



# **Veterans Treatment Court Participant's Handbook**

**St. Lucie County  
Nineteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida  
West Palm Beach Veterans Affairs Medical Center**

### Table of Contents

**WHAT IS VETERANS TREATMENT COURT?..... 3**

**HOW DO I GET INTO VETERANS TREATMENT COURT? ..... 4**

**WHAT HAPPENS IN VETERANS TREATMENT COURT?..... 4**

**VETERANS TREATMENT COURT PROGRAM RULES..... 5**

**VETERANS TREATMENT COURT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS ..... 6**

**PHASES ..... 8**

**PROGRAM FEES ..... 10**

**GRADUATION CRITERIA ..... 10**

**PROGRAM RESPONSES ..... 11**

**CONFIDENTIALITY ..... 12**

**CONCLUSION ..... 12**

**Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Problem-Solving Courts ..... 14**

**Participant Testing Policy ..... 14**

**Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Problem-Solving Courts ..... 15**

**Prohibited Substances Agreement..... 15**

**Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Problem-Solving Courts ..... 16**

**Prohibited Substances List ..... 16**

**Pre-Approved Medication List..... 17**

**Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Problem-Solving Courts ..... 18**

**Participant Testing Procedure ..... 18**

**Veterans Treatment Court Orders ..... 19**

**Veterans Treatment Court Contact Information..... 21**

**Welcome** to the St. Lucie County Veterans Treatment Court program. This handbook is designed to answer questions, address concerns, and provide overall information about Veterans Treatment Court. As a participant, you will be expected to follow the instructions given in Veterans Treatment Court by the Judge and comply with the treatment plan developed for you by your Veterans Treatment Court team. This handbook will provide you with a general description of what is expected of you as Veterans Treatment Court participant.

Please share this handbook with family and friends.

## **WHAT IS VETERANS TREATMENT COURT?**

The St. Lucie County Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) program is a judicially supervised treatment program for those people charged with a crime who have previously served in the United States Armed Services. Our goal is to help you address the mental health or substance abuse issues that led to your contact with the criminal justice system. The program requires a total commitment to remain clean and sober as well as leading a law-abiding life.

This is a voluntary program that includes regular court appearances before a Veterans Treatment Court Judge. You will also be required to follow and complete a treatment plan. The treatment plan may require some or all of the following:

- Outpatient treatment
- Inpatient or residential treatment
- Transitional housing placement
- Random drug testing
- Counseling/Therapy
- Educational/vocational/employment program
- Participation in self-help groups (AA/NA)
- Job Training
- Medication Management

## HOW DO I GET INTO VETERANS TREATMENT COURT?

There are two different ways you may have entered VTC. The first option is as a **diversion**. These cases will be dismissed upon your successful completion of VTC, and a sentence will be imposed if you fail or get discharged from the program. The second is as a condition of **probation**. Upon completion, a probation case does not get dismissed. You will receive a graduation certificate and may be eligible to have your probation terminated. Upon failure or discharge from the program, your probation will be violated. **If you do not know what type of case you have, please speak to your attorney.**

## WHAT HAPPENS IN VETERANS TREATMENT COURT?

Initially, you are required to attend VTC every other week. Court will occur in the St. Lucie County Courthouse, on the third floor. Judge Robert Belanger is the presiding Veterans Treatment Court Judge and court will take place in his courtroom. As you progress through the phases of VTC, your court appearance requirements will be reduced, usually to once a month.

Prior to your arrival in court, the court will conduct a staffing. During that staffing, the Court will receive progress reports regarding your drug tests, attendance, and participation in your treatment program. These reports will come from the VA (through the Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist), treatment counselor, probation, and any other agency involved in your care. The VTC team will discuss your case and your progress, as well as any sanctions or incentives, as appropriate.

When you arrive in court, you will be called up before the judge. He will speak to you about your progress and issues you may be having. You may ask him questions. If you have done something negative (tested dirty on a drug test, missed treatment, etc.), he will tell you what you did, and give you a chance to explain, and then give you a sanction, if appropriate. Before leaving the courtroom, you will be given your next court date, both by the judge and in writing.

Your peer mentor (Battle Buddy) will be in court with you. You will have an opportunity to speak to him or her prior to court. They will accompany you to the podium during court if you desire. You will also have an opportunity to speak to him or her after court.

A program violation, including but not limited to, a missed, positive, diluted or tampered drug test, or tardiness, or the failure to attend a session of individual or group counseling, a self-help meeting, or a court hearing, will result in a court-imposed sanctions. With repeated violations of program expectations or the failure to progress satisfactorily, the Court may impose the ultimate sanction of discharge from the program.

