

Anoka County Veterans Treatment Court

Policies, Procedures, and Handbook



***Tenth Judicial District
Anoka, Minnesota***

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"Making a Positive Change"
WELCOME

Welcome to Anoka County Veterans Treatment Court (VTC)!

VTC is designed to promote self-reliance and assist you in becoming a productive and responsible community member. It is a voluntary program which provides you with the opportunity to change life circumstances by becoming alcohol and drug free and getting treatment for mental health issues.

VTC is a court-supervised program combined with intensive treatment and supervision for criminal justice-involved veterans with an emphasis on high risk and high needs. It is designed specifically for veterans charged with misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor, and felony level offense(s) that are closely related to their substance abuse or mental illness.

It is a unique program because it represents a closer working union between criminal justice system partners (court, attorneys, supervision, treatment) than is traditionally seen in criminal courts. A team of such professionals will be present to provide supportive services and guide you along. All are dedicated to your recovery.

This handbook is designed to be an overview of what to expect as a participant in Veterans Treatment Court (VTC). It provides a basic outline of the program and is a resource to turn to for the many questions you may have as you move through the program. If you are reading this handbook, it means you are either being considered for this program or have been accepted into the program.

You will be expected to follow the instructions given to you in VTC and comply with the case management and treatment plans developed for you. In accordance with the Participant Contract you have signed or will sign, you are responsible for reading this handbook carefully and following all guidelines or instructions listed.

The VTC Team believes in your commitment and desire for change. This program will provide you with the best opportunity to make those changes: Re-balance your life and move forward on a positive path.

OVERVIEW

The Anoka County Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) began in the fall of 2012 and was developed to help participants achieve total abstinence from drugs and/or alcohol, be diverted from prison or jail, and to have a more satisfying law-abiding life. The VTC is designed to reduce re-arrests, promote self-sufficiency through employment and education and to help you remain in the community as a productive and responsible member of society. VTC is voluntary on your part. You must want to participate in this program. The judge, court staff, Probation Officers and treatment staff will guide and assist you, **but the final responsibility is yours. You must be motivated to make these changes and commit to a totally drug/alcohol free life.**

The program involves working jointly with the court, community supervision, treatment providers, the VA, 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 choices and effort to become drug/alcohol free and not commit new crimes comes from you.**

VTC program components include regular court appearances, comprehensive assessment and treatment (chemical and mental health), individualized supervision, random drug and alcohol testing; vocational or job counseling; educational classes, and immediate sanctions and incentives.

VTC is broken down into four phases. You must complete all four phases successfully to graduate. The program is **abstinence based** with specific goals and activities required in each phase. Once phase requirements are accomplished and approved by the Team, transition to the next phase will occur. An application to request a phase move will need to be completed by you and turned into the Team for approval in advance, the only phase with no application will be from Phase 1 to 2.

VTC STAFFING TEAM AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

The VTC Team consists of these criminal justice professionals who perform the following functions (to include, but not limited to):

Judge: The Honorable Tammi A. Fredrickson and The Honorable Jenny Walker Jasper, Tenth Judicial District Court:

Supervises participant progress through the VTC continuum based on bi-weekly court hearing, team input and participant behavior; leads the VTC Team in decision-making; holds participants accountable for their progress by use of sanctions and incentives.

Prosecutor: Blair Buccicone and Treye Kettwick, Anoka County Attorney's Office (felony cases) and Melissa Westervelt, Coon Rapids City Attorney's Office (misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor cases):

Gatekeeper/screener for access to treatment through VTC.

Public Defender: Christopher Lynch and Kelly Sinton, Public Defender's Office: Advocate for participant's access to and continued participation in VTC, assists in screening, and assures confidentiality requirements are met.

Corrections Department: Carol Paulson, Anoka County Corrections: Acts as contact point between the VTC and the Corrections Department. Ensures agents are supervising participants and that participants are compliant with their terms of probation. Reports to the VTC team results of drug screens, office visits etc.

Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist (VJO): David Holewinski-VA Medical Center: Assists with eligibility for VA services, provides case management and serves as the liaison to the VA Medical Center.

