sealing of police records of the arrest and court records of the dismissed action, thereafter viewable by the public only in accordance with a court order.

IX. SANCTIONS

Program Plan for Graduated Sanctions

The Veterans Treatment Court includes a plan for graduated sanctions which may be applied as an immediate and direct consequence for failure to comply with program requirements. The Judge, with input from the team, will employ graduated sanctions to assist participants in complying with the program, such as:

- Admonishment from the Judge
- Write an essay and read it aloud
- Keep a journal
- Increased drug testing
- Increased frequency of court appearances
- Attend and watch other Court programs
- Demotion to an earlier program phase
- Community Service
- Lengthen time in program, requiring an admission of a probation violation
- Periods of incarceration
- Move to a more appropriate residence

Termination from Program for Failure to Comply

Participants may be terminated from the Veterans Treatment Court for willful failure to comply with the terms and conditions of probation, including any treatment plan imposed by the Court. In ordering a participant's termination from the program, the Court should consider such factors as, but not limited to, the nature of the violation, the length of time the participant has been in the program, the number of previous violations, the participant's criminal history, the participant's desire to achieve sobriety as evidenced by the nature and quality of prior positive steps to maintain sobriety, whether or not the participant agrees to comply with medications as prescribed, and whether the nature of the violation would have initially precluded the participant from being accepted into the program and safety of the community.

The Judge may remove a participant from the program and impose a sentence of incarceration in jail or prison.

All parties have the same rights pertaining to any probation violation in determining both whether a participant shall be terminated from the program and the appropriate sentence.

X. AUTOMATION OF INFORMATION

Collaborative Court Coordinator Responsibility

The Collaborative Court Coordinator will facilitate collection and maintenance of the statistical data for the program, which will be used to monitor daily activities, evaluate the quality of service provided, and produce outcome evaluations. Program evaluations will be ongoing.

Requirements for Automated Data Collection and Formal Evaluation

The Veterans Treatment Court will establish a coordinated, automated data collection and formal program evaluation process.

The Veterans Treatment Court Data System Design

The design of the Veterans Treatment Court database system will include:

- Maximum utilization of existing countywide justice information systems and interfaces;
- Maximum utilization of existing county data communication networks;
- Minimum reliance on manual data entry and report generation to reduce redundancy and errors;
- Safeguards to ensure data integrity for all affected systems; and
- Safeguards to ensure privacy and security of all records.

XI. TREATMENT TEAM

Treatment Team Members and Approved Treatment Facilities

The Veterans Treatment Court treatment team consists of the VA Justice Outreach Social Worker (case manager) and the Probation Officer. Treatment facilities must be VA contracted facilities.

Staff Liaisons to the Veterans Treatment Court

The VA and the Probation Department will designate specific staff to serve the Veterans Treatment Court and to attend all court sessions.

Progress Reports

Prior to each court appearance, the treatment team will prepare and submit to the Court a progress report which documents drug and alcohol test results (if applicable), compliance with treatment appointments, and any relevant case information which can be appropriately shared with the Judge in open court. (Appendix N)

Maintaining Confidentiality

The treatment team will maintain confidentiality of all client information in accordance with 42 CFR, Part 2, "Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records," and section 10075 through section 11080 of the California Penal Code, "Criminal Record Dissemination," and Security Clearance Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-169 Statute 1009, H.R. 2419).

Ancillary Services

The treatment team, in collaboration with the Judge, will assist participants by providing referrals to meet needs such as housing, education, vocational training, and job placement.

XII. DRUG TESTING

Drug Test Results

Drug and alcohol test results will be used to assist the Court and treatment team in evaluating the participant's progress in the program. The results will be used to determine if the participant is progressing satisfactorily, if the treatment plan needs to be modified, and if the participant will be terminated from the program.

Urinalysis

Drug and alcohol testing will initially be at a minimum of three times per week and may decrease at the discretion of the Probation Officer or VA Justice Outreach Specialist based upon the participant's compliance and progress.

Drug Patch

A drug patch may be used at the discretion of the team when a participant requests permission to go out of town and at any other time. The treatment team will check for lab results indicating a positive result, or a removed or tampered patch.

XIII. TREATMENT PLAN

Appropriate Treatment Programs

All Veterans Treatment Court participants will be required to complete comprehensive and appropriate treatment based upon recommendation and/or placement by the treatment team and supervised by the Judge.

Co-Occurring Issues to Be Considered In Treatment Plan

The treatment plan will address co-occurring issues to maximize the chances of the participant's success. Treatment must also be culturally relevant to the participant's background.

Individualized Outpatient Treatment Plans

Individualized treatment plans for outpatient participants will consist of four distinct phases. Each phase has treatment objectives, rehabilitative activities and requirements for graduation.

Distinct Phases of Treatment

Minimum program elements for each treatment phase include but are not limited to:

Window Period- 14 days

The window period is a 14-day period during which participants will decide whether or not Veterans Treatment Court is appropriate for them. At the same time, the team will evaluate the participant's appropriateness for the program. During the window period, participants will actively participate in the program. The Judge may extend this window if deemed necessary. Phase 1 includes the window period.

Participants are subject to all Court, VA and Probation rules during the window period. If the rules are violated, the participant may be subject to sanctions.

