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# Fairbanks Veterans Court

## What is the Fairbanks Veterans Court?

The Fairbanks Veterans Court is a specialized court designed to facilitate the rehabilitation of eligible veterans who are charged with criminal offenses. The Court provides judicial monitoring coupled with alternative sentencing plea agreements to help eligible veterans succeed with their own rehabilitation and return to a productive and law-abiding lifestyle, thereby reducing crime and its costs to society.

## What are the objectives of the Fairbanks Veterans Court?

- Promote public safety.
- Reduce incarceration of offenders who are veterans and promote their well-being in the community.
- Reduce repeated contacts with the criminal justice system among our nation's veterans.
- Facilitate access to Veterans Administration (VA) resources to aid the veteran with addressing problems that led to criminal justice contact.
- Promote treatment adherence for the veteran through ongoing judicial monitoring.

## Who is Eligible?

- The veteran must be eligible for VA services, as defined by federal law and confirmed by the VA.
- The veteran has a felony, misdemeanor, PTR out of PACE, or felony probation, and has been referred to the Veterans Court.
- The veteran has a treatment need (related to the criminal conduct charged) that the VA can address through one of its treatment programs in order to participate in the Veterans Court.
- The veteran is 18 years old or older.
- The veteran must maintain housing within the FNSB for the duration of the veteran's participation in the Court.
- The veteran has an offense that was less than 4 months prior to the date the FVC application was submitted, however, this may be extended upon unanimous consent of the defense, prosecution, and judge.

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## How do I apply for the Fairbanks Veterans Court?

*Admission into the FVC is not automatic*, but is based on state prosecutor approval and required assessments.

A veteran interested in participating in the FVC should have the veteran's attorney contact the FVC Project Coordinator to request an application. Interested veterans may observe court proceedings with no commitment to participate.

## How does the FVC work?

The FVC is a program requiring commitment, strength, honesty, and persistence. Veterans are expected to:

- Attend treatment and other services as recommended
- Attend recovery/support groups if necessary
- Appear regularly before the FVC judge for status hearings
- Complete 16-32 hours of work, school, or volunteer work per week
- Undergo regular alcohol and other drug testing
- Maintain sobriety
- Maintain safe and sober housing
- Attend meetings with their PO
- Complete their VA case plan

## The FVC is a cooperative effort between:

Alaska Court System  
Alaska Department of Law  
Alaska Public Defender Agency  
Alaska Office of Public Advocacy  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
Fairbanks Police Department  
Alaska Department of Health & Social Services  
Community members

## For more information:

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Department of Veterans Affairs

(907) 257-4817

(90) 273-4047

Public Defender Agency

(907) 458-6800

## Fairbanks Veterans Court status hearings are open to the public.

These are generally held on Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m. in courtroom 404 or 402 in the Rabinowitz Courthouse, 101 Lacey Street in Fairbanks.



**A Court that Assists Those  
Who Have Served  
in Our Armed Forces**

**Thank you for your service.**