County Veterans Service Officer (VSO): John Kriesel, Amy Pomeroy, Tim Nelson, or Tony Tengwall- Anoka County Veterans Service Office: Assists in determining and accessing VA benefits and makes referrals to community based treatment, vocational, educations or other services.

Peer Mentor Coordinator: Paul Evangelist: Provides oversight and essential coordination for the overall mentoring program. The role of the Mentor Coordinator is to recruit, screen, select, train, match, supervise, and coordinate the volunteer mentors within the Anoka County Veteran's Court.

Other Staffing Members include:

Law Enforcement Liaison: Matt Woitel, Anoka County Sheriff's Office

Evaluator: Loni Payne, Anoka County Attorney's Office

Court Administration Coordinator: Lacy Greninger, Anoka County Court Administration

Senior Court Clerk: Jill Kealy, Anoka County Court Administration



PROGRAM RULES

As a participant, you will be required to abide by the rules outlined in the 'Participant Contract' and 'Probation Agreement' as well as those outlined here in the Participant Handbook. These rules will apply throughout ALL phases:

- 1) **You are not to possess or consume any mood-altering chemicals or illegal substances.** "Possess" means to have on your person, in your home or vehicle. **This includes alcohol, and any substances containing alcohol (See list for examples).** Misuse of over-the-counter and prescription medications are prohibited. It is your responsibility to discuss using over-the-counter medications with your Probation Officer **prior** to using them. Medications producing "false-positive" drug tests will not be an excuse.

If you are on medications for a documented medical condition, you must provide proof from your doctor. Additionally, it is your responsibility to ensure that the medication you are taking will not create a "false-positive" drug test. Any medication not approved will not be an excuse for a "false-positive" drug testing.

ANY prescription medications must be verified and approved by your Probation Officer BEFORE you take them

- 2) **Comply with all requests for drug and alcohol testing.** You will be assigned a 'color code' for random drug testing.

You are required to call the 'color code' line daily and follow the instructions to report for testing. Drug testing and breath testing can also occur during court, office and field visits with your Probation Officer or other team members.

- 3) **You must not engage** in any behavior that results in a diluted, substituted or adulterated urine sample. A **diluted test** result is when a person drinks an excessive amount of liquids or takes other chemicals to hide their use prior to drug testing.
- 4) **Do not act violently or make threats towards other participants, staff or court personnel.** Violent or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. Threats or intimidation towards anyone will not be tolerated and may result in your termination from VTC.
- 5) **Do not bring any weapons to treatment, supervision meetings, any community agency meetings or court.** Bringing banned items could result in your termination from the program and you could get new charges.
- 6) You must fully **participate** in drug and/or alcohol **treatment** as directed by the court.

- 7) You must **comply with all other programming requests** (in addition to Phase Requirements) which include, but are not limited to: Cognitive groups, domestic violence groups, community-based support groups, recommendations by the VA and Psychiatric Court Clinic (if applicable) and pay all program fees and restitution (if ordered).
- 8) Attend all VTC **court sessions and office appointments** with Probation Officer and **be on time**; contact Probation Officer as directed.
- 9) You must report to your Probation Officer any **change of residence within 72 hours**, and changes in your **work schedule** or employment status immediately. You must also report any changes in your **phone number** or contact information immediately. If your phone number is disconnected or cannot receive calls, find another way to notify your Probation Officer immediately. Failure to update address or phone number could result in a sanction.
- 10) **Employment** will be verified on an ongoing basis. If you are not gainfully employed or attending an approved vocational or educational program, you must be involved in an approved job seeking/training component or completing community service.
- 11) **Random home visits** may be conducted day or night or on weekends, without prior notice by Probation Officer or other team member. A drug or breathalyzer test may be requested of you during the visit.
- 12) **Collateral contacts** include, but are not limited to: Significant others, family, sponsors, employers, school instructors, other probation officers, physicians, therapists and treatment facilities.
- 13) Probation Officer must approve **out of state travel**. Two weeks' notice must be given if you plan on traveling (with the exception of emergency situations). You will be required to submit to a UA the day you leave AND as soon as you get back.
- 14) **Remain law abiding** in all respects and obey state, federal and local ordinances. You **must report any contact with law enforcement**, whether or not you receive a ticket or are arrested within 72 hours. This also applies if you are with other people who are stopped. When in doubt, communicate with your Probation Officer.
- 15) The Court has also ordered "**Special Conditions of Probation**" that you must comply **with**. Please refer to your Probation Agreement or Court Order. If you have any questions about your responsibilities, please discuss them with your Probation Officer.