Phase I - Treatment Plan Development

Length: Minimum of 120 days

In Phase I, the participant will have been assigned a VA case manager and a probation officer. Participant needs will be assessed by the treatment team. The participant's progress will be closely monitored and reported to the judge. Requirements include:

- Participate in full assessment in order to determine treatment needs. Course of treatment is individualized according to participant needs.
- Participate in all forms of treatment as directed by the treatment team.
- Comply with additional case management services as determined by the treatment team.
- Drug and alcohol test three times per week minimum. Drug test patch and immediate result drug tests may be used at the treatment team's discretion.
- Take non-narcotic medication as directed by medical and mental health professionals.
- Attend daily or as ordered recovery support/self-help meetings per week and actively seek a recovery support/self-help sponsor.
- Report to the VA case manager and the probation officer weekly.
- Participate in clean & sober recreation.
- Attend weekly court appearances as determined by the Judge.
- Most participants will be assigned a mentor during Phase 1. Each participant is required to meet with a mentor at each court appearance.
- Curfew is set at the discretion of the team.

Advancement Criteria:

- No positive drug test results (including missed, tampered or diluted tests) for 90 consecutive days.
- No unexcused absences from scheduled services for 30 consecutive days.
- Non-narcotic medication taken as directed.
- Employment or productive use of time such as community service or school attendance.
- Documentation of required minimum attendance at recovery support/self-help meetings.
- Must have a recovery support/self-help sponsor.
- Demonstrate a positive adjustment to treatment.
- Submit a Phase II Promotion Request (appendix I).
- Submit a written Phase II advancement essay.

Phase II - Ongoing Treatment

Length: Minimum of 90 days

In Phase II, the participant's treatment plan will be updated to identify ongoing treatment goals. Counseling and meetings will focus on areas that are challenging for the participant, and will identify ways of coping with stressful situations. Phase II requirements include:

- Participate in all forms of treatment as directed by the treatment team.
- Comply with additional case management services as determined by the treatment team.
- Drug and alcohol test as directed. Drug test patch and immediate result drug tests may be used at the treatment team's discretion.
- Take non-narcotic medication as directed by medical and mental health professionals.
- Attend a minimum of four recovery support/self-help meetings per week, maintain a recovery support/self-help sponsor and start working the self-help steps.
- Report to the VA case manager and the probation officer weekly or as instructed.
- Participate in clean and sober recreation.
- Maintain employment or engage in productive use of time such as community service and school attendance.
- Formulate personal goals in conjunction with the treatment team such as vocational/educational counseling, psychotherapy, exercise, anger management, parenting skills.
- Attend biweekly or monthly court appearances as determined by the Judge.
- Meet with a mentor at each court appearance.
- Curfew is set at the discretion of the team.

Advancement Criteria:

- No positive drug test results (including missed, tampered or diluted tests) for 90 consecutive days.
- No unexcused absences from scheduled services for 30 consecutive days.
- Non-narcotic medication taken as directed.
- Employment or productive use of time such as community service or school attendance.
- Documentation of attendance at no fewer than four recovery support/self-help meetings per week, having a recovery support/self-help sponsor, and working the steps.
- Demonstrate positive adjustment to ongoing treatment.

- Have a clear understanding of recovery support/self-help concepts.
- Progress toward treatment plan goals.
- Meet with the Probation Financial Officer and fill out the Orange County Probation Department Adult Financial Statement and sign stipulations for payments for fines, fees, cost of probation and restitution if owed.
- Submit a Phase III Promotion Request (appendix J).
- Submit a written Phase III advancement essay.

Phase III – Stabilization

Length: Minimum of 150 days

Phase III will address ongoing recovery needs. The focus will be on daily living skills. This phase is designed to support the participant as a productive and responsible member of our community. Phase III requirements include:

- Participate in all forms of treatment as directed by the treatment team.
- Attend other treatment services as determined to be necessary by the treatment team.
- Drug and alcohol test as directed. Drug test patch and immediate result drug tests used at the treatment team's discretion.
- Take non-narcotic medication as directed by medical and mental health professionals.
- Attend a minimum of at least three recovery support/self-help meetings per week, maintain a recovery support/self-help sponsor and work the steps.
- Report to VA case manager and the probation officer as directed.
- Participate in clean and sober recreation.
- Maintain full-time employment and/or progress toward an educational goal.
- Participate in community service as determined by the team.
- Attend court as determined by the Judge.
- Meet with a mentor at each court appearance.
- Curfew is set at the discretion of the team.

Advancement Criteria:

- No positive drug test results (including missed, tampered or diluted tests) for 90 consecutive days.
- No unexcused absences from scheduled services for 30 consecutive days.
- Take non-narcotic medication as directed.
- Employment or actively pursuing a vocational/academic degree.
- Documentation of attendance at no fewer than four recovery support/self-help meetings per week, having a recovery support/self-help sponsor, and working the steps.
- Progress towards treatment plan goals.
- Have a clear understanding of recovery support/self-help concepts.
- Demonstrate positive adjustment to treatment.

- Submit a Phase IV Promotion Request (appendix K).
- Submit a written Phase IV advancement essay.

Phase IV – Achievement/Graduation

Length: Minimum of 6 months

Phase IV Will transition participants from the Veterans Treatment Court structure to a lifestyle more representative of what participants will experience following graduation. Phase IV requirements include:

- Participate in all forms of treatment as directed/instructed by the treatment team. Attend individual counseling session to complete an exit plan.
- Attend other treatment services as determined to be necessary by the treatment team.
- Drug and alcohol test on a random basis.
- Take non-narcotic medication as directed by medical and mental health professionals.
- Attend a minimum of at least two recovery support/self-help meetings each week, maintain a recovery support/self-help sponsor and work the steps.
- Report to VA case manager and the probation officer as directed.
- Participate in clean and sober recreation.
- Maintain full-time employment and/or progress toward a vocational/educational goal.
- Continue established mentoring relationships.
- Attend court as directed by the Judge.
- Meet with a mentor at each court appearance.
- Prepare a graduation speech.

