

Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court



Image courtesy of <http://www.veteranpassport2hope.org/>

Participant Handbook

Revised 01/22

Dear Veterans Court Participants:

Welcome to the Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court.

In 2010, when veteran's treatments courts were first starting in Michigan, then Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court, Marilyn Kelly, told those early participants... "It is my hope that this veterans' court program will serve our veterans as well as they have served all of us." That continues to be our goal today.

Nobody wants to become involved in the justice system, and nobody expects his or her journey back to the civilian world from military service will include a stop in the courts. Now that you are involved in the criminal justice system, your mission, and our goal for you, is to fulfill the requirements of this program and emerge ready to fully engage with your future.

The Veterans Court Team, court staff, the treatment providers, such as the Veterans Administration, other community service agencies, and your veteran mentor are eager to begin working in this program with you. Remember that while we all will work as hard as we can for you, what we are doing is to provide you the **opportunities, tools** and **resources** that you need to use to meet your mission requirements. We would not have admitted you to the program if it was not our collective judgment that you can and will succeed.

On behalf of the entire Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court Team, welcome.

The Honorable Tamara A. Garwood

INTRODUCTION

The Veterans Treatment Court Program is a problem-solving plan that works toward returning veterans to a productive and law-abiding status in society. Eligible participants are diverted from the normal judicial process to a treatment-based system, including additional resources that traditional probation does not offer. The Court strives to create a supportive community via a team of dedicated professionals to foster successful completion of the program.

The Washtenaw County Veterans Court Treatment Team:

VTC Presiding Judge: The presiding judge leads the team and impartially assesses incentives and sanctions to the participant. She encourages each participant and emphasizes treatment.

VTC Coordinator: The coordinator maintains the records and data entry for effective communication of information to all team members, ensures that policy and procedures are followed and oversees fiscal and contractual obligations.

VTC Probation Officer: The probation officer provides supervision to each participant and reports to the team about the participant's progress in the program. He ensures that the treatment plans are being followed and that the resources available to the participants are in place.

Veterans' Justice Outreach Coordinator (VA): The VJO manages the delivery of treatment services and develops continuing care plans with the participants.

Mentor Coordinator: The mentor coordinator recruits, selects, trains, and provides supervision of the Veterans Treatment Court mentors and represents the mentors to the VTC team.

Washtenaw County Prosecuting Attorney: The prosecutor advocates for the victim's interest and public safety, holding participants accountable for meeting his or her obligations; the prosecutor may also help participants resolve other pending legal cases.

Washtenaw County Public Defender: The defense attorney ensures that a participant's rights are protected and advocates for the participant's stated interest.

Law Enforcement Representative: The law enforcement representative serves as a liaison to the local law enforcement agencies and the community.

Washtenaw County Department of Veterans Affairs: The DVA assists veterans, their survivors, and dependents, with filing claims for benefits from Federal, State of Michigan, and local governments.

PROGRAM RULES & EXPECTATIONS

- You are expected to be honest with every person you encounter in this program.
- Do not attempt to falsify your records, conceal alcohol/drug use or tamper with or dilute your samples
- You are responsible for appearing on time for all treatment appointments, substance abuse testing, meetings with your probation officer and court sessions
- You are expected to follow all conditions of your probation at all times

ADMISSION

Admission into the Veterans Treatment Court Program is a privilege, not a right. The participant must demonstrate commitment to the program and his/her recovery. This program requires discipline and hard work in order to be successful.