TREATMENT PROTOCOL

You may have already completed a chemical dependency evaluation and might need to complete one if you have not already done so. An evaluation should be obtained through your private insurance carrier or Anoka County Rule 25, or the Veterans Administration.

You may be referred to a treatment provider in the community to attend a program suitable in length and based on the assessment recommendations. Your treatment counselor will provide regular progress reports to your Probation Officer. Your Probation Officer will work with you to ensure that the treatment program is appropriate for you.

If you qualify for services at the VA Medical Center, you will be required to participate in treatment services according to the VA assessment/evaluation and treatment plan established at the VA. If you qualify for any level of VA benefits, you will also be required to utilize community-based services as deemed appropriate by your individual treatment needs.

Substance abuse treatment many times has three parts: individual counseling, supportive group sessions, and education. Together they are designed to develop self-awareness, an understanding of addiction and skills to maintain sobriety. The individual and group sessions can include problem identification and alternative solutions. The educational component can include films, lectures and handout materials. Your attendance at sessions will be reported to the team as part of your progress report. You must contact your counselor and Probation Officer if you are unable to attend or will be late to a scheduled session.

Sobriety success many times hinges on the ability to address all aspects of an individual's life. Participants in VTC are screened for mental health and chemical health issues that are active together. Many times, mental health conditions have gone unnoticed, undiagnosed and/or untreated in the past.

VETERAN MENTOR PROGRAM

You will likely be assigned a volunteer veteran mentor to act as a coach, guide, role model, and advocate for you as you go through the VTC program. You are responsible for maintaining contact with your mentor. All mentors have prior military experience and will be there to listen to your concerns, make general suggestions, and act as a support network at a time when you need them most.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING

You must attend other programs as directed by the VTC team. These programs may include, but are not limited to, Change Step, Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) Program, Intensive Outpatient Treatment (IOP) Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (RRTP) – St. Cloud VA, Relapse Prevention, Anger Management, Aftercare, Partial Psychiatry Hospitalization (PPH), Individual Psychotherapy, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT), Psychiatric Management, Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT), TBI/Polytrauma Rehabilitation, Evidence based therapies (CBT, CPT, PE, etc.), Other Outpatient Treatment Groups (Anxiety Intervention, Balancing Group, Moving forward, etc.).

CONFIDENTIALITY

Federal and state laws require that your privacy be protected. In response to these regulations, this program, its Probation Officers and treatment providers have developed policies, procedures and designated forms for you to sign in order to guard your privacy. If you have questions regarding your confidentiality please ask a member of the Court Staff.

SUPERVISION

Anoka County's Adult Probation Supervision services are located at the Rum River Human Services Campus. Adult offenders are managed based on their assessed risk to public safety, their individual treatment needs, and court-ordered supervision conditions. VTC participants who are residents of counties outside Anoka will be supervised within these counties with contact through Anoka County Corrections. All felony level offenders are assessed for risk and individual programming needs using the Level of Service-Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI). This tool assists probation officers with case management planning by evaluating risk factors including criminal history, education, employment, peer relationships, chemical abuse, and attitudes. All Veteran Court participants are assigned an individual supervising agent.

RANDOM HOME VISITS

Random (surprise) home visits can occur during the day, evening or weekend- where you will be visited by your Probation Officer and possibly other team members. Drug and breath testing can occur during the random home visit.

Random home visits will be utilized as an extra supervision tool for the program. These visits are intended to provide supportive monitoring while you are in the community. Visits will be conducted by the Probation Officers and law enforcement.