Graduation Criteria:

- No positive drug test results (including missed, tampered, or diluted tests) for 180 consecutive days.
- No unexcused absences from scheduled services for 45 consecutive days.
- Gainful employment or productive use of time including community service or school attendance.
- Take non-narcotic medication as directed.
- Maintain consistent attendance at all court appearances and treatment team appointments.
- Achievement of stable living arrangements and healthy interpersonal relationships.
- A definitive aftercare plan, which may include recovery support/self-help meetings, VA outpatient counseling, group attendance at a former residential program, or active participation in a Veterans Treatment Court alumni group.
- Fulfillment of goals as stated in the individual treatment plan.

- Proof of attendance at all other events or courses as required by the judge.
- Submit Graduation Request (appendix L).
- Submit a written graduation essay.

The graduation ceremony, conducted in the courtroom, is a time to celebrate the participant's success and to allow others in earlier stages to become encouraged and motivated to succeed as well.

Advancement Determination

Advancement from each phase will be determined by the judge upon recommendation of the treatment team, after the participant has satisfied the minimum criteria.

Length of Treatment Program

The actual length of a treatment program for each participant will vary depending on the individual's progress and, if applicable, on the individual's drug and alcohol test results. A participant shall not be eligible for graduation unless he or she has completed a minimum of 18 months of participation in the Veterans Treatment Court.

XIV. FOCUS AND DIRECTION OF PROGRAM

Leadership

The focus and direction of the Veterans Treatment Court is provided through the effective leadership of the judge.

The Veterans Treatment Court Judge must be willing to serve as the program advocate and represent the program in the community, before government and criminal justice agencies and in other forums, and be willing to seek funding for the program.

Courtroom Non-Adversarial Atmosphere

The judge will be responsible for maintaining a non-adversarial atmosphere in the Court. All staff must see their primary responsibility as the facilitation of the participant's rehabilitation within the framework of maintaining community safety.

Facilitation of Staff Participation

To encourage full commitment to the success of the Veterans Treatment Court, the judge allows the team to participate in the design and implementation of the program.

Partnerships with Participating Agencies

The judge will form a partnership with the Veterans Administration, District Attorney, Public Defender, and Probation, which allows collaboration in sharing of resources and coordination of efforts.

Participant Motivation

The judge is one of the key motivational factors in convincing the participant to achieve rehabilitation. Less formal and more frequent court appearances are scheduled to allow the Judge to motivate and monitor the participants.

Court Proceedings

The judge will conduct court proceedings, during which all participants benefit by seeing others as they progress or fail to progress in specific treatment plans and observe the Court taking appropriate action.

XIV. Grievances

All parties participating in the Orange County Veterans Treatment Court have the right to express opinions, recommendations and grievances. In addition, all parties have the right to request and receive responses via a procedure of due process. Anyone who wishes to file a complaint or grievance may do so without fear of negative repercussions. Grievances should be submitted in writing to the Veterans Treatment Court coordinator.

APPENDICES

Appendix A	.	.	.	.	Department of Veterans Affairs Consent to Release Information
Appendix B	.	.	.	.	Probation Department Consent to Release Information
Appendix C	.	.	.	.	Stipulation
Appendix D	.	.	.	.	.Orange County Probation Department Defendant's Waiver of Right to a Financial Hearing and Stipulation
Appendix E	.	.	.	.	.Orange County Probation Department Notice of Right to a Financial Hearing
Appendix F	.	.	.	.	Stipulation for Entry of Judgment and Judgment Pursuant to P.C. 1214
Appendix G	.	.	.	.	.Defendant's Waiver of Rights for Stipulation and Restitution Order
Appendix H	.	.	.	.	.Orange County Probation Department Notice of Right to a Financial Hearing
Appendix I	.	.	.	.	Veterans Treatment Court Phase Two Promotion Request
Appendix J	.	.	.	.	Veterans Treatment Court Phase Three Promotion Request
Appendix K	.	.	.	.	Veterans Treatment Court Phase Four Promotion Request
Appendix L	.	.	.	.	Veterans Treatment Court Graduation Request
Appendix M	.	.	.	.	Veterans Treatment Court Plea Agreement
Appendix N	.	.	.	.	Veterans Treatment Court Progress Report



Department of Veterans Affairs

REQUEST FOR AND AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE MEDICAL RECORDS OR HEALTH INFORMATION

Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Information: The execution of this form does not authorize the release of information other than that specifically described below. The information requested on this form is solicited under Title 38, U.S.C. The form authorizes release of information in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164, 5 U.S.C. 552a, and 38 U.S.C. 5701 and 7332 that you specify. Your disclosure of the information requested on this form is voluntary. However, if the information including Social Security Number (SSN) (the SSN will be used to locate records for release) is not furnished completely and accurately, Department of Veterans Affairs will be unable to comply with the request. The Veterans Health Administration may not condition treatment, payment, enrollment or eligibility on signing the authorization. VA may disclose the information that you put on the form as permitted by law. VA may make a "routine use" disclosure of the information as outlined in the Privacy Act systems of records notices identified as 24VA19 "Patient Medical Record - VA" and in accordance with the VHA Notice of Privacy Practices. You do not have to provide the information to VA, but if you don't, VA will be unable to process your request and serve your medical needs. Failure to furnish the information will not have any effect on any other benefits to which you may be entitled. If you provide VA your Social Security Number, VA will use it to administer your VA benefits. VA may also use this information to identify veterans and persons claiming or receiving VA benefits and their records, and for other purposes authorized or required by law. The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 requires us to notify you that this information collection is in accordance with the clearance requirements of section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. We may not conduct or sponsor, and you are not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB number. We anticipate that the time expended by all individuals who must complete this form will average 2 minutes. This includes the time it will take to read instructions, gather the necessary facts and fill out the form.