Failure to appear in court on the date and time you are scheduled could result in a warrant being issued for your arrest, and your being placed into custody. If you cannot appear in court as scheduled, you must notify your lawyer, probation officer, or the VTC Coordinator. If you cannot reach your lawyer, probation officer, or VTC Coordinator, notify the court clerk prior to the time set for the court appearance. If you have any questions regarding your court appearances, you may contact your attorney.

Violations which could result in termination from VTC include demonstrating a lack of response to program interventions, failing to follow directives and/or cooperate with treatment, and violence or threats of violence directed at the treatment team or other clients. All decisions regarding termination from the program will be made by the Veterans Treatment Court Judge after receiving the recommendations of the Veterans Treatment Court team.

## VETERANS TREATMENT COURT PROGRAM RULES

As a Veterans Treatment Court participant, you will be required to abide by the following rules:

1. **Have a good, positive attitude.** Rule number one is to try. Our court is designed to help you, but that won't happen unless you put forth an effort. If you try and are honest with the court, staff, and treatment, you will succeed in this court, regardless of the other problems you may have. As Muhammad Ali said: Don't count the days, make the days count.
2. **Do not use or possess any drugs or alcohol.** Sobriety is a primary focus of this program. Maintaining a lifestyle free of drugs and alcohol is very important in your recovery process. You must notify your treatment team if you are taking any prescription or over-the-counter medications, or any of the alternative treatments typically found in health food stores.
3. **Drug test when required.** Expect to take random and on demand drug tests. Do not tamper, substitute urine, water load, or chemically alter your test.
4. **Attend all ordered treatment sessions.** This includes individual and group counseling, educational sessions, and self-help meetings. If you are unable to attend a scheduled session, you must contact your provider prior to the missed session. Although notifying your provider will not necessarily excuse your tardiness or absence, it will allow the provider to consider any special circumstances that might be involved.
5. **Report to your probation officer as directed.** Even if you are not on probation, everyone in VTC with a felony charge is supervised by a probation officer. As such, you must comply with their directives. You must notify your probation officer prior to any change in residence or employment. You must also receive permission from your probation officer if you would like to leave St Lucie County.
6. **Submit to scheduled and/or random drug testing.** You will either be placed on random drug testing or the hotline.
  - a. Random drug screens occur when your VJO or probation officer calls you and instructs you to test. When this happens, you must test as instructed.
  - b. If you are told to test on the hotline, you must follow the hotline instructions. This includes calling the hotline daily and testing if your number (birth month) is called. You will test at the St Lucie County Lab. You must call every day by 7 am, including weekends.
7. **Be on time for all appointments including court appearances.** If you are late for a counseling session, you may not be allowed to attend that session and you will be considered non-compliant. Contact your provider if there is a possibility you may be late.

If you are late for court, you may receive a sanction or the Judge may issue a bench warrant for your arrest.

8. **Do not make threats toward other participants or staff, or behave in a violent or threatening manner.** Violent or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated and will be reported to the court. This may result in termination from the Veterans Treatment Court program.
9. **Dress appropriately for court and treatment sessions.** It is recommended that all participants wear a shirt or blouse and pants, dress or skirt of reasonable size and length. Shoes must be worn at all times. Clothing bearing drug or alcohol related themes, or promoting or advertising alcohol, drug use, or violence is considered inappropriate. Sunglasses and hats are not to be worn inside the court or at the VA treatment center unless medically necessary. If you wear excessively revealing clothing or gang-related attire, you may be asked to leave the VA or the court, resulting in a missed appointment. Speak with your treatment team if you need assistance with obtaining suitable clothing.
10. **While in court, remain seated and quiet at all times.** It is very important to observe appropriate behavior in court for the benefit of yourself and others present. Turn off all cell phones and do not text message. Gum chewing or food consumption is not allowed in the courtroom.

## VETERANS TREATMENT COURT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

### 1. Needs Assessment

Your VTC Coordinator should have already conducted a needs assessment. During that assessment, you should have learned about Veterans Treatment Court, been given paperwork (including this Handbook), and had many questions asked of you. The VTC Coordinator, upon completion of the assessment, will schedule an evaluation with the Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist (VJO) to see if you qualify for services through the VA. These services can include housing, mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, assistance finding employment, vocational rehabilitation, application for benefits, etc.

### 2. Treatment Plans

You and your VA Mental Health and/or Substance Abuse provider will develop an initial treatment plan. This plan will act as a guide for your phases, and within it you will set goals, select methods for meeting those goals, and develop target dates for achieving those goals. The plan will be maintained by your treatment team and will be updated, as you progress through the program.