During the home visit you will be required to identify other residents and/or visitors of the home. You will also be required to submit to a PBT's (portable breath test). Reports to the judge and team about the general condition of the home (positive or negative) will be noted. VTC is a **zero tolerance** program and the use of any chemicals will not be tolerated.

You are obligated to respond to the visit by answering your door if you are home and allowing the staff in for conversation. If you are found not at home, staff may try to reach you via cell phone and request that you either meet them back at your residence or somewhere in the community.

COURT SUPERVISION

Staffing is a meeting prior to court that includes the whole VTC Team. It is a time for the Team to review your case. Updates from your Probation Officer, treatment provider and any other program you are involved in will be reviewed for progress. Based on performance, the team will determine next steps to take that may be appropriate for you: Rewards (incentives) or sanctions. Other changes to your supervision plan may be ordered by the Judge (examples include increased drug testing, counseling, meeting attendance, re-assessment, residential treatment or intensive outpatient treatment) to help you achieve and maintain sobriety. The team will also determine when you will proceed to the next phase and approve graduation application.

You will be required to appear in court on a regular basis. At each court hearing you will speak for yourself and you are encouraged to ask the Judge questions or discuss matters that may impact your efforts to maintain sobriety. The Judge will talk to you about the progress report, ask clarifying questions and discuss specific problems you are experiencing. The Judge will administer any rewards, sanctions or order other supervision plan adjustments during this time.

Court attendance is linked to your Phase status and can be decreased or increased based on your performance. If an extreme emergency happens and you are going to be late or miss your court date notify your attorney or Court Administration. Failure to appear in court may result in a bench warrant being issued for your arrest.



RESPECT FOR THE COURTROOM

- ❑ Timeliness is a virtue – be on time. Check-in starts at 1:15pm; you must be in the Courtroom when **Court begins promptly at 1:30pm**, unless you have permission otherwise.
- ❑ **Cell phones are distracting; make sure they are turned off.** If your cell phone goes off during court, it will be taken away and may be given back to you at the end of court time or at a future time. The same will apply if you are caught text-messaging, browsing the internet, or using your phone for any reason.
- ❑ Using portable electronic equipment or sleeping is prohibited.
- ❑ **No food or beverage in the courtroom** unless provided by the program or with permission of the Court Team. **No CHEWING GUM.**
- ❑ A purpose of the court session is to gain knowledge and offer support to your fellow participants. Please refrain from having random conversations. Continual, excessive talking is unacceptable.
- ❑ The Judge and courtroom environment deserves respect. Please wear appropriate clothing.


Failure to abide by any of these rules may result in a sanction

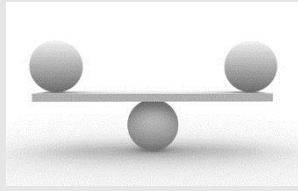
PHASES

The Veterans Treatment Court program is a four-phased, highly structured program lasting up to twenty four (24) months. However, the length of time varies based upon your individual progress.

Each phase consists of specific requirements for transition into the next phase. Phase movement will be the result of you accomplishing the following: your goals as determined by your case plan along with the specific phase requirements and other responsibilities as discussed with the VTC team. You can also ask the VTC for permission to progress to the next phase. When the Team decides you are eligible for phase movement, you will be given a phase application. If the Team sees no progress and/or motivation to change, phase movement could be delayed and you could be terminated from the program.

The application is to be filled out completely and given to the Team who will review it at staffing. To be considered for a phase move, the application will need to be turned in at least one week in advance. The application for phase advancement can be sent to your supervising agent. When filing out the application- the more the better. A review of your VTC contract and case plan will occur to ensure total program compliance. The VTC team will review your status and make a recommendation for phase movement based on your performance.

