

Clay/Becker Veterans Treatment Court



Participant Handbook

August 2022



THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

NAME: _____

CD TX PROGRAM: _____

COUNSELOR NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

AFTERCARE: _____

COUNSELOR NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

MENTOR NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

SPONSOR NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

Show up, be honest, do your best!

My Phase Progression:

PHASE	1	2	3	4	5
DATE					

Welcome to Clay/Becker Veterans Treatment Court

The Clay/Becker Veterans Treatment Court program was established to provide more comprehensive treatment and services for veterans. Veterans Treatment Court was developed to help you achieve total abstinence from drugs and/or alcohol, be diverted from prison/jail and surround you with support from veterans and the military community. The Veterans Treatment Court is designed to reduce re-arrests, promote self-sufficiency through employment and education and to assist you with remaining in the community as a productive and responsible member of society by diversion from prison or jail.

Not everyone can be a part of the Veterans Treatment Court program. You must have served in the United States Armed Forces in some capacity, including the National Guard or Reserves. The program involves working jointly with the court, community supervision, treatment, Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Benefit Administration, veterans employment representatives, veterans service organizations, service officers, and other key team members, all dedicated to your recovery. You will not be sent to prison or back to jail if you comply with the conditions of the program and graduate. Our team will be working with you towards successful completion of the program, but the choice and effort to become drug and alcohol free and not commit new crimes comes from you.

It is important that you understand Veterans Treatment Court is a long-term commitment. You will become involved with community support group meetings, attend substance abuse treatment, participate in mental health treatment, if indicated, be subject to strict community supervision, submit to random drug testing and make regular appearances in Court.

We hope to see positive changes in your life as you progress through the Veterans Treatment Court program. The Veterans Treatment Court team is committed to providing you with support and encouragement as you find your way to a clean and sober life. Our goal is to help you become a sober contributing member of your community.

This handbook will provide information about what is expected of Veterans Treatment Court participants. You are encouraged to share it with your family and friends for their support and encouragement.

DO NOT LOSE THIS BOOK!

You must take it with you to *all* probation appointments and Veterans Treatment Court hearings.

(Replacement handbooks are provided at a charge of \$3)

GENERAL RULES

The following rules apply throughout **ALL** phases:

1. You are not to possess or consume **any mood-altering chemicals** not prescribed by a physician. “Possess” means to have on your person, in your home or vehicle. **This includes alcohol and any substances containing alcohol** (“non-alcoholic” beer, cough syrup, and mouthwash). Misuse of over-the-counter and prescription medications are prohibited. **This includes any product that is labeled Not for Human Consumption (including but not limited to K2 Spice, Spark, Happy Shaman and all incense or products that contain JWH-018, JWH-073, HU-210, HU-211, CP47, 497 and homologue Mephadrone, 3-4-methylenedioxy-provalerone).** Prescription medications must be verified. **All efforts must be made** to find alternatives to prescribed mood-altering chemicals. If you must have a prescribed mood-altering chemical, you **must submit a letter from a doctor** stating what alternatives were tried, and why the mood-altering chemical is necessary.
2. **DRUG TESTING:** Participants may be contacted by staff at any time, **including weekends and holidays**, and will be required to follow directions regarding reporting for drug testing.
 - Participants are also required to comply with law enforcement requests for drug and alcohol testing.
3. A **picture I.D. is required** and must be shown to law enforcement officers upon request.
4. You must report any **change of residence prior** to moving, and changes in your **work schedule** or employment status immediately.
5. Attend all **Review Hearings** and **office appointments** as scheduled.
6. Random **home and work visits** will be made *anytime* day or night, without prior notice.
7. Complete a weekly work/personal whereabouts schedule and call office if weekly schedule is in need of change.
8. When **away from home overnight** you must provide the address and phone number of the place you are staying, the day and time you are leaving, and the day and time you will be returning to your own residence. An “overnight” is considered any time you are away from home past 1a.m. * **NOTE** * **Phase 1 must have prior approval for overnight stays away from home.**
9. Collateral contacts will be made including, but not limited to, significant others, family, employers, physicians, therapists, and treatment facilities.
10. You must inform your commanding officer of your status in Veterans Treatment Court. The Court will send a letter to your commanding officer explaining Veterans Treatment Court and informing them of your status.
11. Agent must approve **out of state travel**. Three weeks notice of out of state travel is required.
12. Obey all state, federal, and local laws/ordinances.
13. The courtroom environment deserves respect. Please wear appropriate clothing. Clothing should be clean and neat. Exception: if you arrive at court directly from doing work at your employment that results in dirty clothing.

