



Press Release

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Alaska's Veterans Therapeutic Courts Honor Veterans' Service

Anchorage & Fairbanks, Alaska, November 11, 2025 –The Anchorage and Fairbanks Veteran Therapeutic Courts are honoring all Vets this November 11th, 2025 for Veteran's Day. Most of our veterans return home strengthened by their military service, but some also struggle with trauma, mental illness (such as PTSD), and substance use disorders. These issues can be exacerbated by the loss of structure and camaraderie found in the military. Veterans' therapeutic courts (VTCs) provide treatment, accountability, and mentoring, and they help connect veterans involved with the criminal justice system with the benefits they've earned. VTCs save the lives, families, and futures of our veterans while also saving taxpayer dollars. According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, there are over 600 veteran's treatment courts in operation in the United States.

The Anchorage and Fairbanks Veterans Courts honor and respect veterans' service to our country. Established in 2004 and 2022, Anchorage and Fairbanks Veterans Courts respectively have served over 500 veterans. The courts collaborate closely with the Veterans Administration to identify veterans who have criminal charges and are eligible for VA benefits, assist with referrals for services, and monitor progress through the program. The VA provides treatment services including substance use, mental health, and cognitive behavioral therapy.

A recent lookback showed that 85% of all participants exiting the court had no new criminal convictions up to five years after leaving. And 90% of those graduating from the court have remained crime-free and out of prison, contributing to a safer community and lowering criminal justice system costs.

Anchorage Veteran's Court Graduate and AVC Mentor Coordinator Jesse Glover said this of his experience in Veteran's Court: "I became justice involved and found myself lost in the traditional criminal court system without many options. Veterans Court offered some that were different. A court that would give me opportunities that I thought could never happen. When given the privilege of being accepted into Veterans court I found myself surrounded by a team that was dedicated to helping me both mentally and physically."

Anchorage Superior Court Judge David Nesbett said this of working with Veterans Courts, "Veterans courts are a lifeline for military veterans. Our veterans face unique challenges, especially those struggling with PTSD or other service-related issues. These courts offer a space to focus on

rehabilitation, not just punishment. When we consider the unique situations of veterans, these courts ensure that we can maintain justice, not just dole out penalties. The primary role of the court is to facilitate veterans' needs and ease their transition back to civilian life.”

[About Anchorage Veterans Court](#)

[About Fairbanks Veterans Court](#)

About the Alaska Court System: The mission of the [Alaska Court System](#) is to provide an accessible and impartial forum for the just resolution of all cases that come before it, and to decide such cases in accordance with the law, expeditiously and with integrity.