 PHASE ONE – COMMITMENT	
Objectives:	Intake, assessment and orientation; Assess benefits eligibility; establish abstinence and chemical dependency/mental health treatment; and identify outside support system.
Length of Phase:	No more than sixty (60) days
Requirements during phase 1 include (but are not limited to):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twice monthly court hearings; show up- be respectful and be honest. • Screen and be assessed for treatment; follow any recommendations • Comply with pre-sentence investigation (PSI) • Engage with peer mentor coordinator • Submit to random UA's (minimum of twice weekly); breathalyzer tests, ISAP, or Urinalysis with ETG testing as directed. • Engage with Veterans Service Officer (VSO) and Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator (VJO).
Minimum Requirements for Advancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Affirm desire and eligibility to continue in program B) Satisfactory compliance with all program requirements C) Approval of VTC Team D) Enter plea and receive sentence into VTC



PHASE TWO - Stabilization

Objectives:	Continue abstinence; establish recovery; establish positive stable lifestyle.
Length of Phase:	A minimum of three (3) months
Requirements during phase 2 include (but are not limited to):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend court hearings as scheduled; be honest and be respectful • Continue engagement with VJO and VSO • Follow all treatment orders • Follow orders of corrections and supervising agent • Develop a housing plan • Treat program partners with respect. • Submit to random UA's (minimum of twice weekly); breathalyzer tests, ISAP, or Urinalysis with ETG testing as directed • Meet with veteran mentor coordinator as directed, or mentor if applicable
Minimum requirements for Advancement:	<p>A) Minimum 30 days sobriety (includes abstaining from all mood-altering chemicals)</p> <p>B) Completion of Phase Advancement Application</p> <p>C) Satisfactory treatment progress or completion</p> <p>D) Satisfactory compliance with all program requirements</p> <p>E) Approval of VTC Team</p>



PHASE THREE – Maintenance

Objectives:	Continued abstinence, pursuit of education and/or vocation goals, connect with the community at large, meaningfully engage in programming.
Length of Phase:	A minimum of (6) six months.
Requirements during phase 3 include (but are not limited to):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend monthly court hearings; be honest and be respectful • Continue to follow treatment orders • Continue to follow orders of corrections and supervising agent • Follow case plan for pro-social activities and community service

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to engage with VJO and VSO • Continue to engage with mentor program • Enrollment and successful participation in Domestic Violence program, if required • Submit to random UA's (minimum of twice weekly); breathalyzer tests, ISAP, or Urinalysis with ETG testing as directed • Continued meetings with Veteran Mentor • Completion of Phase Advancement Application
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PHASE FOUR – SUCCESSFUL LIFE SKILLS

Objectives:	Continued abstinence, Incorporate skills learned from programming into daily life.
Length of Phase:	A minimum of (4) four months
Requirements during phase 3 include (but are not limited to):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend monthly court hearings; be honest and be respectful • Continue to follow treatment orders • Continue to follow orders of corrections and supervising agent • Follow case plan for pro-social activities and community service • Continue to engage with VJO and VSO • Continue to engage with mentor program • Completion of Domestic Violence program, if required • Submit to random UA's (minimum of twice weekly); breathalyzer tests, ISAP, or Urinalysis with ETG testing as directed • Continued meetings with Veteran Mentor • Completion of Graduation Application



Graduation Requirements

GRADUATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Minimum of 180 days sobriety (includes abstaining from all mood-altering chemicals) ✓ Completion of Graduation Application and present to the VTC Team ✓ Compliant with VTC program ✓ Successful completion of treatment ✓ Successful completion of all program requirements, phase requirements and case plan goals ✓ Employed (if applicable) ✓ Stable medical care ✓ Progress toward completing educational/vocational goals ✓ Participating in a recovery support group ✓ Living in a safe, sober, stable residence ✓ A new LS-CMI shall be completed by Corrections (on felony cases)* ✓ Approval of VTC Team
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On the day of your graduation, you will be invited to share with the VTC team how life has changed for you since you started the program. At your graduation ceremony, the Judge will present you with a challenge coin and will recognize your excellent accomplishments. Family and friends are encouraged to join you on your celebratory day.

Following graduation the team may require you to return to the VTC to check in and account for your experiences since graduation.