PROGRAM PHASES

The program is divided into four phases. Phases 1, 2 and 3 are a minimum of 3 months each; Phase 4 and 5 are a minimum of 2.5 months each. ***Participants must successfully complete each phase before being moved to the next.***

Phase 1

The Criminal Case must be resolved before acceptance into Phase 1.

Requirements of Phase 1:

- A. Follow the Orders of Treatment.
- B. Minimum of Twice Weekly UA/PBT testing.
- C. Minimum of Weekly office meetings with probation staff.
- D. Court Review Hearings every other week.
- E. Minimum of one meeting with the Veterans Service Officer.
- F. Maintain at least 45 consecutive days of sobriety (excluding in-patient time)
- G. Report all whereabouts to probation agent.
- H. No new offenses.

My Personal Phase 1 GOALS:

**Phase 1
Notes and Assignments**

Phase 2

Requirements:

- A. Follow the orders of Treatment.
- B. Minimum of Twice Weekly UA/PBT testing.
- C. Office visit with probation staff at least once weekly.
- D. Court review hearings at least every other week.
- E. Meaningful engagement with Mentor including a minimum of weekly contact.
- F. Develop Vocational and/or education plan. The Court may require participants to complete a set amount of community service hours in appropriate cases.
- G. Develop Housing, Employment and Financial Plans.
- H. No new offenses.

Advancement requirements:

- Ninety (90) consecutive days sobriety from **all** mood-altering chemicals. (including alcohol)

My Personal Phase 2 GOALS:

Phase 2
Notes and Assignments

Phase 3

Requirements:

- A. Follow the orders of Treatment.
- B. Minimum of Twice Weekly UA/PBT testing.
- C. Engage in some type of meaningful activity (wellness program, yoga, community service, etc.) and provide verification to the probation agent.
- D. Office visit with probation staff at least every other week.
- E. Court review hearings at least once a month.
- F. Continue regular contact with Mentor.
- G. Implement Vocational and/or education plan.
- H. Implement Housing, Employment and Financial Plans.
- I. No new offenses.

Advancement requirements:

- Ninety (90) consecutive days sobriety from **all** mood-altering chemicals. (including alcohol)

My Personal Phase 3 GOALS:

**Phase 3
Notes and Assignments**

Phase 4

Requirements:

- A. Follow the orders of Treatment.
- B. Minimum of Twice Weekly UA/PBT testing.
- C. Continue with meaningful activity and continue providing verification to agent.
- D. Office visit with probation staff at least once monthly.
- E. Court review hearings at least once a month.

- F. Continue Mentor contact.
- G. Maintain Vocational and/or education plan.
- H. Maintain Housing, Employment and Financial Plans.
- I. No new offenses.

Advancement requirements:

- Ninety (90) consecutive days sobriety from **all** mood-altering chemicals. (including alcohol)

My Personal Phase 4 GOALS:

**Phase 4
Notes and Assignments**

Phase 5

Requirements:

- J. Follow the orders of Treatment.
- K. Minimum of Twice Weekly UA/PBT testing.
- L. Continue with meaningful activity and continue providing verification to agent.
- M. Office visit with probation staff at least once monthly.
- N. Court review hearings at least once a month.
- O. Continue Mentor contact.
- P. Maintain Vocational and/or education plan.
- Q. Maintain Housing, Employment and Financial Plans.
- R. No new offenses.