MINIMUM ELGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- You must be a Veteran of the United States Armed Forces. "Veteran" means any of the following:
 - A person who served on active duty in the armed forces for a period of more than 180 days and separated from the armed forces in a manner other than a dishonorable discharge.
 - A person discharged or released from active duty because of a service-related disability.
 - A member of a reserve branch of the armed forces at the time he or she was ordered to active duty during a period of war, or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign medal is authorized, and was released from active duty in a manner other than a dishonorable discharge.
- Veteran must provide a DD214 or other valid documentation disclosing their discharge status.
 - Must have a discharge status of: Honorable Discharge, Other than Honorably Discharged, General Discharge, Bad Conduct Discharge, or Administratively Discharged.
- Must not be a violent offender
 - A "Violent offender" is an individual who is currently charged with or has pled guilty to an offense involving the death of, or a serious bodily injury to, any individual, whether or not any of these circumstances are an element of the offense, or who is charged with criminal sexual conduct in any degree.
- Must have a mental health or substance abuse issue that has led to the participant's current legal issues
- Must have a Substance Abuse Screening and Mental Health Assessment
- Participant must not present a danger to the community
- Participants must have no other special circumstances that would preclude them from effective participation in the Veterans Treatment Court program
- Participant must sign an Agreement to Participate (Appendix A)
- Participant must sign a Multi-Party Consent for Release of Information (Appendix B)
- Participant must sign a Participant Pledge (Appendix C)

PROGRAM LENGTH

The Veterans Treatment Court program is 18-24 months in length. The participant's length of involvement in the Court is dependent on the participant's ability to comply with Court orders, follow treatment plan(s) and remain alcohol/drug free.

PHASES

The treatment court program consists of four phases. Each phase has a set of minimum requirements for compliance with treatment goals, substance abuse testing, probationary and program rules. The Veterans Court team uses these objectives to gauge a participant's progress in recovery and for the team's consideration in recommending advancement to the next phase.

In addition to the basic phase requirements, the team reserves the right to make recommendations to the judge, who may make specific goals or orders, or modify phase requirements, for a given participant.

Phase I – Orientation & Stabilization - Duration: Approximately 60 days

Requirements:

- Comply with orders of the court
- Complete substance abuse and mental health assessments with VA and/or a community partner to assist in developing a treatment plan
- With treatment provider, develop written treatment plan
- Comply with treatment plan
- Meet with county Veteran's Affairs office to assess eligibility for benefits
- Demonstrate engagement in a 12-step program if ordered/obtain sponsor • Attend review hearing every two weeks
- Meet with probation officer every week
- Meet mentor and begin interaction
- Develop case plan (Review sentence and probation agreement)
- Develop plan for payment of fines & costs
- Daily PBT
- Minimum 2 random drug screens per week*

*You will be assigned a series of letters, numbers, or colors which indicate when you are required to report to community corrections to comply with drug and alcohol testing. The phone # is: 734-973-4605.

Requirements to advance to Phase II:

- Must be compliant with all phase requirements listed above
- Must maintain a minimum of 14 days of consecutive sobriety (no positive or missed tests)
- Submit written application for advancement to Phase II

Phase II – Early Engagement - Duration: Approximately 120 days

Requirements:

- Comply with orders of the court
- Comply with treatment plan
- Demonstrate use of 12-step program and involvement with sponsor, if part of treatment plan
- Attend review hearing every two weeks
- Meet with probation officer every week
- Demonstrate engagement with mentor
- Engage with the recovery community and/or pro-social sober activities
- Attend “Life Skills” classes as scheduled
- Begin regular monthly payments to court(s) for fines & costs
- Daily PBT (after a minimum 30 days with no positives, consideration may be given for random PBT)
- Minimum 2 random drug screens per week
- Twenty hours of community service per week (may be modified by employment, education, or disability requirements)

Requirements to advance to Phase III:

- Must be compliant with all phase requirements listed above
- Must maintain a minimum of 45 days of consecutive sobriety (no positive or missed tests)
- Submit written application for advancement to Phase III

Phase III – Commitment - Duration: Approximately 180 days

Requirements:

- Comply with orders of the court
- Comply with treatment plan
- Demonstrate use of 12-step program and involvement with sponsor, if part of treatment plan
- Attend review hearing every four weeks
- Meet with probation officer meeting every two weeks
- Demonstrate continued engagement with mentor
- Continued engagement with the recovery community and/or pro-social sober activities
- Begin to develop and submit a Preliminary Recovery Life Plan
- Attend “Life Skills” classes as scheduled
- Continued monthly payments made to court(s) for fines & costs
- Minimum 2 random PBTs per week
- Minimum 2 random drug screens per week
- Twenty hours of community service per week (may be modified by employment, education, or disability requirements)

Requirements to advance to Phase IV:

- Must be compliant with all phase requirements listed above
- Must maintain a minimum of 90 days of consecutive sobriety (no positive or missed tests)
- Submit written application for advancement to Phase IV
- Submit Preliminary Recovery Life Plan

Phase IV – Maintenance/Reintegration - Duration: Approximately 180 days

Requirements:

- Comply with orders of court
- Comply with treatment plan
- Demonstrate use of 12-step program and involvement with sponsor, if part of treatment plan
- Attend review hearing every four weeks
- Meet with probation officer every four weeks
- Demonstrate continued engagement with mentor
- Continued engagement with the recovery community and/or pro-social activities
- Complete and submit a Recovery Life Plan
- Attend “Life Skills” classes as scheduled
- Demonstrate productive use of time (employment, volunteering, education)
- Complete payments to court(s) for fines & costs
- Minimum 2 random PBTs per week
- Minimum 2 random drug screens per week
- Twenty hours of community service per week (may be modified by employment, education, or disability requirements)

Requirements to graduate:

- Must be compliant with all phase requirements listed above
- Must maintain a minimum of 120 days of consecutive sobriety (no positive or missed tests)
- Submit written application for Graduation
- Submit Recovery Life Plan

REVIEW HEARINGS

Depending on the phase the participant is in, the participant must attend court every two to four weeks. At the hearing, the Presiding Judge will address each participant individually and make inquiries about recovery, treatment, personal life, work, etc. The Judge may also give additional instructions, award incentives, and give sanctions. A participant’s failure to appear at review hearings as scheduled may result in a bench warrant and/or detention in jail until an appearance before the Judge can be arranged. If a participant is unable to attend the review hearing, the probation officer must be notified immediately via phone at 734-794-6761 x47537 or via email RElder@a2gov.org.

INCENTIVES

Incentives may include, but are not limited to: applause, decreased Court appearances, decreased drug testing, entry into a gift drawing, a gift card, permission to travel, phase promotion, promotion dog tags, decreased probation reporting requirements, and eligibility for a life-improvement grant from the Veterans Treatment Court supporter's 501(c) 3.

SANCTIONS

Sanctions may include, but are not limited to: increased substance abuse testing, increased community service, increased court appearances, imposition of a curfew, jail work program, jail, letter of apology, essay, phase duration extended, increased court appearance requirements, phase demotion, increased probation reporting requirements, increased self-help sessions and verbal warnings. In serious circumstances, termination from the program may occur.

MEDICATION POLICY

Participants are required to notify medical providers of their substance abuse history, their involvement in the Veterans Treatment Court, and the Court's requirement of abstinence from narcotic use. If a medical provider determines that a narcotic prescription is necessary, they may prescribe medication to participants during their time in the treatment court. While these medications may be medically or physically beneficial, the risk of substance abuse must be evaluated on an individual basis. The participant and the medication will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis under, but not limited to, the following guidelines:

- Participants must provide copies of all prescriptions to the Veterans Court Probation Officer.
- Medications must be presented to the Probation Officer, in their original container, at each probation appointment, and/or upon request.
- Participants' narcotic or addictive medications may be limited or prohibited.
- Participants' over-the-counter medications may be limited or prohibited.
- Violations of the Veterans Treatment Court Medication Policy may result in sanctions or termination from the program. Termination from the program is a violation of probation and sanctions will be issued by the referring court, which resumes jurisdiction of probation.

PAYMENT OF FINES, COSTS AND FEES

All balances owed to the Court should be paid prior to the end of the participant's probation term in order to be eligible to graduate. It is expected that the participant will make regularly scheduled payments throughout the term of your probation. This process helps complete the payments within a manageable probation term time period.

- If the participant's case was transferred to the 15th District Court your fines/costs are paid through the 15th District Court, who will forward funds to the transferring (original) Court. However, any fines or costs assessed after transfer, and any probation oversight fees, will remain with the 15th District Court.

GRADUATION

Once a participant is eligible to graduate, a graduation ceremony is held during the next available review hearing. Participants are presented with a certificate of completion and a small memento in recognition of all their hard work toward their successful completion of the program.