* The court requires an updated LS-CMI at the time of graduation. The LS-CMI score will be compared with the score upon Sentencing into the VTC. This information will help the court in documenting success experienced by Veterans who have completed the Court.

TERMINATION CRITERIA

Termination from the program may occur in the following situations: failure to comply with program requirements; new arrest and/or warrants; illegally being in possession of a firearm; absconding or out of contact with program for more than 60 days; or exhibiting conduct deemed inappropriate or disrespectful. Prior to termination from the program, you have a right to a hearing to determine whether you engaged in the conduct alleged (Minn. R. Crim. P. 27.04). All decisions regarding termination from the program will be made by the VTC team.

"We all have big changes in our lives that are more or less a second chance."

DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING

As a participant in the program, you are required to submit to regular, random, and observed drug and alcohol testing. The frequency of drug and alcohol testing will remain consistent throughout the duration of the program. At a minimum, **you will be tested at least 2 times per week.**

Instant drug tests or PBT's (preliminary breath tests) can be given on a random basis at any time during court, meetings with your Probation Officer or random home visits.

Sanctions will be imposed for positive tests, diluted samples, tampered samples, and missed tests. The severity will be determined by your admission or omission of chemical use. Continued positive tests, diluted tests, missed tests or tampering with tests may result in any of the following: loss of sober date; community service hours; jail time; more frequent testing; and/or your termination from the program.

Diluted Test: A diluted test result is when a person drinks an excessive amount of liquids or takes other chemicals to mask one's use prior to drug testing.

Missed UA: Failure to appear for drug/alcohol testing will be considered a positive test.

Tampering: Deliberately mixing your urine with fluids or other products, using someone else's urine or other methods to "cheat").

The use of mood-altering substances (alcohol, illegal drugs, synthetic marijuana, and prescription drugs) is prohibited by the program. **If you are on medications for a documented medical condition, you must provide proof from your doctor.** Additionally, it is your responsibility to ensure that the medication you are taking will not create a "false-positive" drug test. Your doctor should be advised of your testing obligations so that they can consider testing in prescribing medications. If a doctor prescribes a medication which s/he feels is necessary for the participant's medical treatment (example: muscle relaxer, pain medication) and the participant subsequently has a positive UA, then the participant is responsible for the cost of GCMS testing to ensure that the participant is complying with the program guidelines. Failure to abide by these restrictions will not be an excuse for "false-positive" drug tests and will result in a sanction.

INCENTIVES

Incentives are responses to positive progress in the program. The type of incentive will vary depending on the behavior that needs to be recognized and are determined by the team. Incentives include (but are not limited to):

- ✓ Verbal Praise and recognition
- ✓ De-escalation of testing
- ✓ Less Frequent Court Appearances
- ✓ Gift Cards
- ✓ Sports Tickets
- ✓ Graduation

SANCTIONS

Sanctions are in response to noncompliance of program requirements or other infractions. Sanctions include (but are not limited to):

- ✓ Placement in the Jury Box in Court
- ✓ Verbal or written warnings and admonishment by the Court
- ✓ Essays or book reports for court
- ✓ Journaling
- ✓ Increased support groups
- ✓ Increased supervision and/or court reporting
- ✓ Increased drug/breath testing and/or random field visits
- ✓ Community Work Service
- ✓ Geographic restriction or other housing change
- ✓ Curfew or home restrictions
- ✓ Writing assignments
- ✓ Electronic Home Monitoring and/or Intensive Supervised Alcohol Monitoring (ISAP)
- ✓ Escalating periods of jail
- ✓ Separation from the Program

MEDICATIONS

You must report all medication (prescription and over-the-counter) use to your Probation Officer, PRIOR to taking the medication. You need approval for everything you take. If you are unable to reach your Probation Officer, you need to ask for a NON-NARCOTIC AND NON-ALCOHOLIC medication. It is your responsibility to know what is contained in the products you consume and/or use.