Advancement requirements:

- One hundred eighty (180) consecutive days sobriety from **all** mood-altering chemicals. (including alcohol)

My Personal Phase 5 GOALS:

**Phase 5
Notes and Assignments**

Achievements and Incentives:

The Veterans Treatment Court judge will acknowledge your achievements during Court Review Hearings.

Veterans Treatment Court will also recognize and provide incentives for accomplishments above and beyond the Veterans Treatment Court requirements that promote drug-free, pro-social, and law-abiding, behavior. The following are some examples of achievements the Court will recognize and possible incentives the Court may use to recognize them.

Examples of achievements:

- Educational achievements including obtaining your GED, High School Diploma, college or vocational credits.
- Vocational achievements including job promotions or a new job with increased responsibilities.
- Volunteer work in the community in addition to the required volunteer project hours.
- Self-improvement classes that build mind, body, or soul.

Examples of incentives:

- Fish Bowl draw for items
- Recognition and certificate for progressing through Phases
- Decreased frequency of office appointments and court hearings

Violations and Consequences:

The Veterans Treatment Court will take into account violations and utilize consequences for noncompliance of program rules. Consequences will be tailored to the needs of each individual participant.

Violations

- Use of non-prescribed mood-altering chemicals (including alcohol).
- Failure to report as directed for drug testing.
- Refusing drug and/or alcohol testing or tampering with sample.
- Failure to follow the recommendations of chemical dependency evaluation or treatment provider.
- Failure to report employment changes.
- Leaving home overnight without providing information.
- New arrests and/or citations.
- Conviction on a new charge.
- Curfew violation.
- Not returning staff phone messages.
- Not reporting schedule changes.
- Not immediately reporting address or phone number changes.
- Uncooperative behavior with Veterans Treatment Court or chemical dependency treatment staff.
- Failure to attend or verify attendance at support group meetings.
- Failure to be available for random home visits.

Consequences

The program will attempt to use consequences aimed at stabilizing your harmful relationship with drugs, alcohol or non-compliance with Veterans Treatment Court rules. Multiple minor violations will result in increasingly stronger consequences.

NOTE: Consequences will be based on and tailored to the individual participants needs.

- Verbal warnings
- Jury Box assignment
- Curfew
- Written assignments
- Increased number of drug tests, office appointments and/or Court review hearings
- Immediate incarceration (jail) at time of Review Hearing
- Community Service Work
- Electronic alcohol monitoring
- Electronic House Arrest
- Participants will be charged a fee of \$5 for all positive on-sight tests and \$19 for positive confirmation tests.
- Termination from Veterans Treatment Court and recommendation for execution of sentence

Graduation Requirements

When you have successfully completed all of the following requirements you will be scheduled for graduation:

- Successful completion of each phase.
- **6 months of sobriety**, abstaining from **all** mood-altering chemicals.
- Completion of educational and/or vocational goals as determined by the Veterans Treatment Court team (GED, high school diploma, etc.)
- Full-time employment or an approved combination of employment, education and/or volunteer work as determined by the Veterans Treatment Court team.
- Completion or satisfactory achievement of all court ordered special conditions, as determined by the court.
- Must complete all recommended treatment programming.

On the day of your graduation, you will be asked to address the Veterans Treatment Court team and participants, to tell your story and how your life has changed since you started the Veterans Treatment Court program.

At your graduation ceremony, the Judge will present you with a certificate of completion and will recognize your excellent accomplishments.

You are encouraged to invite your family, friends, sponsor, CD counselors, employer, Mentor and any others you wish, to your graduation.

Good luck to you and thank you for your service to our country!

MY SOBRIETY PLAN:

NA & AA Attendance Record

DATE	LOCATION	GROUP LEADER SIGNATURE

