

BUTLER COUNTY VETERANS TREATMENT COURT

What is Veterans Treatment Court?

Butler County Veterans Treatment Court was started in 2012 to address the growing number of Veterans involved in the criminal justice system. Veterans Treatment Court promotes sobriety, recovery, and stability through a coordinated response involving Butler County's Judges, Court Administration, the District Attorney, Public Defender, Adult Probation, the Mental Health Program, Domestic Relations, County Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. In addition, there are veteran volunteers, some of whom serve on the Veterans Treatment Court Team and others who serve as Mentors. The goal is to give each program participant the best possible chance of getting back on track as a healthy, productive Veteran and citizen.

Just as every Veteran is different, so is every criminal proceeding. There are some individuals who may not be able to participate in this program. Applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Veterans Treatment Court has no additional costs for the County or the program participants. We hope to offer our Veterans access to needed services, an opportunity to address their justice-related issues and a chance to get "squared-away."

If you or someone you know is a veteran charged with a crime and you want more information about applying for Butler Veterans Court, contact:

Christina Lucas, LCSW
Department of Veterans Affairs
(724) 287-4781 Office, ext. 4355
(724) 996-8576 Cell phone
(724) 285-2717 Fax
Christina.lucas1@va.gov

or:

Amy Petricca
Specialty Courts Coordinator
(724) 431-2156 Office
(724) 285-8762 Fax
apetricc@co.butler.pa.us

What is a Veteran Mentor?

The Veterans peer-to-peer mentoring program is an integral part of Veterans Treatment Court. The ability to speak with a fellow Veteran who has "been there" offers Veterans Treatment Court participants an informal way to ask questions, solicit feedback and discuss how they are feeling about their situation. Mentors are Court-trained volunteers, who have served in the US Military (including Guard and Reserves), and are assigned by Butler Veterans Treatment Court to work with a specific Veteran as he or she progresses through their involvement with the Court. Mentors serve as liaison, advocate and guide to fellow Veterans as they work to address issues related to their criminal case.

If you are a Veteran interested in serving as a Mentor, we need your help. Please contact the Butler Veterans Court Mentor Coordinator:

Stephan Todd, Esq.
sktodd@zoominternet.net
(412) 580-5720

For more information on Veterans Court, visit: www.pacourts.us/T/AOPC/VeteransCourt.htm