TERMINATION

A participant's involvement in the Veterans Treatment Court Program is completely voluntary. The participant may withdraw at any time or be terminated from the program by the Court. The termination of a participant generally occurs after graduated sanctions have been ordered by the Court, and the participant is found to be non-compliant. Examples of not following program rules which may lead to termination from the program include, but are not limited to:

- Commission of a new crime (A new felony conviction requires immediate termination)
- Repeated positive drug/alcohol screenings
- Tampering with drug/alcohol monitoring devices
- Failing to attend court/program ordered appointments
- Leaving residential/treatment facility without authorization

MENTOR PROGRAM

The Mentor program is mandatory for every participant and ensures that each veteran is paired with a compatible mentor. Mentors help mentees navigate the vast amount of resources available to them as well as acting as an advocate and an ally. The mentors volunteer to work directly with veteran participants in the program and serve as an extension of the Veteran Court Team. Our mentors have served in Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, Operation Desert Shield/Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, as well as various other tours of duty during their military service.

Mentors serve a variety of roles, including coach, facilitator, advisor, sponsor, friend, and supporter. Once a participant enters the program, a mentor is assigned to the participant. Mentors are assigned with consideration given to similar service history, age, and experiences. Mentors listen to the participant's concerns and problems and assist the participant in finding solutions. Mentors help the participant set and achieve goals, not only as part of the Veterans Court Program, but to succeed in life in general. It is the responsibility of the participant to reach out to his or her assigned mentor. It is also the responsibility of the participant to maintain regular contact with his or her assigned mentor, responding promptly to texts and emails from the mentor. Mentors will provide feedback to the Veteran Court Team highlighting the participant's successes and encouraging the participant to achieve exceptional potential as a veteran and as an individual. Mentors are not to report on the participant's actions to anyone unless they want to share any positive accomplishments that the mentee has achieved. A mentor is only obligated to report to the Mentor Coordinator and the Veteran Court Team about the actions of their participant if a law is being broken or if there is a safety risk to the community. The bond between a participant and his or her mentor is critical to a participant being successful in this program.

Mentor Matching Policy

Whenever possible, and to the extent practical, the Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court Team will make matches based on the following guidelines:

- Previous mentor and mentee interactions
- Similar branch of military service
- Similar career path in the military
- Similar period of time served
- Similar amount of time served
- Similar life experiences, education, training, and jobs that are outside of their military service

The mentor will not:

- Report directly to the probation officer
- Be responsible for providing transportation, housing, or fulfilling monetary needs
- Provide treatment or counseling recommendations
- Be abused or taken advantage of by participant

The mentor will:

- Listen to the participant's questions and concerns
- Advocate for the participant
- Assist the participant to find solutions to your problems
- Help the participant set and accomplish goals
- Provide positive feedback to the Veterans Treatment Court Team
- Assist the participant to navigate through various resources

APPENDIX A

AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE WASHTENAW COUNTY VETERANS TREATMENT COURT

I, _____, agree to participate in the Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court Program. I agree to follow all terms and conditions of the Veterans Treatment Court program as established by the Court and the Veterans Treatment Court team.

I agree to:

1. Complete any evaluations or assessments as directed by the Veterans Treatment Court and follow the recommendations thereof. The treatment recommendations will be shared with the Veterans Treatment Court team.
2. Work with treatment staff to develop a treatment plan and follow the plan accordingly, including aftercare and continuing care recommendations.
3. Meet with a member of a veteran service organization or a county veteran counselor, as directed by the Veterans Treatment Court, to discuss available veterans benefit programs for which I may qualify. MCL 600.1208(1)(f).
4. Not use, possess, or consume alcohol and/or other illegal or controlled substances, nor be in the presence of any person using, possessing, or consuming said substances; nor enter premises where alcohol is the primary source of revenue. I understand if I am found to be under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or medication not prescribed to me that I may be sanctioned and/or terminated from the program.
5. Submit to PBT's, electronic alcohol monitoring, and/or drug and alcohol screenings as directed.
6. Be employed or enrolled in an educational program or participate in another positive activity as directed.
7. Notify the veterans treatment court of any changes in phone number within 24 hours.
8. Not change my place of residence without first notifying the veterans treatment court.
9. Notify the veterans treatment court of any police contact, arrest or criminal charge within 24 hours of event or of release from jail.
10. Make full and truthful reports to the Veterans Treatment Court as directed by any team member.
11. Not engage in any antisocial, assaultive, threatening, or aggressive behavior.
12. Not leave the state without the prior consent of the Veterans Treatment Court.
13. Maintain the confidentiality of other Veterans Treatment Court participants.
14. Pay all court ordered fines and costs, including minimum state costs, the Veterans Treatment Court fee, crime victims' rights assessments, and restitution resulting from my conviction, in order to successfully complete the program. I will also pay all, or make substantial contributions toward payment of, the costs of the treatment and the Veterans Treatment Court program services provided to me, including, but not limited

