

Elements of a Veterans Court

- Participation is voluntary.
- Participants have served in the military.
- Participants are involved in treatment.
- Public safety is a high priority. Prior to admission participants are carefully screened. During the program participants are closely monitored and randomly tested for substance use.
- Early intervention is essential, with prompt referral and screening. Court staff provides supervision and case management to participants.
- The Veterans Court staff works closely with the VA, the Vet Center, and other Veterans groups.



Our Purpose

In June 2011, Missoula opened the first Veterans Treatment Court in Montana. The program is for Veterans charged with a crime who have serious life challenges that contributed to their involvement in the criminal justice system. The involvement is most often related to their military experience. Based on the treatment court model, Veterans Court which is based on proven models of treatment court is an outpatient court-managed program that lasts a minimum of one year, and requires participants to obtain treatment appropriate to their situation.



Missoula Veterans Court

Join the Veteran Mentor Program!

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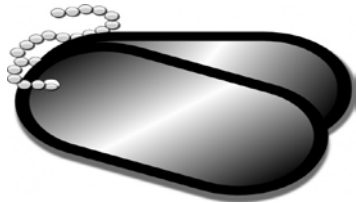
Keeping faith with veterans.

The Mentorship Program



The Mentors

Each participant is assigned a mentor, a volunteer Veteran, who receives 18 hours of training per year and supports the veteran as he or she goes through the program.



Expectations

Our expectation is that the mentor assigned to each participant will attend the weekly court sessions Monday at 2:15 p.m. (Other arrangements will be made for volunteers who are not available at that time.) This is a four phase program, as the participant goes up in phase their court appearance requirement will change. During phase I and I they will appear in court every Monday. During phase III they will appear every other Monday and phase IV every third Monday. If convenient and agreed upon by the mentor and court participant, the mentors will be available at other times for phone conversations or in-person meetings.



The time commitment is about 4-6 hours per month. One of those hours is for a monthly meeting with other mentors to talk about how things are going and for a 15 minute presentation on a training topic of interest. To be a mentor, a person must fill out an application, including agreeing to a background check, attend 8 hours of training once a year and attend the monthly meeting the first Wednesday of each month from Noon to 1 p.m.

