

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Northeast Central Judicial District's Veterans Treatment Court is to promote recovery, stability, and accountability for veterans involved in the justice system through supervision and service-oriented mentorship; therefore improving public safety and civic contribution to the citizens and State of North Dakota.

**"Veteran
Accountability
Leading to
Ongoing
Recovery"**

Northeast Central Judicial
District Veterans
Treatment Court

124 S 4th St
Grand Forks ND 58201

Court Coordinator
701-787-2760

VTC Mentor Prospectus

Northeast Central Judicial District



Veterans Treatment Court



Background:

The Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) is the culmination of interested parties listening to various stakeholder groups in the justice community, veterans, and those representing the community's views.

Between 2019 and 2021, the VTC Committee met as a working group and committee to consider research, analysis, and background information relating to the need for and creation of a Veterans Treatment Court docket.

VTC is not a new initiative nationwide. Since 2008, more than 600 such courts have been created leaving North Dakota as one of the few remaining states without a court to address significant concerns that many veterans struggle with that can be attributed to military service.

Veteran Mentor Role Description:

Mission: To ensure that every participating veteran receives the services they require by helping them navigate the system and act as a mentor, advocate, and ally

Function: To act as a veteran advocate, be a resource when the veteran encounters life problems/issues, and be a support for the individual whom they are working with. The mentor is **NOT** a counselor, probation officer, or case manager.

VALOR - Values:

Veteran helping another veteran to meet the demands of the court and civilian life.

Instill Accountability to assist in restoring integrity to the veteran.

Leading to Ongoing Recovery by working as a team and showing honor in all you do

Veteran Mentor Requirements:

- ☐ Be an honorably discharged United States Armed Forces veteran: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, or a corresponding branch of the Reserve or National Guard. Submit a valid DD214/NGB22, or DD215; or equivalent from another nation; may also be an active-duty military member
- ☐ Have a genuine concern for veterans in the legal system
- ☐ Be respectful of individual differences and maintain appropriate boundaries with participants
- ☐ Be in good standing with the law
- ☐ Adhere to all Northeast Central Judicial District VTC Policies and Procedures and the Mentor Handbook
- ☐ Complete mentor application forms
- ☐ Commit to program participation for at least six months
- ☐ Complete any required initial and ongoing training procedures
- ☐ Not be an active employee of the court system, law enforcement, or member of any organization that may be deemed to present a conflict of interest with the mentor program
- ☐ To have contact with your assigned veteran once a week, or once every two weeks if preferred.

Veteran Mentor Desirable Qualities:

- ☐ Be an active listener
- ☐ Be empathetic
- ☐ Be encouraging and supportive
- ☐ Be tolerant and respectful of individual differences
- ☐ And more

Veterans Treatment Court Mentor Manual has more information.

Expectations:

The mentor is to act as a coach, guide, role model, advocate, and support for the veteran participants. The mentor encourages, guides, and supports the veteran participants as they progress through the court process. Such as:

- ☐ Observing and listening to the problems and concerns
- ☐ Making general suggestions
- ☐ Assisting the veteran to determine their needs, set goals and action plans
- ☐ Acting as a support for the veteran, especially during anxiety-provoking times
- ☐ Believing that the veteran participant has the potential to learn, grow, and change
- ☐ Providing feedback to participants and highlighting their successes

Additionally, be prepared to:

- ☐ Attend training and court sessions as scheduled/requested
- ☐ Communicate with the mentor coordinator to resolve any issues regarding time commitments, resistant participants, or unmanageable challenges
- ☐ Meet with participants to assist in resolving issues and facilitate an understanding of courtroom procedures
- ☐ Inform the participant that you are obliged to notify the court that the participant is planning to commit a crime or harm themselves or others
- ☐ Maintain federal and state confidentiality standards
- ☐ Assist the participants as much as possible to facilitate and resolve concerns about the court and courtroom procedures

