



WHAT IS A TREATMENT COURT?

A Treatment Court is a judicially-supervised collaborative court docket that combines treatment for substance use disorders and, often, mental health challenges with careful monitoring and supervision as an alternative to standard sentencing.

VETERANS TREATMENT COURTS

- Most Veterans return home strengthened by their military experience.
- Veterans Courts are for Veterans whose untreated substance use disorders and often combat-related mental health challenges have led to involvement in the criminal justice system.
- Program at least one year long.
- Participants are high risk for re-offense and high needs for services.
- Treatment is required, generally from VA Clinics or Vet Centers.
- Frequent, observed and random drug testing required.
- Participants are usually assigned a Mentor.

VETERANS COURT MENTORS

- Volunteer Veterans from community
- "Trusted Friend," not counselor.
- Annual training plus monthly meetings.
- Application process includes criminal background check.

MISSOULA VETERANS COURT PARTICIPANTS 2011-2017

- -63 Participants
- 3 Female
- •50 Caucasian
- 8 Native American
- 3 Hispanic
- 2 African American

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Military Branch

•Army – 47, Marines 7, Navy 7, Air Force 2, CG 1

Combat Zones

•Iraq 1 tour 26, Iraq 2 tours 3, Iraq 3 tours 1, Afghanistan 1 tour 8, Afghanistan 2 tours 1, Afghanistan 3 tours 1, Afghanistan 5 tours 1, Vietnam 4, Other Combat 8, No Combat 20

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

•Justice for Vets, National Association of Drug Court Professionals, https://nadcp.org

-Montana Drug Courts: An Updated snapshot of Success and Hope, 2019 https://courts.mt.gov/portals/189/drugcourt/report/2019drugcourt-report.pdf

Bringing Treatment Courts to Scale in Montana 2018 https://mthcf.org/resources/treatment-courts-report/

CONTACT INFORMATION

BOZEMAN: Judge J. Colleen Herrington Contact: Renee Boundy V.E.T.S. Court Coordinator (406) 548-5950 rboundy@Bozeman.net

MISSOULA: Judge Brenda C Desmond Contact: Shelley Grados Veterans Court Coordinator (406) 258-4641 Shelley.Grados@mt.gov