to, the costs of urinalysis and such testing or any counseling provided. However, if the court determines that the payment of fines, the fee, or costs of treatment would be a substantial hardship for me or would interfere with my treatment, the court may waive all or part of those fines, the fee, or costs of treatment. MCL 600.1208(1) and (3).

15. Appear in court on all scheduled court dates and to attend all appointments with my probation officer, case manager, mentor, and/or treatment provider.

16. Comply with the program's policies and conditions discussed within the Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court Participant Handbook.

I waive the following rights:

1. The right to a speedy trial.

2. The right to representation by an attorney at the review hearings. I still maintain the right to an attorney for any program violation or probation violation where the facts are contested and a liberty interest is at stake, or if I may be terminated from the Veterans Treatment Court program.

3. With the agreement of the prosecutor, the right to a preliminary hearing.

4. To be present at the team staffing meetings.

I understand that:

1. The Veterans Treatment Court program has a duration of eighteen to twenty-four months.

2. If I am convicted of a felony for an offense that occurred after I am admitted to Veterans Treatment Court, the judge must terminate my participation in the program per MCL 600.1208.

3. I understand I am required to attend all appointments for court, treatment, ancillary services, and all drug and alcohol testing as scheduled.

4. I understand that Veterans Treatment Court staff may make unscheduled home visits, and I will allow veterans treatment court team members, together with law enforcement officials if accompanied, into my home at any time for supervision or compliance reasons.

5. Review hearings are held in open and public courtrooms, and although the court attempts to minimize confidential information in court, it is possible that an observer could connect a participant's identity with the fact that he or she is in treatment as a condition of participation in the Veterans Treatment Court or that confidential information may be revealed.

6. Staffing meetings, which are held before review hearings, are typically closed to the public. Confidential information may be discussed by the Veterans Treatment Court team members at a staffing meeting. I understand that if a nonteam member is invited to participate in a staffing meeting, they must sign a confidentiality agreement and receive my consent prior to observation. I understand that participants will not be present at staffing meetings.

7. The data in my public and confidential file may be used for research, data analysis and program evaluation by the Veterans Treatment Court, court staff, or individuals or others independent of the Veterans Treatment Court. Any data used in this way will be de-identified prior to distribution.

8. Failure to fully comply with all the terms and conditions of the program listed above may result in the following:

1. Notification to the judge that I am in violation of the program.
2. If I admit guilt to or am found guilty of a program violation, then sanctions, up to and including jail, may be imposed or additional conditions may be added as determined by the judge with input from the Veterans Treatment Court team.
3. Termination from the program.

9. I understand that the Veterans Treatment Court may amend these conditions and/or add new conditions, notice of which will be provided to me in writing. I understand that I must comply with the amended or added conditions.

The Veterans Treatment Court coordinator and/or probation staff agrees to:

1. Provide the participant with a copy of the Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court Participant Handbook.
2. Meet with the program participant as needed to help assure successful completion in the program.
3. Report the participant's progress and test results to the court.
4. Refer the participant to any community agency at the Veterans Treatment Court's disposal which may assist in the participant's recovery.

I have discussed the above-listed conditions with my attorney.

Participant Signature

Date

I have discussed the above-listed conditions with the participant.

