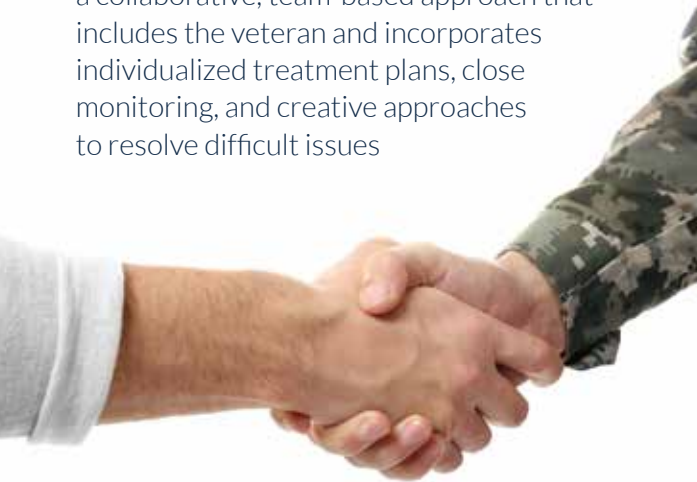


## What is unique about this program?

King County has a long tradition of honoring and serving military personnel and veterans. King County District Court recognizes that veterans in the justice system may be suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other service-related disabilities. The King County Regional Veterans Court seeks to increase effective cooperation between federal, state, and local veterans service agencies and the criminal justice system.

## The King County District Court's Regional Veterans Court will serve veterans and the public by:

- Addressing the underlying issues that have resulted in the veteran being involved with the criminal justice system
- Providing a courtroom environment that is supportive and respectful of the veteran and the victim (if any)
- Striving to increase public safety through a collaborative, team-based approach that includes the veteran and incorporates individualized treatment plans, close monitoring, and creative approaches to resolve difficult issues



## What are the expectations of Regional Veterans Court?

Every treatment plan is unique, but typical conditions of supervision include:

- Comply with treatment conditions and be supervised by probation
- Be actively engaged in mental health treatment and/or substance use treatment, as recommended
- Take prescribed medications
- Maintain court-approved housing and follow all housing rules (the RVC team can often assist with housing placements)
- Submit to urinalysis, as directed
- The defendant must commit no new law violations and may not possess weapons
- Report to probation as directed by the judge
- Return to court for reviews on a regular basis

## Questions?

Please contact the Regional Veterans Court program manager/coordinator:

[mentalhealthcourt@kingcounty.gov](mailto:mentalhealthcourt@kingcounty.gov)  
206-477-1692

Regional Veterans Court prosecutor:  
[paomhc@kingcounty.gov](mailto:paomhc@kingcounty.gov)

[tinyurl.com/regional-veterans-court](https://tinyurl.com/regional-veterans-court)



# King County District Court

# REGIONAL VETERANS COURT



## How does a case get into Regional Veterans Court?

- **Felony cases** – the superior court prosecutor must make the referral.
- **Municipal court cases** – the city prosecutor must make the referral.
- **State misdemeanor cases** – any party may make a referral to RMHC, including the judge or defense attorney.

Law enforcement and other interested parties may contact the King County Prosecutor's Office at [paomhc@kingcounty.gov](mailto:paomhc@kingcounty.gov) at any time to initiate a referral.



## What happens once the case is referred to Regional Veterans Court?

- Defendants appear at RVC and meet the RVC clinician and Veterans Affairs (VA) representative to learn about the program and to schedule a screening appointment to determine program eligibility.
- If eligible, the court clinician will draft an individualized treatment plan specific to the defendant's needs and an offer will be made by the state for opt in.

## Who is eligible

- Criminal charges originating in King County
- Candidate has a behavioral health disorder that can be treated through VA Health care services
- Candidate is eligible for VA services
- Candidate is willing to engage in treatment for substance use, PTSD, or co-occurring disorders, and to abide by court conditions



*Inspirational medallion given to RVC graduates*

## What are the benefits of opting into RVC?

- Comprehensive and immediate access to VA health care system and all other associated VA programs
- Veteran mentor peer program
- Possible reduced sentence, fines and fees
- Collaborative team to support candidate in recovery and to reduce barriers to success

## The team consists of:

- Judge
- Defense attorneys and defense social workers
- Prosecutors and victim advocate
- Veterans justice outreach specialists
- Probation mental health specialists
- Court clinicians
- Program manager



[tinyurl.com/regional-veterans-court](https://tinyurl.com/regional-veterans-court)