If, at any time, you feel that you are not receiving the services outlined on your treatment plan or are not meeting the goals you have identified in your plan, reach out to your counselor or VJO for assistance.

### **3. Counseling**

Substance abuse and mental health counseling is provided in two separate formats: individual and group. As part of your treatment plan, you will be required to participate in both types of counseling. Together, they are designed to help you develop self-awareness, realize your self-worth, and develop the strength to practice self-discipline.

You may also be required to attend additional treatment groups such as anger management, marital counseling, PTSD, or any other groups the treatment team recognizes as needed.

Your attendance and level of participation at both individual and group counseling sessions will be reported to the Judge as part of your progress report. You must have prior permission from your VA Mental Health and/or Substance abuse provider to be excused from a counseling session.

### **4. Self-Help Activities (Substance Use Only)**

Attendance may be required at self-help meetings such as Narcotics Anonymous or Alcoholics Anonymous. The frequency of required attendance is determined by your treatment provider. Attendance is an important part of the recovery process. It will help to familiarize you with the self-help philosophy, and help you to develop levels of trust that will enable you to create social bonds with other recovering addicts. Your treatment team will provide you with information regarding the time and location of self-help meetings and will also direct you to special interest and recovery events in the community. You must provide proof of attendance to the VJO Specialist and/or the Probation Officer prior to each court appearance. The program requires you to have a sponsor and work the steps of your self-help program.

### **5. Mentor Program**

You will be assigned a volunteer Veteran mentor (“Battle Buddy”) from the community to support your efforts to create a better life. This person will be available for you to speak to before and after court, as well as other times they designate.

### **6. Case Management**

Case Management services are provided by the treatment team and as a result of a continuous assessment of your needs. These services will facilitate your effort to successfully complete this program and become a productive member of society. The services may include:

- Detoxification Referrals
- Housing Referrals
- Psychological and/or Psychiatric Evaluation
- Employment Search
- Education Referrals

**7. Probation**

If you are in Veterans Treatment Court as a condition of probation, you will be assigned to a probation officer who will be responsible for providing supervision and enforcing probations terms and conditions. Probation supervision will include unannounced home visits, during which both you and your place of residence are subject to search, and may include random drug / alcohol testing. In addition, local law enforcement officers may assist your probation officer with your supervision.

**8. Education, vocation, and employment programs**

Recovery from substance addiction and mental health issues means becoming a self-sufficient and productive, responsible member of the community. It is expected that, if able, during the treatment program you will obtain full-time employment, or part-time employment with involvement in community service and participation in an educational or vocational training program. Your counselor will help you obtain an assessment of your needs and skills, and will refer you to the proper agencies for education, training and job placement.

**PHASES**

VTC uses phases. Completion of all phases is necessary before you graduate. Each phase consists of specified objectives, therapeutic and rehabilitative requirement for advancement, as described below. The requirements are only guidelines, and may be modified for individual participants needs.

You are responsible for completing all phase requirements before advancement can occur. It is important to remember that even if you can check off every task, you may still not advance if you are not fully compliant with the program.

**Felony VTC Court (Medium High to High Risk and Needs)**

(approximate time = 12 to 18 mos)

Phase One

10 weeks- Acute Stabilization

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Court every 2 weeks</li> <li>• Engage with treatment/VTC Coordinator/VJO/Mentor</li> <li>• Engage with supervision</li> <li>• Develop case plan</li> <li>• Random Drug Testing</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess housing</li> <li>• Begin to change people, places, things</li> <li>• Address financial issues</li> <li>• Begin peer recovery groups*</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain medical assessment*</li> <li>• 30 clean days needed to advance</li> </ul> |
|--|---|---|



**Phase Two**  
**Approximately 14 weeks – Clinical Stabilization**

- Court once a month
- Engage with treatment/VTC Coordinator/VJO/Mentor
- Comply with supervision
- Relapse prevention
- Random drug testing
- Address medical issues
- Continue peer recovery groups\*
- Establish/Maintain recovery support network
- Begin/Maintain employment\*
- Begin/Continue vocational training or school\*
- Address ancillary services (ie parenting, family support)
- Demonstrate changing people, places, things
- Address financial issues
- 40 clean days needed to advance

**Phase Three**  
**Approximately 14 weeks – Habilitation**

- Court every 6 to 8 weeks
- Maintain engagement with treatment/VTC Coordinator/VJO/Mentor
- Comply with supervision
- Random drug testing
- Develop continuing care plan
- Maintain pro-social activity
- Continue peer recovery groups\*
- Maintain recovery support network
- Maintain employment\*
- Maintain employment, vocational training, or school\*
- Address ancillary services (ie parenting, family support)
- Demonstrate changing people, places, things
- 60 clean days needed to advance