Attorney Signature

Date

APPENDIX B

Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court Multiple-Party Consent for Release of Information

Participant's Full Name: _____ DOB: _____

I authorize the following parties:

1. Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court
2. 15th District Court Probation Department
3. Washtenaw County Prosecutor's Office
4. Washtenaw County Public Defender's Office
5. Ann Arbor Police Department
5. Veterans Administration
5. Washtenaw County Veterans Affairs Department
8. Veterans Treatment Court Mentor Coordinator
9. Washtenaw County Office of Community Corrections
10. Michigan Secretary of State (Interlock Program)
11. Assessment and/or Treatment Providers

If information is authorized to be released to a party under a general designation, the participant (or other individual authorized to sign in lieu of the participant), understands that, upon request and consistent with this part, the Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court program will provide a list of entities to which their information has been disclosed pursuant to the general designation (see 42 CFR, Part 2 § 2.13(d)).

To communicate with and disclose to one another the following information:

INFORMATION TO BE SHARED

1. Name, address, and other personal identifying information of the participant.
2. Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court program assessments (GAIN, COMPAS, and risk and needs, etc.).
3. Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court program behavior summaries and updates.
4. Treatment information, including assessments, attendance, progress and compliance reports, treatment plans and discharge summaries.
5. Drug and alcohol screening, testing, confirmation results, and payment information.
6. Health information.
7. Reportable communicable disease information, including HIV, sexually transmitted infections, hepatitis, and tuberculosis.
8. Health plan or health benefits information.
9. Electronic monitoring information, including compliance and payment information.
10. Other (specify, if any): _____

Note: I authorize all of the foregoing information to be shared unless I indicate here, by number, one or more categories of information not to be shared:

PURPOSE OF USE AND DISCLOSURE

The purposes for the disclosures authorized by this form are:

- To assess the participant's, need for substance use, mental health, or developmental disabilities services and treatment.
- provide, manage, and coordinate Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court program and substance use, mental health, and developmental disabilities services and treatment for the participant.
- To develop a Person-Centered Plan, Service Plan, and/or Treatment Plan for the participant.
- To make dispositional recommendations for a court-involved participant.
- To monitor payment for services and establish financial assistance if determined necessary.
- To improve service and treatment outcomes for participants involved in the Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court program.
- To monitor my participation in the Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court program and my compliance with the program rules.
- To disclose to the Michigan Secretary of State (Interlock Program) information required on Michigan for MC393 to obtain a restricted license through the ignition interlock program.
- Other (please specify): _____

REDISCLASURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Once health care information is disclosed pursuant to this signed authorization, I understand that the federal health privacy law (45 CFR, Parts 160 and 164) protecting health information may not apply to the recipient of the information and, therefore, may not prohibit the recipient from redisclosing information to others. However, substance-abuse treatment information protected by federal law (42 CFR, Part 2), shall remain confidential and must not be redisclosed by the recipient except as authorized by those laws or this authorization. The federal rules restrict any use of this information to criminally investigate or prosecute any alcohol or drug abuse patient.

CONSENT EXPIRATION

The date, event, or condition upon which consent expires must ensure that the consent will last no longer than reasonably necessary to serve the purpose for which it is given.

This consent for release of information shall expire upon my discharge from the Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court program.

REVOCATION

I understand that I may revoke this consent, orally or in writing, at any time except to the extent that action has been taken in reliance on it.

I also understand that if I refuse to consent to disclosure or attempt to revoke my consent prior to the expiration of this consent such action is grounds for immediate termination from the Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court program.

CONFIDENTIALITY RIGHTS

Federal law protects the confidentiality of treatment records under 42 CFR, Section 2.1 through Section 2.67; and Section 290dd-2. This means that:

- Treatment information is ordinarily kept confidential.
- Review hearings are held in open and public courtrooms, and although the court attempts to minimize confidential information in court, it is possible that an observer could connect a participant's identity with the fact that he or she is in treatment as a condition of participation in the Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court or that confidential information may be revealed. I specifically consent to a potential disclosure to third persons.
- Staffing meetings, which are held before review hearings, are typically closed to the public. Confidential information may be discussed by the Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court team members at a staffing meeting. It is a crime to violate confidentiality requirements, and the participant may report such violations to Michigan's attorney general at 517-373-1110.
- Notwithstanding this confidentiality requirement, covered information may be released under specified circumstances and may include medical emergency, crimes on the premises, crimes against staff, administration/qualified service providers working with the Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court, and outside auditors, central registries and researchers.
- The restrictions on disclosure and use in the regulations in 42 CFR part 2 do not apply to:
 1. Communications with law enforcement agencies or officials regarding a crime committed on program premises or against program personnel
 2. The reporting under state law of incident of suspected child abuse and neglect to the appropriate state or local authorities. However, the restrictions continue to apply to the original substance use disorder patient records maintained by the part 2 program including their disclosure and use for civil or criminal

proceedings which may arise out of the report of suspected child abuse or neglect.