Approved over-the-counter (OTC) medications

The following medications are approved to take **without** prior approval. **DO NOT TAKE MORE THAN THE DOSAGE INDICATES ON THE LABEL!**

PAIN: (None of the following can be the PM formula)

Advil
Ibuprofen
Tylenol
Aleve
Aspirin

STOMACH

Mylanta
Milk of Magnesia
Pepto Bismol

ANTACIDS

Zantac
Pepcid
Prilosec
Tums/Rolaids

VITAMINS (no sports additives/supplements)

Multivitamins
Prenatal Vitamins

FLU SYMPTOMS

Theraflu
Alka-Seltzer

COUGH/COLD

Delsym (non-alcoholic/pediatric)
Mucinex (cannot be D or DM)

ALLERGIES (none can be D or DM formula)

Claritin
Allegra
Benadryl
Zyrtec

JOINT PAIN

Tylenol Arthritis
Ben Gay muscle rub and patches
Icy Hot muscle rub and patches

*******DO NOT TAKE*******

The following medications you **SHALL NOT** take **without** prior approval.

Sleep Aids/ Hypnotics such as Ambien/ Lunesta
Narcotic pain relievers (without a prescription)
Benzodiazepines such as ativan, valium (diazepam), clonazepam, lorazepam
Over the counter caffeine preparations, diet pills, or energy drinks
Tranquilizers
Cough syrups containing codeine and/or alcohol
Muscle relaxers (without prior approval)

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS



VJO-David Holewinski	612.467.5082
Anoka County Veteran's Services (VSO)	763.323.5290
VSO Fax Number	763.323.5296
Community Corrections:	763.323.5901
Color Wheel Line:	763.712.2903
Court Administration	763.422.7350
Clerk Lacy Greninger	763.422.7406
Clerk Jill Kealy	763.323.5978
Crisis Hotline	800.273.TALK
MN Assistance Council for Veterans	651.291.8756
MN Dept. Employment-Economic Development	651.642.0703
MN Courts Website	www.mncourts.gov
MN Courts Public Access	www.mncourts.gov/publicaccess

Good Luck to You, and Thank You for Your Service to Our Country!

**Authorization to Disclose
Claimant/Benefit and Protected Health Information**

The Anoka County Veterans Treatment Court of Anoka County, Minnesota has made it a condition of my participation in its disposition of my pending criminal matters that I disclose information protected by 5 U.S.C. 552a, 38 U.S.C. 5701, 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164, and 38 USC §7332 (drug and alcohol abuse, HIV infection, and sickle cell anemia) to the criminal justice system.

Therefore, I, _____, request that the United States department of
(Veteran's Name)

Veterans Affairs, Veterans Benefits Administration and Veterans Health Administration disclose my claimant and/or benefit information and protected health information to the following:

Anoka County Veterans Treatment Court and all parties sanctioned by and associated with the court or jail in either pre or post court proceedings.

I authorize release of the following protected health information:

Any and/or all claimant and/or benefit information and any and/or all medical and psychological information to include communication in person, by telephone, mail, encrypted email, or fax.

I certify that this request is made freely, voluntarily and without coercion and that the information on this form 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 understand that the VA may not condition treatment, payment, enrollment, or eligibility for benefits upon my signing of this authorization.

This authorization will expire upon discharge from the Anoka County Veterans Treatment Court of Anoka County, Minnesota. I understand that I may not revoke this authorization before that date. I understand that failure to provide the Veterans Treatment Court with the appropriate authorizations may lead to my removal from the Veterans Treatment Court and the transfer of my pending criminal matters to the regular District Court venue.

Date

Print Name and Last Four of SSN

Signature

Address

State of Minnesota
v.

Case # _____

**CONSENT TO RELEASE PRIVATE HEALTH, ALCOHOL/DRUG AND
MENTAL HEALTH RECORDS AND INFORMATION**

My name is _____ My date of birth is _____

1. I understand that to be considered for participation in the Anoka County Veterans Treatment Court, I must allow my medical and alcohol/drug treatment providers to furnish information (including mental health) relating to my treatment to any member of the Veterans Treatment Court Team for the duration of my participation in the Veterans Treatment Court, and by signing this agreement I agree to the disclosure of such records and information.
2. I understand that my treatment records are protected under the federal law and regulations governing Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records, 42 C.F.R. Part 2, and 38 U.S.C. 7332, and cannot be disclosed without my written consent unless otherwise provided for in the regulations. I understand that my medical records are protected by federal law and regulations. I also understand that my records concerning mental health services I receive are protected by state law. I understand that I may revoke this authorization at any time with a written request, and by doing so, I am choosing to opt out of the Veterans Treatment Court. **Otherwise, this consent will expire twenty-four months from the date listed below.** I further understand that my records may be transmitted by fax and electronically.