**Phase Four**  
**Continuing Care**

- Court every 10 to 12 weeks
- Maintain engagement with treatment/VTC Coordinator/VJO/Mentor
- Comply with supervision
- Random drug testing
- Demonstrate continuing care plan
- Continue peer recovery groups\*
- Continue pro-social activity
- Continue recovery support network
- Continue employment, vocation training, or school
- Demonstrate changing people, places, things

**Felony VTC Court (Low Risk/Need)**  
**(approximate time = one year)**

- Compliance Court as needed
- Engage with treatment/VTC Coordinator/VJO/Mentor
- Engage with supervision
- Develop treatment plan
- Random drug testing
- Obtain medical assessment and treatment, if needed
- Address financial issues

**Misdemeanor VTC Court**  
(approximate time = 6 mos to one year)

**Phase One**  
Treatment -12 weeks

- Court every two weeks
- Engage with treatment/VTC Coordinator/VJO/Mentor
- Engage with supervision
- Develop case plan
- Random drug testing
- Assess housing
- Begin to change people, places, things
- Obtain medical assessment and treatment
- Address financial issues
- Begin peer recovery groups\*

**Phase Two**  
Continuing Care-14 weeks

- Court Monthly or less frequent
- Maintain engage with treatment/VTC Coordinator/VJO/Mentor
- Comply with supervision
- Random drug testing
- Develop continuing care plan
- Maintain peer recovery groups\*
- Maintain pro-social activity
- Maintain recovery support network
- Maintain employment, vocation training, or school
- Address ancillary services (ie parenting, family support)
- Demonstrate changing people, places, things

*\*If applicable*

## **PROGRAM FEES**

There may be fees associated with Veterans Treatment Court. These may include: fees to probation, fees to the court (fines, court costs, cost of prosecution, etc), restitution owed, cost of treatment, drug testing fees, and others. But, no one will be denied treatment or access to Veterans Treatment Court due to inability to pay.

## **GRADUATION CRITERIA**

Upon completion of all phases, you will be eligible for graduation, as long as the following criteria are met:

- Acceptable level of sobriety, as determined by the treatment team.
- Obtain gainful, consistent employment or be sufficiently involved in a vocational or educational training program, as determined by the treatment team.
- Medication taken as directed.

- Maintain consistent attendance at all court appearances and treatment team appointments.
- No unexcused absences from scheduled services for 45 consecutive days.
- Achievement of stable living arrangements and healthy interpersonal relationships.
- Achievement of an understanding of personal problems of addiction, criminal behavior, and relapse prevention as demonstrated through a written graduation application.
- A definitive aftercare plan, which may include self-help meetings, VA outpatient counseling, medication management appointments, group attendance at a residential program, or active participation in the Veterans Treatment Court Alumni Association.
- Fulfillment of goals as stated in your individual treatment plan or positive progress toward appropriate long-term life goals.
- Appropriate payment of fees to probation and other agencies.

Upon graduation, if you are in VTC as a diversion, your plea will be withdrawn and your case will be dismissed. If you are in VTC as a condition of probation, your charges will not be dismissed, but you will be given a completion certificate and in some cases, you may be eligible to have your probation terminated early. Your family will be invited to join you as the Judge congratulates you on successfully completing the Veterans Treatment Court program and achieving your goal to establish a better, more productive, self-directed life.

## PROGRAM RESPONSES

When you do something well, we will attempt to acknowledge and reward that behavior. If you do something wrong, there will be consequences given. These responses will be tailored to your individual progress and needs, as well as with your capabilities at that particular time. VTC recognizes the effort that it takes in attempting to improve behaviors, choices, and ultimately your lifestyle.

### *Possible Incentives:*

- Applause
- Gift Cards
- Curfew extension/removal
- Decreased court appearances
- Early phase advancement
- Early court dismissal
- Praise from judge
- Recognition Certificate
- Recommendation letter for job
- Reduction of community service
- Standing ovation
- Travel privileges
- FishBowl drawing
- "Cut the Line" pass for drug tests

### *Possible Sanctions:*

- Admonishment from court
- Increased drug testing
- Writing an essay/paper
- Increased frequency of court
- Community service hours
- Fines

- Phase extension
- Removal of privileges
- Increased supervision
- Incarceration
- Imposition of a curfew
- Expulsion from the program

### *Possible Therapeutic Adjustments*

If you are honest about substance use or you fail to follow rules you may not be fully capable of following, the response may be a therapeutic adjustment, or a “treatment response” instead of or in addition to any sanction imposed. These responses are not designed to punish you, but rather to give you what you need to be successful. They are imposed to help you learn from your choices and to not repeat them. Possible treatment responses include:

- Essay or writing assignment
- Increased self-help meetings
- Increase contact with treatment
- Increase level of treatment
- Increased drug testing
- Increased mental health support meetings
- Phase extension
- Residential treatment

## **CONFIDENTIALITY**

Your identity and privacy will be protected consistent with Federal Regulations and Florida law. In response to these regulations, policies and procedures have been developed which safeguard confidentiality. You will be asked to sign a waiver authorizing the transfer of information among all participating agencies. You are also expected to respect and maintain the confidentiality of others. If there are family members to whom you wish VTC speak, make sure to sign releases of information.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Veterans Treatment Court program has been developed to help you achieve total abstinence from illicit and illegal drugs and from all criminal activity, and to address any mental health issues you may have. The program is designed to promote self-sufficiency to return you to the community as a productive and responsible member. The Judge, the court staff and the treatment team are present to guide and assist you, but the final responsibility is yours. You must be motivated to make this change and commit to a better, more productive, sober, self-directed life.

Honesty is always the best policy, especially when it comes to how the VTC program will respond to your actions and behavior. When you are honest with VTC, you are rewarded with credibility and trust. When you are dishonest with VTC, you lose that credibility and trust which will have a direct impact in how the VTC program responds to you. If you want the help and are willing to let us help you, we will be here for you and will walk with you on your path to recovery. If you decide that you do not want help, please speak with your attorney about your options.

We hope this handbook has been helpful to you and has answered most of your questions. If you have any additional questions or concerns about the Veterans Treatment Court program, please feel free to ask your treatment team. We have attached the Participant Testing Policy, Prohibited Substances Agreement, the Prohibited Substances List, and the SLC Hotline Information sheets to this handbook for your information.

# **Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Problem-Solving Courts Participant Testing Policy**

It is ***my responsibility*** to call the drug testing hotline **every day (7 days per week), BEFORE 7:00 A.M.** On weekdays, the hotline is typically changed the night before, but it will always be changed by 6:00 AM on the day of testing.

I will call the following telephone number: **(772) 462-6400.**

**I understand:**

1. A missed test is considered a positive test and may result in the loss of all of my accumulated clean time and could result in additional sanctions.
2. A dilute specimen is considered a positive test and may result in the loss of all of my accumulated clean time and could result in additional sanctions.
3. I am responsible for what I eat and drink and for any medications/drugs that I consume. I will not attempt to claim, as a reason to be dilute or positive, inadvertent exposure by consuming food, beverages, or medications that may cause a dilute or positive test. I understand it is my responsibility to remain negative on all drug tests. If I test positive for a substance, I understand it is not the job of the drug court team to figure out why.
4. My failure to provide a urine specimen when required will be considered a positive test. It could result in the loss of all of my accumulated clean time and may result in additional sanctions.
5. I must provide at least 60mls of specimen each time I drug test. Failure to provide an adequate amount of specimen will prevent me from having a confirmation test conducted if I disagree with a positive result. If I am unable to provide a specimen greater than 60mls in volume, I will be asked to give another specimen within a fair amount of time. If I am unable or unwilling to provide such an adequate specimen it will count as a positive test and result in the loss of all of my accumulated clean time and may result in additional sanctions.
  - a. If my urine specimen is not within a temperature range of 90F-100F, I will be asked to provide another specimen within a fair amount of time. If I am unable or unwilling to do so it will count as a positive test and result in the loss of all of my accumulated clean time and may result in additional sanctions.
  - b. I will comply with the lab’s request to provide another specimen. If I do not it will count as a positive test and result in the loss of all of my accumulated clean time and may result in additional sanctions.
  - c. Attempting to alter/tamper with a drug/alcohol test may result in an arrest for a new criminal offense, sanction and may result in termination from the program.
6. All specimen collections are observed by a collector of my gender. I will comply with any requests the lab makes during the collection of my specimen. Failure to comply will be documented as a refusal and will be considered a positive test. It may result in sanctions and could possibly result in termination from the program.
7. I will not leave the lab’s waiting area until the collection process is complete. Failure to comply will be considered a positive test.
8. A positive test will result in the loss of all of my accumulated clean time. I know that I am encouraged to admit use prior to testing as a show of honesty so that the program can assist me on a therapeutic level instead of a punitive level (each situation differs).