3. Court orders signed pursuant to 42 CFR part 2 for release of specific information
4. Disclosure to medical personnel if there is a determination that a medical emergency exists, i.e., there is a situation that poses an immediate threat to the health of any individual and requires immediate medical intervention – Information disclosed to the medical personnel who are treating such a medical emergency may be redisclosed by such personnel for treatment purposes as needed
5. Reporting an immediate threat to the health or safety of an individual or the public to law enforcement if patient-identifying information is not disclosed

I acknowledge that I have been advised of my rights, have received a copy of the advisement, and have had the benefit of legal counsel or have voluntarily waived the right to an attorney. I am not under the influence of drugs or alcohol. I fully understand my rights, and I am signing this Consent voluntarily.

SIGNATURE CONSENTING TO RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Participant Signature

Date

VTC Witness Signature

Date

VTC Witness Printed Name

**I CONFIRM THAT THE PARTICIPANT WAS ADVISED OF
CONFIDENTIALITY RIGHTS BOTH VERBALLY AND IN WRITING ON
THIS DATE.**

VTC Witness Signature

Date

VTC Witness Printed Name

APPENDIX C

Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court Program Non-Prescription Usage Agreement

Defendant / Veterans Name: _____ Case Number: _____

While participating in the Veterans Treatment Court Program you are prohibited from taking the non-prescription medications listed below. It is your responsibility to read the ingredients of every over the counter and food product you consume. If alcohol or any of the below item(s) are listed as an ingredient you are prohibited from consuming it.

These items may result in a positive drug or alcohol screen. If you test positive, it may result in the Court ordering a sanction. Sanctions could include community service or jail time.

IF YOU ARE UNSURE WHETHER A CERTAIN PRODUCT WILL RESULT IN A POSITIVE DRUG OR ALCOHOL SCREEN, DO NOT CONSUME IT!

SUBSTANCES YOU MUST AVOID WHILE ON PROBATION:

- All cough and cold medications containing alcohol, such as Nyquil, Robitussin, Vicks Formula 44.
- Poppy seeds and any foods that may contain poppy seeds.
- Liquid mouthwash containing alcohol, such as Listerine or Scope.
- Beverages, normally containing alcohol, which are listed as “Non-alcoholic”
- Any substance that would result in a positive drug or alcohol test

I have read and understood the above information. I understand as a condition of my probation I am responsible for anything I consume and agree that even unknowingly consuming anything that results in a positive drug screen may result in a violation of my probation.

Defendant / Veteran Signature

Date

APPENDIX C

Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court Participant Pledge

- I recognize that my mental health and sobriety must be my first priority, every day.
- I will be honest with myself and others.
- I will be accountable for my actions.
- I will remain engaged with my mentor.
- I will be of service to others and to the community.
- I will respect the Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court.
- I will succeed.

Defendant / Veteran Signature

Date

Important Numbers

Veterans Treatment Court Probation Officer:	Rebecca Elder (734) 794-6761 x47537 relder@a2gov.org
Veterans Treatment Court Coordinator:	Karen Finney (734) 794-6761 x47542 KFinney@a2gov.org
Veterans Affairs Justice Outreach Specialist:	Jamie Wright (734) 645-7950
Veterans Treatment Court Defense Counsel:	Washtenaw County Public Defender Office (734) 222-6970
Washtenaw Co. Veterans Affairs Officer	Brian Martin (734) 973-4540 martinb@washtenaw.org
Veterans Mentor Coordinator:	Rob Kehn Robert.keh@gmail.com
Veterans Crisis Line:	1-800-273-8255 (Press 1)

NOTES