ENTER BELOW THE PATIENT'S NAME AND SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER IF THE PATIENT DATA CARD IMPRINT IS NOT USED.

TO: DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (Print or type name and address of health care facility)	PATIENT NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)
V. A. Long Beach Health Care System	
	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

NAME AND ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION, INDIVIDUAL OR TITLE OF INDIVIDUAL TO WHOM INFORMATION IS TO BE RELEASED

Veteran Court Team: Judge Wendy Lindley, DDA Wendy Brough, PD Isabel Apkarian, PO Cyr Oca & CCC Kim Parsons

VETERAN'S REQUEST: I request and authorize Department of Veterans Affairs to release the information specified below to the organization, or individual named on this request. I understand that the information to be released includes information regarding the following condition(s):

DRUG ABUSE ALCOHOLISM OR ALCOHOL ABUSE TESTING FOR OR INFECTION WITH HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) SICKLE CELL ANEMIA

INFORMATION REQUESTED (Check applicable box(es) and state the extent or nature of the information to be disclosed, giving the dates or approximate dates covered by each)

COPY OF HOSPITAL SUMMARY COPY OF OUTPATIENT TREATMENT NOTE(S) OTHER (Specify)

Veteran to be evaluated for the Veteran Court program: Any diagnosis, treatment history related to: Substance abuse, T.B.I. P.T.S.D. or other mental health related DX.

PURPOSE(S) OR NEED FOR WHICH THE INFORMATION IS TO BE USED BY INDIVIDUAL TO WHOM INFORMATION IS TO BE RELEASED

Veteran Court Team: Judge Wendy Lindley, DDA Wendy Brough, PD Isabel Apkarian, PO Cyr Oca & CCC Kim Parsons in Veteran to be evaluated for the Veteran Court program: Any diagnosis, treatment history related to: Substance abuse, T.B.I. P.T.S.D. or other mental health related DX.

NOTE: ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF INFORMATION DESIRED MAY BE LISTED ON THE BACK OF THIS FORM

AUTHORIZATION: I certify that this request has been made freely, voluntarily and without coercion and that the information given above is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that I will receive a copy of this form after I sign it. I may revoke this authorization, in writing, at any time except to the extent that action has already been taken to comply with it. Written revocation is effective upon receipt by the Release of Information Unit at the facility housing the records. Redisclosure of my medical records by those receiving the above authorized information may be accomplished without my further written authorization and may no longer be protected. Without my express revocation, the authorization will automatically expire: (1) upon satisfaction of the need for disclosure; (2) on 12/31/2012 (date supplied by patient); (3) under the following condition(s):

If Veteran is accepted to the Veteran Court Program. The medical information will continue to be available to the Veteran Court team (listed above) until which time the Veteran completes the program.

I understand that the VA health care practitioner's opinions and statements are not official VA decisions regarding whether I will receive other VA benefits or, if I receive VA benefits, their amount. They may, however, be considered with other evidence when these decisions are made at a VA Regional Office that specializes in benefit decisions.

DATE	SIGNATURE OF PATIENT OR PERSON AUTHORIZED TO SIGN FOR PATIENT (Attach authority to sign, e.g., POA)

FOR VA USE ONLY

IMPRINT PATIENT DATA CARD (or enter Name, Address, Social Security Number)	TYPE AND EXTENT OF MATERIAL RELEASED	
	DATE RELEASED	RELEASED BY



PROBATION DEPARTMENT

COLLEENE PRECIADO
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER
TELEPHONE: (714) 969-2000
1935 E. ORANGEWOOD AVE.
ANAHEIM, CA 92806
MAILING ADDRESS:
P.O. BOX 10000
SANTA ANA, CA 92711-0000

Name: _____
Probation File No.: _____
*DA File No.: _____

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I hereby request and authorize any physician, dentist, psychiatrist or psychologist to release to the Orange County Probation Department or any officer thereof, any medical, dental, alcohol/drug abuse, psychiatric or psychological information which may have been acquired in a professional capacity concerning myself and do hereby assume any financial responsibility resulting therefrom.

Dates of treatment if known and specific information requested:

Date: _____ Signed: _____
(Defendant, Probationer, etc.)

Witness: _____

(USE BELOW SECTION FOR JUVENILE COURT PROCEEDINGS)

I request and consent to the release of information as covered by the above paragraph concerning

[Name of Minor]

Date: _____ Signed: _____

[Relationship to Minor]

Witness: _____

AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF
MEDICAL-DENTAL-PSYCHIATRIC-PSYCHOLOGICAL INFORMATION

☛ P157-7034 7 (11/2/86)

STIPULATION

DEFENDANT'S LAST, First Middle
NAME:

A-

CASE
NO.