My assigned number is: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Signature                      Date

## Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Problem-Solving Courts Prohibited Substances Agreement

All positive drug/alcohol tests will be viewed as a violation of program rules. Therefore, I agree to refrain from using the following foods, substances, or products that are known to or may potentially interact with the Problem-Solving Court drug testing procedures and subsequently yield a positive or false-positive test result. I understand that I am responsible for what goes into my body and that failure to abide by this policy will result in sanctions.

Poppy Seeds: Poppy Seeds are within the opioid family and may interact with urine drug testing. I agree not to consume this item or any foods/ingestible products that contain this item.

Diet Pills: Many appetite suppressants/weight loss medications and/or supplements contain amphetamines or amphetamine-based substances that may interact with drug testing. I agree to refrain from unapproved use of any appetite suppressant/weight loss medication and/or supplement.

Allergy or Cold Medications: Many over the counter and prescribed allergy or cold medications contain substances within the opioid family and amphetamine family and may interact with urine drug testing. I agree to refrain from unapproved use of any allergy or cold medications.

Cough Syrups and other Liquid Medications: I am aware that liquid cough syrup brands and numerous other liquid medications contain alcohol and may contain substances in the amphetamine family. I will read product labels carefully and get permission before using. I am aware that there are non-alcohol cough and cold remedies readily available at most pharmacies and major retail stores.

Non-Alcoholic Beer and Wine: Although legally considered non-alcoholic, I know that NA beers (e.g. O'Doul's®, Sharps®) do contain a residual amount of alcohol and I will refrain from use of these items.

Food and Other Ingestible Products: I know that there are numerous other consumable products that contain alcohol that could result in a positive test for alcohol. I agree to read the labels carefully and avoid using/consuming any products that contain alcohol.

Hand Sanitizers and Hygiene Products: Hand sanitizers and other antiseptic gels and foams used to disinfect skin and surfaces contain alcohol. I understand that excessive, unnecessary, or repeated use of these products cannot be claimed as an excuse for a positive urine test but may affect a SCRAM alcohol monitor test and therefore I will avoid these products if I am requested to do so. This also includes aftershaves and colognes, hairsprays and mousse, astringents, and insecticides (bug sprays) that contain alcohol.

Legal Substances/Medications: I understand that just because a substance is legally able to be purchased, consumed, or used (i.e.: alcohol if age 21 or over, medical marijuana, narcotic medications), that I am prohibited for possessing or ingesting/using such substances while participating in the Problem-Solving Court Program.

Prescribed Medications: I agree to get permission from my treatment provider or Court Case Manager prior to taking any lawfully obtained prescription, unless it is an emergency. I can then take any medication medically necessary and obtain permission as soon as feasible.

Prohibited Substances: I have reviewed the prohibited substances list and I agree to abide by it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Problem-Solving Courts Prohibited Substances List

The list below provides an example of substances and medications that are prohibited in the Problem Solving Courts within the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit. This is not a complete list. For further clarification of any drug and/or medication not listed please contact the Problem-Solving Courts Office at (772) 807-4388.

Maintaining a drug free lifestyle is very important in the recovery process. Participants are prohibited from using illegal drugs and alcohol (in any form) and must have over the counter or prescribed medications approved prior to purchasing or ingesting.

Any and all “designer stimulants/drugs” that can be purchased legally or illegally are strictly prohibited. Any and all “smoking mixtures” (other than products specifically designated to contain only tobacco- for Adults only) are strictly prohibited. Any and all products sold or marketed under false pretenses with the warning “not for human consumption” are strictly prohibited. Using and/or being in possession of any substance intended to replace an otherwise illegal/prohibited substance is strictly prohibited and may result in immediate expulsion from the program.