This document does NOT supersede any similar consent forms that I may sign specifically for the release of Veterans' Administration records or for release of any of my treatment records to the Veterans' Administration if said consent forms provide that the consent is irrevocable. In those cases, the Veterans' Administration forms shall prevail.
3. I understand that the purpose of releasing this medical and treatment information is for the Veterans Treatment Court Team to determine my eligibility for the program, to determine the proper treatment placements and regimen, and to judge my progress in the program.
4. I understand that my medical and treatment information may be discussed in the Veterans Treatment Court where other participants and observers may hear it.
5. I have read this document, or it has been read to me, and I understand its contents. By signing this Consent, I am telling the Court that I understand the rights I am waiving.

DATE _____

Defendant

DATE _____

Defendant's Attorney (if applicable)

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF ANOKA

TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

State of Minnesota

Case # 02-CR-_____

v.

Charge _____

Anoka County Veterans Treatment Court Participant Agreement

The purpose of the Anoka County Veterans Treatment Court is to promote public safety and assist and support veterans and their families by creating a coordinated response through collaboration with the veteran’s service delivery system, community-based services, and the criminal justice system. I have been offered and have accepted the opportunity to participate in this program.

I, _____, VOLUNTARILY AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:

1. I will attend and complete any treatment program and/or support group, including AA/NA that I am referred to by the Court. I agree to be supervised by persons designated by the Court. I will obey all rules of the treatment program and/or support group, provide verification of my participation, and pay all required fees.
2. I will submit to urine, breath and other drug testing as ordered by the Court. I will not manipulate the results of any testing of me. I will control the intake of fluids so as not to dilute any urine sample. I will cooperate during random home visits by probation officers, police officers, or other authorized agencies, including breath testing and cursory searches of my person and residence.
3. I will appear for all court dates, treatment meetings, probation officer meetings, classes or other scheduled appointments as ordered by the Court, and I will be on time. I will treat all members of the Veterans Treatment Court staff with respect.
4. I will comply with the terms and conditions of my sentence and any other rules designated by Community Corrections (probation) or members of the Program.
5. I agree to keep the Court and treatment providers informed of my current address and phone number(s) and to report all address and phone changes to my probation officer before I make the changes.
6. I will not use or possess alcohol or any mood-altering substances while participating in the Program. Furthermore, I understand that I must have prior permission from Court staff before taking any prescribed medication. I will provide verification of prescriptions to my probation officer before any use of medication. Except in the case of a life-threatening medical emergency, I will only use one physician, one pharmacy, and one hospital while in the Program, and I will advise any health care professionals who treat me that I am chemically dependent.
7. The Court or Community Corrections may impose immediate sanctions for non-compliance with conditions of the program.
8. I agree to the terms set forth by the Program and understand that I will be terminated from the program if I do not follow the Program rules. I have received a copy of this Participant Agreement and agree to its terms and conditions. I also understand that full compliance will fulfill the original Court order and may result in early termination of my probation or placement on administrative probation.

DATE _____

Defendant

DATE _____

Defendant's Attorney

Revised 10/2015



Application for Phase Advancement

I have abstained from mood altering chemicals for _____ days (please attach documentation).

I am in compliance with my treatment plan (please attach letter from treatment providers).

I am in good standing with my probation officer.

I am engaged in all programs recommended by the Veteran's Administration.

I have had my benefits status reviewed by the Veteran's Services Office and am pursuing their recommended course of action.

I am prepared to meet the demands of the next phase because:

Date:

Signature: _____

Case #:

Printed Name: _____