I stipulate that I was placed on probation in the within case on following amounts per the court order of :

and I was ordered to pay the

OBLIGATIONS:

Payee	For	Obligation Amounts
State Board of Control	Restitution Fine	\$
	Penal Code 1214(a)	
County of Orange	Fine(s)	\$
County of Orange	Penalty Assessments	\$
County of Orange	Other fees	\$
County of Orange	Cost of Probation at the rate of _____ per month	

I stipulate that I have the ability to pay a minimum payment(s) toward the above obligations in the amount of _____ per month, to be made on or before _____, and continuing on or before the _____ of each month thereafter until paid in full. Should payment be missed, or a balance remain owing upon probation termination, the full amount will become due and owing and a Petition for Order and a Court Order may be entered at any time upon the expiration of fifteen days after service of notice to file said Petition.

Note: All payments received will be applied to the obligations in the order set forth in Pen. Code § 1203.1d

Defendant

Date: _____

STEVEN J. SENTMAN
Chief Probation Officer

By: _____ Date: _____

Collection Officer (Witness)

I, N/A, a qualified interpreter, truly translated this document to the above-named defendant in the _____ language. The defendant acknowledged understanding the contents of this document.

Interpreter's signature

Date: _____

ORANGE COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT
DEFENDANT'S WAIVER OF RIGHT TO A
FINANCIAL HEARING AND STIPULATION

DEFENDANT'S
NAME:

LAST, First Middle

A-

CASE
NO.

1. I understand that by signing the attached Stipulation form, I am agreeing to make payments. The Stipulation is an agreement.
2. I understand that I may litigate the court-ordered financial issues.
3. I understand that if I sign the Stipulation, both a Petition for Order and the Stipulation may be filed with the Court in the event of default of payment, and the Court may enter an Order against me in this case. The Court will order me to make payments which are stated on the Stipulation form. I have the right to request that the Court order the payments to be decreased or eliminated entirely.
4. I understand that if I sign the Stipulation, the Court may order my employer to withhold the payments from my wages and pay them to the person named by the Court.
5. I understand that I have the right to a court hearing to determine the amount of court-ordered obligations that I must pay.
6. **Pro Per Defendant Only**: I understand that I have the right to be represented in this matter by an attorney. I understand that the District Attorney does not represent me.
7. I understand that I have the right to be confronted by witnesses against me and to cross-examine them myself or through an attorney.
8. I understand that I have the right to the compulsory process of the Court of obtaining witnesses on my behalf.
9. I understand that if I sign the Stipulation and fail to make the required payments, the Court may authorize the seizure of my property (non-exempt property) and order the property sold to pay the arrearage payments.
10. I understand that I do not have to sign this Stipulation. I have been advised that I have the right to a court hearing to determine my ability to pay. My refusal to sign the Stipulation does not, in and of itself, mean that a criminal proceeding will be brought against me.
11. I sign the Stipulation freely and voluntarily with a full understanding of all the matters set forth in the pleading, the Stipulation and this Waiver. No one has made any threats, used any force against me, my family or loved ones, or made any promises to me except as set out in this Waiver and the Stipulation, in order to convince me to sign the Stipulation.

ORANGE COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

**DEFENDANT'S WAIVER OF RIGHT TO A
FINANCIAL HEARING AND STIPULATION**

DEFENDANT'S
NAME:

LAST, First Middle

A-

CASE
NO.

12. I understand the consequences of signing this Stipulation. I have personally initialed each of the boxes on this form, and I understand each and every one of the rights outlined, and I hereby waive or give up each of them in order to sign the Stipulation wherein I agree to pay the stated amount.

Defendant

Date: _____

Collection Officer

Date: _____

I, N/A, a qualified interpreter, truly translated this document to the above-named defendant in the _____ language. The defendant acknowledged understanding the contents of the document.

Interpreter's signature

Date: _____

13. DEFENDANT'S ATTORNEY CERTIFICATION (If the defendant is represented): I am the defendant's attorney and I have examined the proposed Stipulation and have advised my client concerning his/her rights in connection with this matter and the consequences of signing or not signing the Stipulation; and my client, after being so advised, has agreed to the Stipulation. I have explained each of the above rights to the defendant, and having explored the facts with him/her and studied his/her possible defenses to the Stipulation. I concur in his/her decision to waive the above rights and to enter into the Stipulation.

Attorney's signature

Date: _____

**ORANGE COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT
NOTICE OF RIGHT TO A FINANCIAL HEARING**

DEFENDANT'S LAST, First Middle
NAME:

A-

CASE
NO.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE DEFENDANT:

Please read the following information which explains your rights pursuant to Section 1203.1b of the California Penal Code.

1. You have the right to a hearing before the Court to determine your ability to pay the obligations ordered by the Court and the payment amounts.
2. You have the right to be represented by an attorney; and further, if you cannot afford an attorney, one will be appointed for you.
3. You have certain rights at the hearing which shall include, but not be limited to, the opportunity to be heard in person; to present witnesses and other documentary evidence; to confront and cross-examine witnesses against you; to be shown the evidence against you; and to be given a written statement of the findings of the Court or the Probation Officer or his/her authorized representative.
4. If the Court orders you to pay the obligations, you may later petition the Court at any time during the pendency of judgment to modify or vacate the judgment on the basis of a change in circumstances relating to your ability to pay the obligations.
5. You may waive your right to a hearing by appearing before the Collection Officer and signing a Waiver of Right to a Financial Hearing form, and a Stipulation.

Should you fail to contact the undersigned Collection Officer to arrange for a hearing or to sign the Waiver of Right to a Financial Hearing form and a Stipulation, a hearing will be scheduled for you. If you fail to appear for the scheduled hearing, an order will be requested from the Court requiring that you pay the ordered obligations as deemed appropriate by the Court.