Examples of Prohibited Substances/ Medication Classifications	Examples of substances prohibited in ALL Problem-Solving Court Programs. For medications, the brand name is in ( ) if the generic name is also listed. Many over the counter medications are also listed. For illicit drugs, examples of “street” names are included.
Alcohol (In Any Form)	Alcoholic beverages, powders, creams, vapors, medications containing alcohol (cough syrups/liquid-caps such as Nyquil and Robitussin), energy drinks containing alcohol, foods containing alcohol
Amphetamine	Adderall, Adipost, Benzedrine, Cartwheels, Dexedrine, Dexatrim, Didrex, Molly, Phentermine (Adipex), Preludin, Ritalin, Speed, Vyvanse, White, and any medications containing Pseudoephedrine such as Alka-Seltzer Cold, Claritin-D, Comtrex Acute, Contac Cold Maximum, Coricidin, Dayquil/Nyquil, Dimetapp, Dristan Maximum, Robitussin, Sinarest, Sudafed, Tavist Allergy, Tylenol Cold or Allergy <b><i>There are non-pseudoephedrine “D” versions available in almost all of these.</i></b>
Barbiturate	Allobarbital, Amobarbital, Barbital, Butalbital (Fiorinal), Downers, Goofballs, Pentobarbital, Phenobarbital (Luminal), Pinks, Reds, Yellow Jackets
Benzodiazepine	Alprazolam (Xanax, Niravam), BZDs, Candy, Clonazepam (Klonopin), Chlordiazepoxide (Librium), Diazepam (Valium), Flunirazepam (Rohypnol), Lorazepam (Ativan), Oxaprozin (Daypro), Oxazepam (Serax), Qual, Tranx, Zolpidem (Ambien)
Cocaine	Big C, Blow, Charlie, Crack, Mojo, Powder, Rock, Snow, Toot
Dextromethorphan “DM”	Cold and flu medications and cough suppressants such as Alka-Seltzer Cold, Comtrex Acute, Contac Cold Maximum, Coricidin, Dayquil/Nyquil, Dimetapp, Dristan Maximum, Robitussin, Sudafed, Triaminic, Tylenol Cold, Vicks 44. <b><i>There are non-dextromethorphan “DM” versions available of almost all of these.</i></b>
Hallucinogens	Dimethyltryptamine (DMT), Ecstasy “Molly”, Ketamine, LSD, Methoxetamine, Methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV), Mushrooms, PCP, Tryptamine, Inhalants
Methamphetamine	Black Beauties, Chalk, Crank, Crystal, Glass, Ice, Meth, Tweak, Uppers



Miscellaneous Substances, including natural and designer stimulants and synthetic substances	All Inhalants, All Synthetic substances, Appetite Suppressants- most are prohibited, Bath Salts, Cathinones, Cyclobenzaprine (Flexeril), Diphenhydramine (Benadryl), Caffeine Pills, Flakka, Ketamine, Khat, Kratom, Krokodil, Mescaline, Mephedrone, Poppy Seeds and/or foods containing poppy seeds, Steroids, Soma, Xyrem (GHB), Anything labeled "Not for Human Consumption".
Opioids (including Opioid-based substances/Opioid-similar substances)	Codeine (cough meds, Tylenol 3), Fentanyl (Actiq, Duragesic), Heroin, Hillbilly, Hydro, Hydrocodone (Lortab, Loracet, Norco, Vicodin, Vicoprofen), Hydromorphone (Dilaudid, Exalgo), Kickers, Meperidine (Demerol), Monkey, Morphine (Avinza, Kadian, MS Contin, Nucynta ER, Opana ER, Zohydro), Morphine Sulfate, Oxycodone (Oxycontin, Percodan, Percocet, Roxicet, Roxycodone), Poppy Seeds and/or foods containing poppy seeds, Propoxyphene (Darvocet, Darvon), School Boy, Tramadol (Ultram), Watson
THC (Marijuana)	All forms of illegal or legal Cannabinoids, Marijuana, Medical Marijuana, Blunt, Bud, CBD Products, Dope, Edibles, Grass, Herb, Joint, Mary Jane, Pot, Weed

**Pre-Approved Medication List**

***\*\*Any medication should be reported to treatment and the lab, even if it is on this list\*\****

<p><b><u>Any Antibiotic</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Pain Relievers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin, etc.)</li> <li>• Naproxen (Aleve, Naprosyn, etc.)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aspirin</li> <li>• Tylenol</li> <li>• Excedrin</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Antihistamines</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Claritin</li> <li>• Clarinex</li> <li>• Allegra</li> <li>• Zyrtec</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Cough Suppressant</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delsym (non-alcoholic/Pediatric)</li> <li>• Mucinex (can't be D or DM)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Prescription Pain Relievers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Imitrex</li> <li>• Maxait</li> <li>• Celebrex</li> <li>• Arthrotec</li> <li>• <b>Neurontin</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lyrica</li> <li>• Mobic</li> <li>• <b>Toradol</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Muscle Relaxers</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robaxin</li> <li>• Skelaxin</li> <li>• Norflex</li> <li>• Baclofen</li> <li>• Zanaflex</li> </ul>
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## Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Problem-Solving Courts Participant Testing Procedure

### St Lucie County Hotline #772-462-6400

- Your number is the month in which you were born (if you were born in **January**, your number is **1**).
- You must call the “**hotline number**” prior to 7:00 am each day. On weekdays, the message will change the evening prior. On weekends, you must call in the mornings, as the message does not change until the morning. You may also access the website: <https://www.stlucieco.gov/departments-services/a-z/county-attorney/drugscreening-lab/hotline-info>.
- If your number is called, you must report to the St Lucie County Drug Lab for a urinalysis.
- The fee for the hotline service is \$30.00 weekly, whether you are tested each day or not at all. Money orders and Credit/Debit cards are the only form of payment we accept. **The week begins on Sunday.**
- Failure to appear will be considered an automatic positive drug screen and will be reported to VTC.
- **You must bring in photo identification when you report to the lab.**