_____ Date: _____
Collection Officer

_____ Date: _____
Defendant's Acknowledgment of Receipt

I, N/A, a qualified interpreter, truly translated this document to the above-named defendant in the _____ language. The defendant acknowledged understanding the contents of this document.

_____ Date: _____
Interpreter's signature

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
COUNTY OF ORANGE**

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA	)	Court No.
Plaintiff,	)	A-
VS.)	
	)	STIPULATION FOR ENTRY OF JUDGMENT
	)	AND JUDGMENT PURSUANT TO P.C. 1214
LAST, First Middle)	
Defendant,)	
_____)	

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED by and between First Middle Last and the County of Orange that a Restitution Determination Order be entered against First Middle Last in the amount of _____, plus interest as ordered by the court.

IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED that execution of said order may properly issue at any time not less than fifteen days after service of this order upon said person.

STEVEN J. SENTMAN
Chief Probation Officer

_____ Date: _____
Defendant

_____ Date: _____
Collection Officer/Witness

I, N/A _____, a qualified interpreter, truly translated this document to the above-named defendant in the _____ language. The defendant acknowledged understanding the contents of this document.

_____ Date: _____
Interpreter's signature

**DEFENDANT'S WAIVER OF RIGHTS FOR STIPULATION AND
RESTITUTION ORDER**

DEFENDANT'S LAST, First Middle
NAME:

A-

CASE
NO.

1. I understand that by signing the stipulation form I am agreeing to the amount of restitution determined by the County of Orange.
2. I understand that I may litigate the ordered financial issue.
3. I understand that if I sign the stipulation, a Restitution Order will be filed with the Court and the Court will enter a judgment against me in this case. The Court will also order that an Abstract of Judgment be filed and recorded with the County Recorder's office, in the County of Orange and all other California counties as deemed by the County of Orange.
4. I understand that if I sign the stipulation, the Court may order my employer to withhold the payments from my wages and pay them to the person named by the Court.
5. **Pro Per Defendant Only**: I understand that I have the right to be represented in this matter by an attorney. I understand that the District Attorney does not represent me.
6. I understand that I have the right to be confronted by witnesses against me and to cross-examine them myself or through an attorney.
7. I understand that I have the right to the compulsory process of the Court of obtaining witnesses in my behalf.
8. I understand that I do not have to sign this stipulation. I have been advised that I have the right to a Court hearing to determine my ability to pay. My refusal to sign the stipulation does not, in and of itself, mean that a criminal proceeding will be brought against me.
9. I sign the stipulation freely and voluntarily with a full understanding of all the matters set forth in the pleading, the stipulation and this form. No one has made any threats, used any force against myself, family or loved one, or made any promises to me except as set out in this form and the stipulation, in order to convince me to sign the stipulation.
10. I understand the consequences of signing this stipulation. I have personally initialed each of the boxes on this form, and I understand each and every one of the rights outlined, and I hereby waive or give up each of them in order to sign the stipulation whereby I agree to pay the stated amount.

Defendant

Date: _____

Collection Officer

Date: _____

I, N/A, a qualified interpreter, truly translated this document to the above-named defendant in the _____ language. The defendant acknowledged understanding the contents of the document.

Interpreter's signature

Date: _____

11. DEFENDANT'S ATTORNEY CERTIFICATION (If the defendant is represented): I am the defendant's attorney and I have examined the proposed judgment and have advised my client concerning his rights in connection with this matter and the consequences of signing or not signing the agreement for the entry of judgment, and my client, after being so advised, has agreed to the entry of judgment. I have explained each of the above rights to the defendant, and having explored the facts with him and studied his/her possible defenses to the civil complaint. I concur in his/her decision to waive the above rights and to enter into the judgment.

Attorney's signature

Date: _____

**ORANGE COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT
NOTICE OF RIGHT TO A FINANCIAL HEARING**

DEFENDANT'S LAST, First Middle
NAME:

A-

CASE
NO.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE DEFENDANT:

Please read the following information which explains your rights pursuant to Section 1203.1b of the California Penal Code.

6. You have the right to a hearing before the Court to determine your ability to pay the obligations ordered by the Court and the payment amounts.
7. You have the right to be represented by an attorney; and further, if you cannot afford an attorney, one will be appointed for you.
8. You have certain rights at the hearing which shall include, but not be limited to, the opportunity to be heard in person; to present witnesses and other documentary evidence; to confront and cross-examine witnesses against you; to be shown the evidence against you; and to be given a written statement of the findings of the Court or the Probation Officer or his/her authorized representative.
9. If the Court orders you to pay the obligations, you may later petition the Court at any time during the pendency of judgment to modify or vacate the judgment on the basis of a change in circumstances relating to your ability to pay the obligations.
10. You may waive your right to a hearing by appearing before the Collection Officer and signing a Waiver of Right to a Financial Hearing form, and a Stipulation.

Should you fail to contact the undersigned Collection Officer to arrange for a hearing or to sign the Waiver of Right to a Financial Hearing form and a Stipulation, a hearing will be scheduled for you. If you fail to appear for the scheduled hearing, an order will be requested from the Court requiring that you pay the ordered obligations as deemed appropriate by the Court.

_____ Date: _____
Collection Officer

Error! Reference source not found. Date: _____
Defendant's Acknowledgment of Receipt

I, N/A, a qualified interpreter, truly translated this document to the above-named defendant in the _____ language. The defendant acknowledged understanding the contents of this document.