#### SLC Drug Lab

- 218 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Room 228  
Fort Pierce, FL 34950
- 1680 SW Lyngate Dr., Suite 105  
Port St Lucie, FL 34952 \*\*  
772-462-6400

\*\*Only open Tuesday-Thursday

The hours of operation will vary day to day

You must either call the hotline or check the website for lab hours

***\*There will be an additional charge for a Confirmatory test\****

**Veterans Treatment Court Orders**

**ORDER PLACING DEFENDANT INTO VETERANS TREATMENT COURT  
(DIVERSION)**

**THIS CAUSE** having come before the Court after finding that the Defendant meets the statutory criteria and that the Defendant having voluntarily agreed to enter and comply with all of the terms and conditions of the Veterans Treatment Court Program (VTC), after consulting with counsel, and entering a plea of no contest to the charges of \_\_\_\_\_, it is

**ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** that the Defendant shall be placed in the VTC diversion program, and as such:

- 1. The Defendant will appear at all VTC hearings as instructed.
- 2. The Defendant has received and has agreed to abide by:
  - i. The Prohibited Substances Contract,
  - ii. The Participant Testing Policy and Procedure, and
  - iii. The VTC Handbook.
- 3. If charged with a felony, Defendant will be supervised by a probation officer. The probation officer or law enforcement officer may conduct supervisory contacts including warrantless searches of Defendant's person, home or vehicle.
- 4. The Defendant will take all approved prescribed medications in the manner prescribed and disclose all prescriptions to the VTC team.
- 5. The Defendant will reside within St Lucie County, unless otherwise approved by the Court, and not change his/her residence without prior approval of the Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist (VJO), probation officer and VTC Team. There must be prior approval from the VJO or probation officer to leave the county of residence (except for pre-approved travel to work or appointments at the VA Medical Center).
- 6. The Defendant will not violate the law or engage in criminal activity.
- 7. Defendant will sign any releases necessary for VTC to receive and communicate relevant information.
- 8. The Defendant will not possess firearms, ammunition or weapons while in VTC.
- 9. The Defendant will call the VJO every week.
- 10. The Defendant understands that any violation of this Order will result in a sanction which may include court ordered sanctions incarceration or discharge from the program.
- 11. Upon successful completion of the program, the plea of No Contest entered will be withdrawn and the charges dismissed.
- 12. Defendant has reviewed and agreed to these conditions as acknowledged in open court.
- 13. Special/Other Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDER PLACING DEFENDANT INTO VETERANS TREATMENT COURT  
(PROBATION/COMMUNITY CONTROL)**

**THIS CAUSE** having come before the Court after the Defendant having been sentenced to probation or community control with the special condition of entering and completing Veterans Treatment Court (VTC), it is

**ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** that the Defendant shall abide by the conditions of Veterans Treatment Court (VTC), which include:

1. The Defendant will appear at all VTC hearings as instructed.
2. The Defendant will abide by all conditions of probation or community control.
3. The Defendant has received and has agreed to abide by:
  - i. The Prohibited Substances Contract,
  - ii. The Participant Testing Policy, and
  - iii. The VTC Handbook.
4. Defendant will be supervised by a probation officer. The probation officer or other law enforcement officer may conduct supervisory contacts including warrantless searches of Defendant's person, home or vehicle.
5. The Defendant will take all approved prescribed medications in the manner prescribed and disclose all prescriptions to the VTC team.
6. The Defendant will reside within St Lucie County, unless otherwise approved by the Court, and not change residence without prior approval of the Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist (VJO), probation officer, and VTC Team. There must be prior approval from the VJO or probation officer to leave the county of residence (except for pre-approved travel to work or appointments at the VA Medical Center).
7. The Defendant will not violate the law or engage in criminal activity.
8. Defendant will sign any releases necessary for VTC to receive and communicate relevant information.
9. The Defendant will not possess firearms, ammunition or weapons while in VTC.
10. The Defendant will call the VJO every week.
11. The Defendant understands that any violation of this Agreement will result in a sanction which may include court ordered sanctions incarceration or discharge from the program.
12. Defendant has reviewed and agreed to these conditions as acknowledged in open Court.
13. Special/Other Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

## Veterans Treatment Court Contact Information

**Robert Belanger**

Circuit Judge

**Linda Baldree**

Assistant State Attorney

**Jodi Cheslock**

Assistant Public Defender

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