_____ Date: _____
Interpreter's signature

LAST, First Middle
A-

Veterans Treatment Court Phase Two Promotion Request

Court Date: _____

Phase One Start Date: _____

Name: _____

Phase One: Minimum 120 days: Treatment Plan Development.

This section must be initialed by your VA Case Manager and Probation Officer		
VA	Probation	Advancement Criteria
-----	-----	No positive alcohol/drug test (including missed or tampered test) for 90 consecutive days. Date of last missed or positive test: _____
-----	-----	No unexcused absences from scheduled services for 30 consecutive days. Date of last missed appointment: _____
-----	-----	Documented attendance of self help meetings. No fewer than 5 self help meetings per week.
-----	-----	No sanctions for 30 days. Date of last sanction: _____
-----	-----	Able to identify and acknowledge the extent of alcohol/substance abuse problems and or mental health issues.
-----	-----	Registration (per Court order) with current address.
-----	-----	Demonstrate a positive adjustment to treatment as evidenced by being an active participant in treatment groups.
-----	-----	Submittal of Phase Two advancement essay.

This form has been reviewed and approved by:

Probation Officer's Signature

Date

VJOC Signature

Date

Veterans Treatment Court Phase Three Promotion Request

Court Date: _____ Phase Two Start Date: _____

Name: _____

Phase Two: Minimum 90 days: Ongoing Treatment/Initiation of Satisfaction of Court Orders

This section must be initialed by your VA Case Manager and Probation Officer		
VA	Probation	Advancement Criteria
-----	-----	No positive alcohol/drug test (including missed or tampered test) for 90 consecutive days. Date of last missed or positive test: _____
-----	-----	No unexcused absences from scheduled services for 30 consecutive days. Date of last missed appointment: _____
-----	-----	Documented attendance of self help meetings. No fewer than 4 self help meetings per week. Verbal understanding of the self help concepts.
-----	-----	No sanctions for 30 days. Date of last sanction: _____
-----	-----	Progress towards treatment plan goals as evidenced by increased insight, awareness of issues and use proactive coping skills.
-----	-----	Engaged in productive use of time.
-----	-----	Met with Probation Financial Officer and signed acknowledgement of fine(s), fees, cost of probation and restitution.
-----	-----	Demonstrates a positive adjustment to treatment as evidenced by documentation of being an active participant in treatment groups.
-----	-----	Submittal of Phase Three advancement essay.

This form has been reviewed and approved by:

Probation Officer's Signature

Date

VJOC Signature

Date

Veterans Treatment Court Phase Four Promotion Request

Court Date: _____

Phase Three Start Date: _____

Name: _____

Phase Three: Minimum 150 days: Ongoing Treatment/Court Orders.

This section must be initialed by your VA Case Manager and Probation Officer		
VA	Probation	Advancement Criteria
-----	-----	No positive alcohol/drug test (including missed or tampered test) for 90 consecutive days. Date of last missed or positive test: _____
-----	-----	No unexcused absences from scheduled services for 30 consecutive days. Date of last missed appointment: _____
-----	-----	Documented attendance of self help meetings. No fewer than 3 self help meetings per week. Verbal understanding of the self help concepts.
-----	-----	No sanction for 30 days Date of last sanction: _____
-----	-----	Progress towards treatment plan goals as evidenced by increased insight, awareness of issues and use of proactive coping skills.
-----	-----	Engaged in productive use of time.
-----	-----	Consistent monthly payments toward fine(s), fees, cost of probation and restitution.
-----	-----	Demonstrates a positive adjustment to treatment as evidenced by documentation of being an active participant in treatment goals.
-----	-----	Progress toward satisfaction of Court orders and Probation directives.
-----	-----	Submittal of Phase Four advancement essay.

This form has been reviewed and approved by:

Probation Officer's Signature

Date

VJOC Signature

Date

Veterans Treatment Court Graduation Request

Court Date: _____

Phase Four Start Date: _____

Name: _____

Phase Four: Minimum 180 days: Ongoing Treatment/Stabilization/Achievement/Graduation.

This section must be initialed by your VA Case Manager and Probation Officer		
VA	Probation	Advancement Criteria
-----	-----	No positive alcohol/drug test (including missed or tampered test) for 180 consecutive days. Date of last missed or positive test: _____
-----	-----	No unexcused absences from scheduled services for 45 consecutive days. Date of last missed appointment: _____
-----	-----	Documented attendance of self help meetings. No fewer than 2 self help meetings per week. Verbal understanding of the self help concepts.
-----	-----	No sanction for 90 days. Date of last sanction: _____
-----	-----	Progress/completion of treatment plan goals. Established plan for ongoing aftercare.
-----	-----	Engaged in productive use of time.
-----	-----	Satisfaction of restitution, fine & fees. Maintaining consistent monthly payments.
-----	-----	Proof of completion of required community service hours & civic event.
-----	-----	Proof of obtaining valid driver's license.
-----	-----	Submittal of Graduation essay.

This form has been reviewed and approved by:

Probation Officer's Signature

Date

VJOC Signature

Date

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ORANGE

VETERANS TREATMENT COURT PLEA AGREEMENT

Case Number _____ People vs. _____

As a participant in the Veterans Treatment Court, I have been advised and understand the following:

1. _____ If this plea or modification is allowed by the Court, I agree to give up the rights, to carry out the agreements, and accept the consequences outlined below, and on pages 1, 2 and 3 of the Tahl form attached and incorporated herein.
2. _____ I give up my right to a preliminary hearing and/or grand jury indictment, and agree to plead guilty to the complaint or information.
3. _____ I understand that, within 14 calendar days of this plea, I may withdraw from the Veterans Treatment Court, withdraw this plea of guilty or admission of probation violation and have my constitutional and procedural rights reinstated. The People agree that, under these circumstances, neither this plea nor this agreement, nor any statements or admissions made in connection with this plea or this agreement, can be used against me as evidence in this case. I understand I must personally appear before this Court to withdraw from the Veterans Treatment Court and withdraw my plea.
4. _____ I further understand that, within 14 calendar days of this plea, the Court may terminate my participation in the Veterans Treatment Court for reasons of non-compliance with the entry requirements of the program. If this happens, I can withdraw this plea, if I wish, and enter a new plea.
5. _____ I understand that, if I have provided false information regarding my identity, or active gang affiliation, or if I have suffered disqualifying prior convictions, or have pending criminal charges of which the Court is unaware, I may be terminated from the Veterans Treatment Court at any time.
6. _____ I agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the Veterans Treatment Court and of the Probation Department. During my participation in the program, I agree not to commit any crimes, not to use or possess any controlled substances or alcohol, and further agree not to knowingly associate with any person using or possessing any controlled substances or alcohol.
7. _____ I understand that, during my participation in Veterans Treatment Court, if I fail to comply with the rules and regulations of the Veterans Treatment Court or of the Probation Department, I may receive a sanction by the Court.
8. _____ I understand that one sanction that may be imposed by the Court is to be taken into custody. I also understand that I have a right to a probation violation hearing before a judge whenever I am taken into custody for being in violation of my probation. At that hearing, I have a right to confront any witnesses against me, subpoena witnesses to testify on my behalf, and testify myself or remain silent. I hereby give up my right to a probation violation hearing when I am taken into custody for a period of time no longer than 72 hours. When I am taken into custody for less than 72 hours for a violation of a condition of Veterans Treatment Court, this will NOT be considered a probation violation.

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF ORANGE
VETERANS TREATMENT COURT PLEA AGREEMENT

Case Number _____ People vs. _____

9. _____ I agree that, if I fail to comply with the terms of this agreement or the rules and regulations of the Veterans Treatment Court or of the Probation Department, I may be terminated from the program. The final termination decision will be made by the Court, at which time I am entitled to a hearing.
10. _____ I agree that, if the Court terminates my participation in the Veterans Treatment Court, the Court will impose sentence forthwith, consistent with the terms of my plea.
11. _____ I understand that, if I fail to appear as directed by the Court or the Probation Department, my probation may be revoked and the Court may impose sentence forthwith, consistent with my plea.
12. _____ The People and I agree that, upon successful completion of the Veterans Treatment Court, I may be allowed to withdraw my plea of guilty to the original charge (s) upon which my referral to Veterans Treatment Court was based, and upon motion by the defense my charge(s) may be dismissed according to §1385 and §1203.4 of the Penal Code.
13. _____ I understand that the Veterans Treatment Court requires complete abstinence from drugs, alcohol, and requires that I take prescribed medication as directed. I will not take any drugs for any reason (including over-the-counter, herbal, poppy seeds, prescription, Spice, bath salts, or Energy Drinks) without permission from the Probation Department.
14. _____ I understand that I will be drug tested. A positive test for *any* illegal substance is a “dirty” test and I will be sanctioned by the Court. If I miss a test without permission, for any reason, it will count as a “dirty” test and I will be sanctioned. If a test shows adulteration of any sort (including flushing or diluted), it will count as a “dirty” test and I will be sanctioned.
15. _____ I agree to cooperate with my treatment plan as directed by my treating psychiatrist, doctor, and or therapist.
16. _____ I understand that the length of the Veterans Treatment Court can vary, but it is generally a minimum of 18 months.
17. _____ I agree to waive custody credits I may be entitled to pursuant to PC 2900.5(a) for time spent in a residential drug/alcohol treatment program unless I successfully complete Veterans Treatment Court and probation.

DUI Cases Only:

18. _____ DUI cases with either two or three priors have mandatory jail sentences, (VC23542 - 96 hrs, VC 23546 - 120 days). I understand that these sentences exist and that despite participating in the Veterans Treatment Court, I will have to serve these sentences prior to graduation from the program. I understand that it is anticipated by the Court and the Program, that I will serve the minimum sentence on electronic confinement (SEC) during the term of a successful program.

Date: _____

Defendant

Signed: _____

**ORANGE COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT
VETERANS TREATMENT COURT PROGRESS REPORT
COMMUNITY COURT BUILDING – CCB1**

Hearing Date:
Name of Participant:
Court Case Number(s):

Type of Report: Progress
Military Branch: US
Probation Number: A

Attorney:
Name(s) of Children/Ages(s):

Mentor:
Interests:

Admitted to Combat Veterans Court:

Current Phase: 1 as of:

Current Housing

Independent With Family Sober Living Residential Jail Homeless

Treatment Provider: VA – Long Beach	Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator: Julie Tomlinson Psychiatrist: MD:
Current Treatment:	
Diagnosis:	
Medications:	

TREATMENT HISTORY

\$\$	Level of Care	Admit Date	Discharge Date	Provider	Results/Notes

Productive Use of Time: Full Time Work Part Time Work School Volunteer Treatment

CVC SANCTION HISTORY

Date of Incident	Date of Sanction	Reason For Sanction	Sanction

PROGRESS REPORT:

Probation:

Recommendation:

1. .

Veterans Administration:

VJO Coordinator will report.

Next Court Date: