

South Dakota Unified Judicial System

Criminal Justice System and Veterans Justice Outreach Services

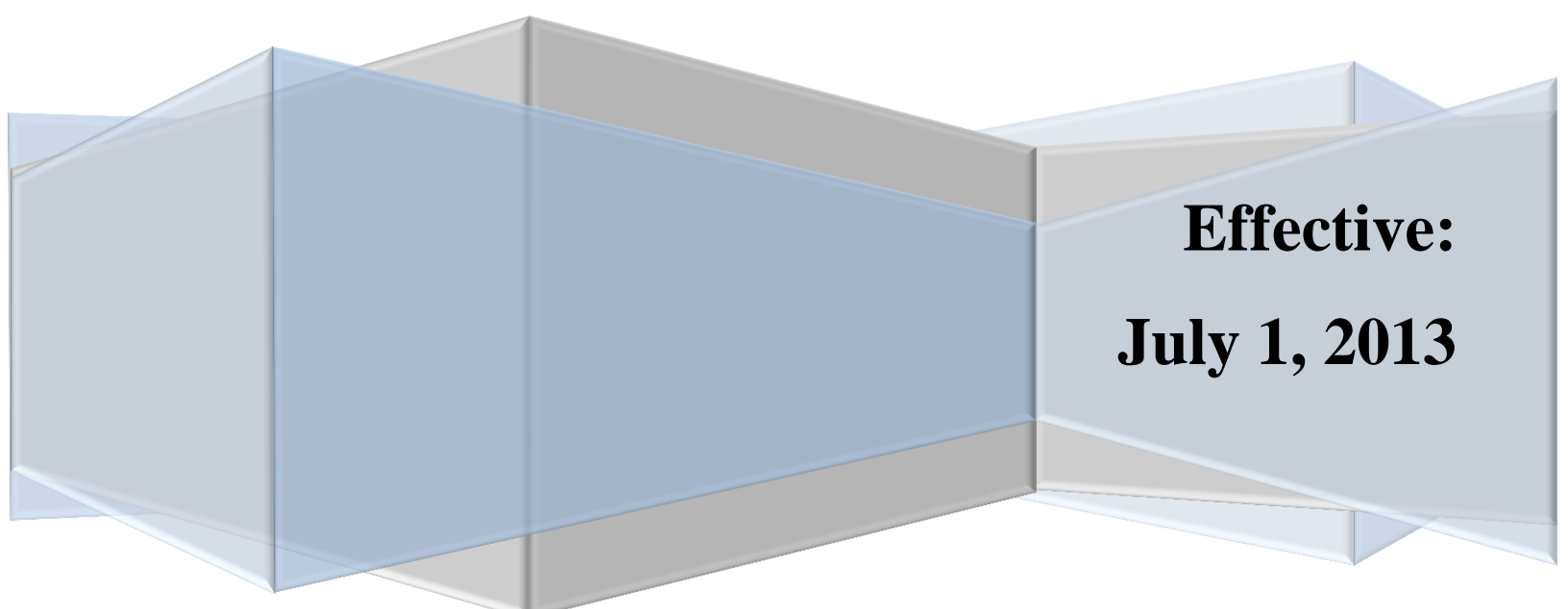
A Coordination Handbook

State Court Administrator's Office

500 East Capitol Ave

Pierre, SD 57501

605-773-3474



**Effective:
July 1, 2013**

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Introduction

This handbook is for the use of all people involved in the criminal justice system and veteran service professionals. On July 1, 2013, South Dakota began implementing a Veteran Screening Project. The Veterans Screening Project is intended to help South Dakota determine how many veterans are currently in our criminal justice system and identify incoming veterans.

Purpose Statement

The purpose of the Veterans Screening Project is to identify all veterans who have encountered the criminal justice system as soon as possible, and work to connect them with available resources.

Project Overview

The project is targeted at veterans facing a Class 1 misdemeanor or felony charge. If the veteran is eligible for Veterans Affairs services, then the Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator will connect the veteran with appropriate service. Upon choosing the appropriate service, the veteran will go through a screening process to determine acceptance into that service. Once the veteran is accepted into the service, the Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator will inform the veteran and his/her attorney. The Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator can confirm that the veteran is participating. There is no guarantee that the court will accept these recommendations or that the veteran will be eligible for Veterans Affairs services.

Objectives

- To identify veterans who are currently in the criminal justice system
- To identify veterans who come into contact with the criminal justice system on Class 1 misdemeanor and felony charges
- To connect veterans with the Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator as soon as possible
- To recommend eligible veterans for appropriate Veterans Affairs services

Differences from Veterans Courts

The Veterans Screening Project is not a Veterans Court. A Veterans Court is a specialized, formalized docket with a treatment aspect. A Veterans Court is similar to a mental health court or a drug court. It includes a judge, court personnel, and a treatment team. In contrast, the Veteran Screening Project is a process that will be integrated into multiple stages of a criminal proceeding. The goal is to connect veterans with appropriate treatment services available through Veterans Affairs.

Players

The criminal justice personnel who share the task of identifying veterans and connecting them with appropriate services include:

- Law enforcement officers/ County Sheriffs/Jail administration;
- Unified Judicial System (UJS) Court Services Officers (CSOs);
- Defense Attorneys and State's Attorneys;
- Judges;
- Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator (VJO);

- County Veterans Service Officers (VSO);
- Veterans

Roles and Responsibility

Law enforcement officers/ County Sheriffs/Jail administration

- To identify whether or not the individual is serving or has served in the U.S. Armed Forces
- If he/she is identified then contact the area VJO Coordinator or county VSO

UJS Court Services Officers

- If conducting a Presentence Investigation (PSI) you must ask if the person is currently serving or has served in the U.S. Armed Forces
- If ordered by the court, contact the federal VJO Coordinator or county VSO

Defense Attorney and State's Attorney

- To help identify if an individual is serving or has served in the U.S. Armed Forces
- To help find appropriate services for the individual with due regard to public safety
- To recommend Veterans Affairs services if eligible, accepted, and in the best interests of the state and the individual

Judges

- The law requires the court to inquire whether a person pleading guilty or nolo contendere to a Class 1 misdemeanor or a felony, is serving or has served in the U.S. Armed Forces
- To consider if it is appropriate to refer the individual to the federal VJO or county VSO for further determination

Federal VJO Coordinator

- To be a liaison between the criminal justice system and Veterans Affairs services
- To assist veterans in obtaining their DD-214 to determine status
- To confirm eligibility for Veteran Affairs services or if already receiving services
- To provide a comprehensive assessment of veteran's treatment needs
- To determine which services are best for the veteran
- To connect the veteran with those services
- To verify participation in services

County VSO

- To help veteran obtain their DD-214
- To confirm eligibility for Veteran Affairs services or already receiving services

Veteran

- To identify yourself to law enforcement, CSO, Attorney, Judge, federal VJO, and county VSO

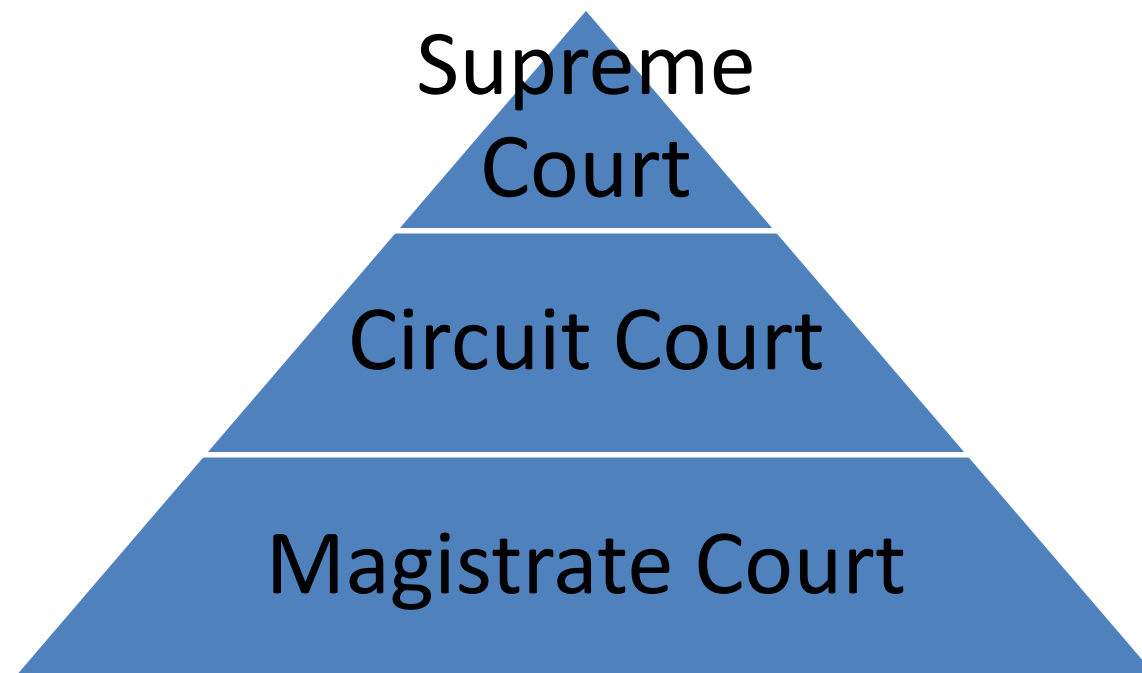
Eligibility Standards

Any defendant who has served or is currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces who is facing a Class 1 misdemeanor or a felony charge should be identified in the criminal justice system.

The federal VJO Coordinator can then give the information to the office within the Department of Veterans Affairs who has the authority to determine eligibility.

Each Department of Veterans Affairs therapeutic service line determines whether the veteran is accepted into their program or facilities.

South Dakota Unified Judicial System Chart of Courts



Magistrate Courts serve as committing magistrates and handle misdemeanor cases. Circuit Courts are the trial courts for all felony offenses. The Supreme Court is the highest court in the state and reviews criminal appeals.

Principal Stages in the Criminal Justice System

The purpose of this section is to explore each of the principle stages of the criminal justice system to identify the participants and their possible roles when a veteran is involved.

First Stage- Investigation

At this stage, law enforcement officers are questioning a person and investigating a crime. The sooner an individual suspected of a crime is identified as a veteran, the sooner the process of confirming eligibility for Department of Veterans Affairs services can begin.

Primary participants include the law enforcement officer and the individual being questioned.

Second Stage- Arrest and Charge

The Second Stage is when the individual is formally arrested and charged with a specific crime(s). This stage is the first opportunity to determine if that individual is currently serving or has served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The **primary participants** include law enforcement and the State's Attorney. Others who may be involved include the public defender/defense attorney; court services officers; county Veterans Services Officer; and the federal Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator.

The **law enforcement officer** has the authority to issue a citation (for a less serious offense) or to arrest the alleged offender (for a more serious charge) with probable cause. The decision to make an arrest is typically made by the law enforcement officer in the field.

The **State's Attorney** has the authority to determine how to charge a case. In deciding whether the alleged offender will be formally charged with an offense, the State's Attorney often depends upon information provided by the arresting officer and by other interested individuals (such as the federal VJO or the county VSO).

The **Public Defender/Defense Attorney** is only present at this stage upon request by the alleged offender. It is important for the public defender/defense attorney to ask the alleged offender if he/she has or is currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. They can contact the area VJO or county VSO to begin the screening process.

The **CSO** would be involved in this stage only if the person arrested had allegedly committed a probation violation. In that instance, it **should already be known** whether the individual has or is currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The **federal VJO Coordinator or county VSO**, once contacted, will begin to work with the alleged offender. If the alleged offender does not have his/her DD-214 form, then the federal VJO Coordinator or the county VSO can help obtain it for them. The federal VJO Coordinator can verify if the veteran qualifies for service or is currently receiving services. Once eligibility is determined, the federal VJO will do a comprehensive biopsychosocial assessment. This assessment will determine which types of services the alleged offender needs.

Third Stage- Custody

The decision to arrest was made. Now, the decision of custody is addressed. If the alleged offender has not been identified as a veteran, **now is the time to do so**.

The **primary participants** include law enforcement, jail staff, State's Attorney, and the Court. Others who may be involved include the public defender/defense attorney, Veterans Services Officer, and the Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator.

Law enforcement can look for alternatives to incarceration for a person they suspect is a veteran. The seriousness of the alleged crime will determine whether the State's Attorney will be willing to seek alternatives to incarceration.

The **jail staff** member in charge of booking individuals would record personal information and take medical information. This is yet another opportunity to determine whether the accused is currently serving or has served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The **State's Attorney** plays a major role in early decisions regarding whether or not to prosecute and whether or not to seek a course of placement for treatment.

The **Public Defender/Defense Attorney** might work with the law enforcement officer and the State's Attorney to seek release of person or appropriate placement for custody of the alleged offender during the pre-trial stage.

The **federal VJO Coordinator and county VSO** will verify whether the alleged offender is eligible for services through the Department of Veterans Affairs. If the veteran is eligible, the federal VJO will visit with the veteran to conduct his/her comprehensive biopsychosocial assessment.

The **court** will set bail and bond. It can also establish additional conditions for release.

Fourth Stage- Pre-Trial Activities

The pre-trial stage primarily involves the attorneys (both prosecution and defense) and determines the direction of the alleged offender's case. Simply put, the person's case could be handled in one of four ways: plea negotiations, trial to determine guilt or innocence, placement in treatment, or simply release the individual.

Pursuant to South Dakota Codified law 23A-27-52, if a defendant appears in court and pleads guilty or no contest to a crime punishable as a felony or Class 1 misdemeanor, the court shall inquire whether the defendant is currently serving in or has served in, the United States Armed Forces. The law makes it mandatory for the court to inquire into the defendant's military background at this stage.

The **primary participants** during the pre-trial activities include the accused offender, the State's Attorney, public defender/defense attorney, the court, county VSO and the federal VJ Coordinator.

The **State's Attorney** has chosen to press charges.

The **Public Defender/Defense attorney and the federal VJO Coordinator or county VSO** should be working together to pursue services through the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Fifth Stage- Trial Activities

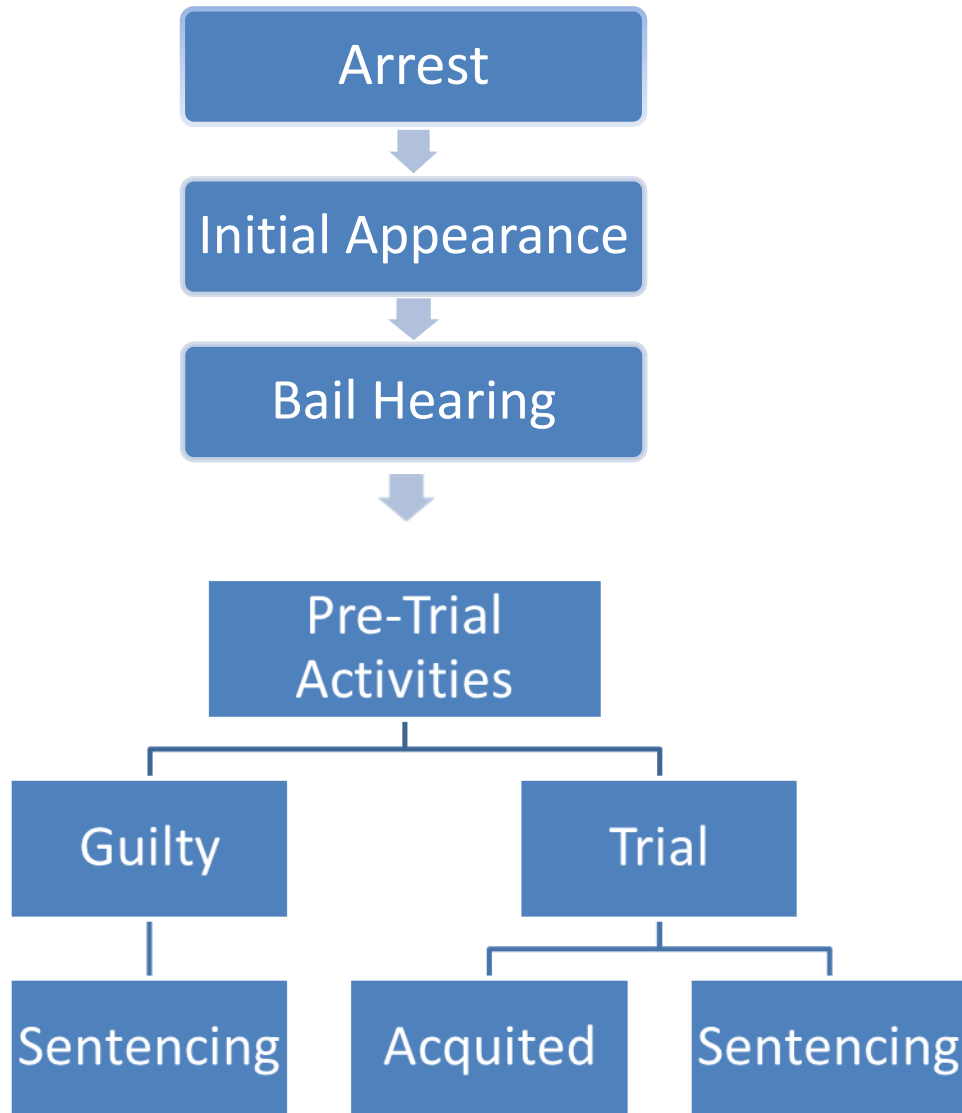
The court is responsible for conducting a fair and impartial trial to determine the guilt or innocence of the alleged offender. Ideally, at this point, the veterans screening should have been conducted.

Sixth Stage- Disposition after Trial

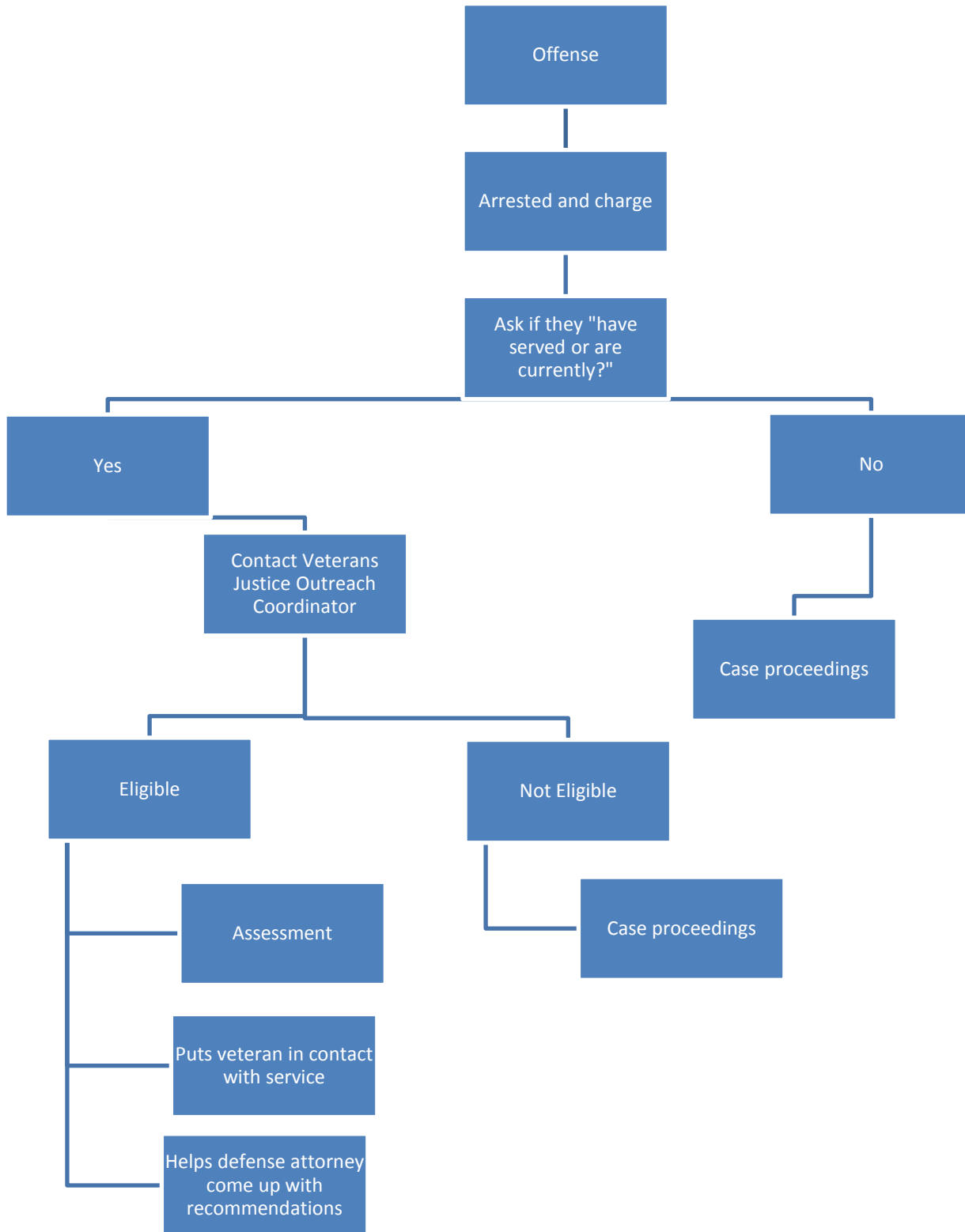
The next stage is disposition. Disposition can include probation, financial and community service sanctions, incarceration in county jail or state prison, or alternative placement for specialized treatment. In the case of a veteran, placement into a specialized treatment facility may be with the Department of Veterans Affairs, if eligible.

Flowchart

South Dakota Unified Judicial System



Veteran Screening Process



Definitions

As veteran service professionals and the criminal justice system work cooperatively to meet the needs of all veterans, it becomes very important that both systems understand each other's terminology. This listing of key words and phrases is divided into two sections- Veterans Affairs Terminology and Criminal Justice Terminology.

Veterans Affairs Terminology

ATP- Addiction Treatment Program.

ADS- Addiction Disorder Service.

Biopsychosocial Assessment- is a comprehensive assessment of all life areas, which includes information on family and origin, children, mental health issues, legal history, educational background, military experience, finances, spiritual/religious, and anything else about the veteran's life history. Only contains information gathered from the veteran.

CBOC- Community Based Outpatient Clinic.

CWT- Compensated Work Therapy.

DAV- Disabled American Veterans.

DD 214-Discharge form.

DOM- Housing facilities and treatment.

Federal Benefit for Dependents and Survivor's Handbook- handbook which can be found online with all of the listings and eligibility requirements for Veterans Affairs benefits.

HCHV: Health Care for Homeless Veterans: Federal program. The Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator operates under this programs as a prevent element.

IT- Incentive Therapy.

OEF/OIF/OND- Operation Enduring Freedom/ Operation Iraqi Freedom/ Operation New Dawn.

TR- Transitional Residence.

VA- Federal Veterans Affairs.

VBA-Veterans Benefit Administration.

Veteran- any citizen who has served in the military.

Veteran Eligibility- Is determined by a six page long requirement standards.

Veterans Justice- Is a prevention program under the HCHV.

VFW- Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Federal VJO- Veterans Justice Outreach.

VSO- County Veterans Service Officers.

Criminal Justice Terminology

Acquittal- A finding that the defendant is not guilty of the charges brought by the State.

Adjudicate- Coming under the protection or guardianship and jurisdiction of the court.

Admission and Orientation- New inmates go through A&O when they arrive in prison. A&O takes approximately 20 days.

Adult Corrections System- Consist of the three main adult facilities and four trusty units.

Adult- a person who has reached the age of majority, which is eighteen years of age in South Dakota.

Affidavit- A written document in which the signer swears under oath before a notary public or someone authorized to take oaths that the statements in the document are true.

Appeal- review of case by a higher court.

Appearance bond- A written instrument with a promise to pay money or perform other acts, a party summoned in an action appears in court.

Arraignment- A court hearing where a person accused of a crime is advised of the charges, informed of his constitutional rights and asked to plead guilty or not guilty.

Arrest- A law enforcement officer has detained a person or otherwise led that person to believe he/she is not free to leave.

Arrest Warrant- An order (writ) of a court that directs a law enforcement officer to arrest and bring a person before a judge.

Attorney (Lawyer) - Person who has been qualified by a state or federal court to provide legal services including representing a person accused of a criminal offence in court.

Bail- The release of a person charged with an offense prior to trial under specific financial or non-financial conditions designed to ensure a person's appearances in court when required.

Booking- A law enforcement administrative action officially recording an arrest of a person including the identification of the person, the place, time, authority, and the reason for the arrest.

Bond- In a criminal case, the surety bond assures the appearance of the defendant or repayment of bail forfeited upon the defendant's failure to appear in court.

Burden of Proof- The level or quality of proof that a party needs to prove their case. Typically, this is the responsibility of the government.

Charge- An accusation contained in a criminal complaint.

Circuit Court- Original jurisdiction in most actions, appellate jurisdiction over Magistrate Court decisions.

Competent- In general, the term means being capable of doing a certain thing, capacity to understand and act reasonably.

Conviction- The result of a criminal trial, which the defendant has been found guilty of a crime.

Court- An agency of government authorized to resolve legal disputes.

Court Services Officer (CSO)- An employee of the Unified Judicial System who conducts pre-dispositional reports, pre-sentence investigations and recommends to the sentencing judge plans for dealing with adult offenders who may be placed on probation and supervised by the Court Services Officer.

Crime- Conduct that violates criminal statutes.

Criminal- A person convicted of a crime.

Criminal Case- A criminal lawsuit filed by the State of South Dakota against a defendant for violation of criminal law.

Custody- As applied to a person in a criminal justice situation, the restraint and physical control over persons as to insure their presence at any hearing or the actual imprisonment resulting from criminal conviction.

Defendant- Person charged with a crime.

Deposition- The taking and recording of testimony of witness under oath before a court reporter in a place away from the courtroom before a trial.

Detain- To hold or keep an individual in custody.

Dismiss- The ruling by a judge that all or a portion of the pending action is terminated.

Due process- The fundamental principle of fairness recognized in all legal matters, both civil and criminal.

Evidence- Information in the form of a testimony, documents, or physical objects that is presented in a case to persuade the fact finder (judge or jury) to decide the case for one side or the other.

Felony- A serious offense punishable by imprisonment in the State Penitentiary.

Grand Jury- A group of citizens who listen to the government present evidence of criminal activity by person or persons in order to determine whether there is enough evidence to justify an indictment charging the person or persons with a crime.

Guilty- Having been convicted of committing a crime or having admitted to the commission of a crime.

Guilty Plea- A criminal defendant's admission to the court that he/she committed the offense he/she is charged with and his/her agreement to waive the right to trial.

Hearing- A proceeding without a jury in which evidence or arguments and witnesses are heard by a judicial officer, grand jury, or other governmental unit to determine some issue of fact or both issues of fact and law.

Indictment- A charging document issued by a grand jury based upon a proposed charge, witness testimony and other evidence presented by the State's Attorney.

Initial appearance- Following an arrest, the appearance of a defendant before a judge, who informs the defendant of the nature of the charges against him/her.

Inmate- Any person incarcerated by virtue of a judicial order or other lawful process in any Department of Corrections Facility.

Judicial Proceedings- Any action by a judge such as trials, hearings, petitions or other matters of the parties.

Jurisdiction- The legal authority of a court to hear and decide a certain type of case.

Jury- A group of citizens whose duty is to weigh evidence fairly and impartially and decide the facts in a trial.

Litigation- Any lawsuit or other resort to the courts in order to determine a legal question.

Magistrate- A generic term for any judge of a court or anyone officially performing a judge's function.

Magistrate Court- Court that may hear small claims, uncontested civil cases, and minor misdemeanor criminal cases.

Mandatory Minimum Sentence- A statutorily defined minimum term of imprisonment that the court is required to impose on the defendant at sentencing.

Miranda Rights- The advisement after an arrest and prior to questioning of a person suspected of a crime, informs the person: they have the right to remain silent, that anything they say can and will be used against them, that they have a right to an attorney even if they cannot afford one.

Misdemeanor- A crime for which the punishment is something other than death or a penitentiary sentence, usually a fine or county jail time for up to a year.

Nolo contendere plea- A plea in which the defendant does not admit guilt but does waive the right to trial and authorizes the court to impose punishment at sentencing.

Parole- The conditional release of an inmate from actual penitentiary custody before the expiration of his/her term of imprisonment.

Parolee- A person who has been conditionally released from a Department of Corrections facility prior to the expiration of his/her sentence and remains under the supervision of the Department of Corrections.

Plaintiff- Party who initiates a lawsuit by filing a complaint with the clerk of court against the defendant(s) demanding damages, performance and/or court determination of rights.

Plea- A defendant's plea entered at arraignment of either "guilty" or "not guilty" or in some situations "nolo contendere."

Preliminary Hearing- A pre-indictment hearing at which the prosecutor must present evidence sufficient to establish probable cause to believe that an offense was committed and that the defendant committed it.

Pre-sentence Investigation- An investigation completed by court services officers to assist the trial court in sentencing a criminal defendant after the person has been convicted.

Presumption of Innocence- A fundamental protection for a person accused of a crime that requires the jury to presume that the defendant is innocent of all charges. The judge instructs the jury that, before the defendant can be found guilty, the government must overcome the presumption of innocence and convince the jurors that the defendant is guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Probable Cause- The legal standard defining the amount of evidence or information needed to justify a search or an arrest.

Probation- A procedure whereby a defendant found guilty of a crime is released by the court without imprisonment, subject to conditions imposed by the court, under the supervision of a Court Services Officer.

Prosecutor- An attorney (State's Attorney, United States Attorney, Attorney General) who is either elected or appointed to represent the people (United States, South Dakota, city or county) in matters involving criminal accusation.

Public Defender- An attorney, elected or appointed, employed by the county to represent accused persons who cannot afford to hire private attorneys.

Questioning- The interrogation of a witness for the purpose of eliciting information.

Reasonable Doubt- The standard used to determine the guilt or innocence of a person charged with a crime.

Restitution- Payment by an offender of money or services to the victim of a crime for losses suffered because of the crime.

Ruling- Court decision on a case or legal question.

Self-Incrimination- Making statements or producing evidence that tends to prove that one is guilty of a crime.

Sentence- A judgment of the court imposing punishment upon a defendant for criminal conduct.

Sentencing Hearing- A court hearing where the defendant convicted of a crime is sentenced.

Subpoena- A written order issued by a judicial officer requiring a person to appear at a certain time and place to answer charges or questions relating to a matter before the issuing authority.

Suspended Sentence- A portion of a person's sentence is suspended by the court on certain conditions.

Testimony- The oral evidence given under oath by a witness in answer to questions posed by attorney at trial, at deposition or before grand juries.

Trial- The proceeding at which the government and the defense in a criminal case produce evidence for consideration in court.

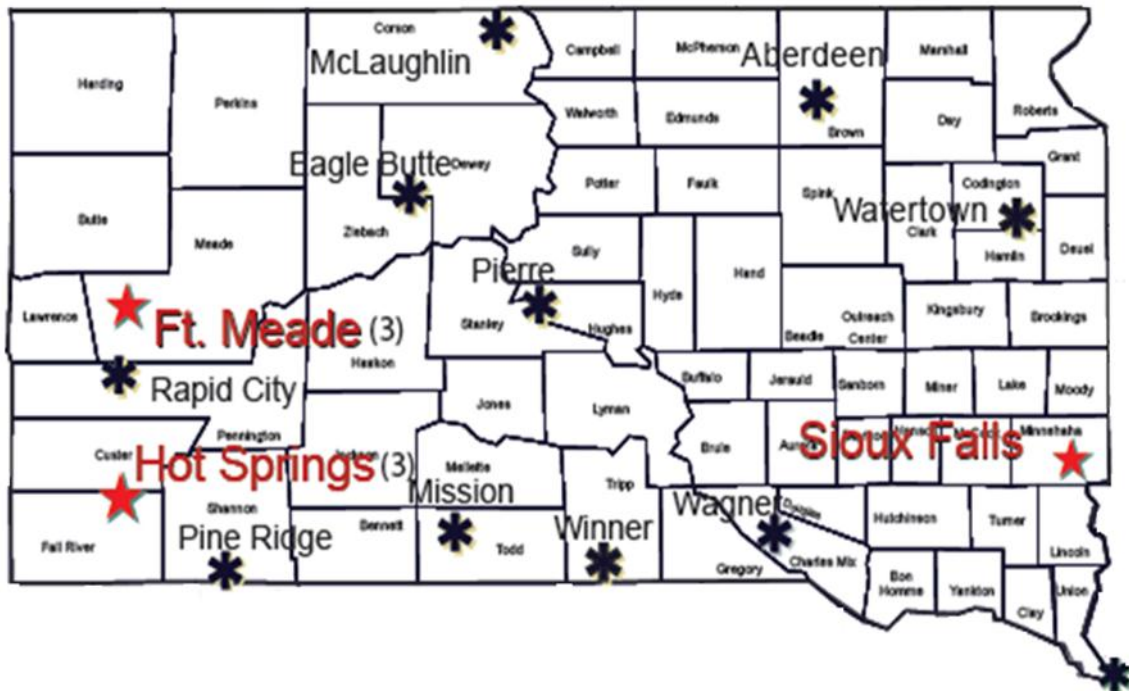
Verdict- The decision of a jury, which must be accepted by the judge to be final.

Waive- The act of knowingly, intentionally, and voluntarily giving up a right.

Witness- A person called upon by either side in a lawsuit to give testimony before the court.

Resources

South Dakota Veterans Health Care System Location Map



Key:

- ★ Medical Center
- * Community Based Outpatient Clinics



Contact Information

Ft. Meade Medical Center

113 Comanche Road
Fort Meade, SD 57741
Phone: 605-347-2511

Sioux Falls Medical Center

2501 W. 22nd Street, PO Box 5046
Sioux Falls, SD. 57710
Phone: 605-336-3230

Hot Springs Medical Center

500 North 5th Street
Hot Springs, SD 57747
Phone: 605-745-2000

Black Hills Health Care System

CBOC locations

Rapid City, South Dakota

VA Outpatient Clinic
3525 5th Street
Rapid City, SD 57701
Phone: (605) 718-1095

Pierre, South Dakota

Linn Medical Clinic (contract)
1601 N Harrison Ste. 6
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: (605) 945-1710

Winner, South Dakota

Avera Winner Medical Clinic (contract)
1436 E 10th Street
Winner, SD 57580
Phone: (605) 842-2443

Eagle Butte, Isabel and Faith, South Dakota

Prairie Community Health (contract)
8000 Hwy 212 or PO Box 860
Eagle Butte, SD 57625-0860
Phone (Eagle Butte) (605) 964-8000
Phone (Isabel): (605) 466-2120
Phone (Faith): (605) 967-2644

Pine Ridge, South Dakota

VA Wellness Center
PTSD Building next to IHS Hospital
Pine Ridge, SD 57770
Phone: (605) 867-2393 ext. 4033
Fax: (605) 745-2097

Rosebud / Mission South Dakota

VA Wellness Center
153 Main Street
Mission, SD 57555
Phone: (605) 856-2295

McLaughlin, South Dakota

Veterans Industries - VA Compensated Work
Therapy Program
Sales Barn Road
McLaughlin, SD 57642-0519
Phone: (605) 823-4574

Sioux Falls Health Care System

CBOC locations

Aberdeen, South Dakota

VA Outpatient Clinic
2301 8th Street Suite 225
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Phone: 605-229-3500

Watertown, South Dakota

VA Outpatient Clinic
917 - 29th St SE
Watertown, SD 57201
Phone: (605) 884-2420

Wagner, South Dakota

Wagner Outpatient
400 W. Hwy 46
Wagner, SD 57380
Phone: (605) 384-2340

Sioux City, Iowa

1551 Indian Hills Drive, Suite 206
Sioux City, IA 51104
Phone 1-712-258-4700 Ext2221
Direct Dial 8874-2221

*The contact information for any VA affiliate
can be found by writing, calling, or searching
the website of the United States Department of
Veteran Affairs www.va.gov*



County Veterans Service Officers

<p>AURORA (also Brule and Jerauld) 12:30 - 4:30 Monday 8:00 - 4:30 Tuesday Ron Falor 401 N Main Street, PO Box 397 Plankinton, SD 57368 OFFICE: 942.7150 FAX: 942.7746 vso10aurora@goldenwest.net</p>	<p>BEADLE (also Sanborn) 8:00 - 5:00 Monday - Friday Kenneth C. Lindblad 450 3rd Street SW - Suite 103 Huron, SD 57350 OFFICE: 353.8415 FAX: 353.8416 vet1@midco.net</p>
<p>BENNETT 8:00 - 12:00 Wednesday Don Larson (mail: PO Box 523) 105 E. HWY 18 Martin, SD 57551 OFFICE: 685.6619 FAX: 685.6311 dllarson@gwtc.net</p>	<p>BON HOMME 8:00 - 4:30 Monday - Friday Richard D. Beringer 300 W 18th Ave, PO Box 629 Tyndall, SD 57066-0629 OFFICE: 589.4214 FAX: 589.4202 bhcem@hcinet.net</p>
<p>BROOKINGS 8:00 - 5:00 Monday – Friday Michael Holzhauser 520 3rd Street - Suite 210 Brookings, SD 57006 OFFICE: 696.8260 FAX: 696.8208 mholzhauser@brookingscountysd.gov</p>	<p>BROWN 8:00 - 5:00 Monday – Friday Thomas J. Gohn 101 1st Avenue SE, Suite 100 Aberdeen, SD 57401 OFFICE: 626.7129 FAX: 626.4010 kathy.schlecht@browncounty.sd.gov</p>
<p>BRULE (also Aurora and Jerauld) 8:30 - 5:00 Thursday 8:00 - 12:00 Friday Ron Falor 300 S. Courtland St., Suite 102 Chamberlain, SD 57325-1599 OFFICE: 234.4433 FAX: 234.4430 cvso13@midstatesd.net</p>	<p>BUFFALO (also Ft. Thompson) Gann Valley 9:00 - 5:00 Wednesday Nancy M. Falor 112 Osman Avenue, PO Box 146 Gann Valley, SD 57341 OFFICE: 293.3239 FAX: 293.3240 cvso14@midstatesd.net</p>
<p>BUTTE (Belle Fourche) 7:30 - 4:00 Monday & Tuesday Robert R. Wagner 830 6th Avenue Belle Fourche, SD 57717 OFFICE: 723.8387 FAX: 892.4414 bwagner@buttesd.org</p>	<p>CAMPBELL 8:30 - 4:30 Wednesday Lester Goehring American Legion Post - Main Street Herried, SD 57632 OFFICE: 437-2658 FAX: 955.3308 ccvetservice@valleytel.net</p>



<p>CHARLES MIX 8:30 - 4:30 Tuesday & Thursday 8:00 - 12:00 Wednesday Roy R. Farabee 400 Main Street, PO Box 266 Lake Andes, SD 57356 OFFICE: 487.7691 FAX: 487.7221 rfarabee@threeriverwb.net</p>	<p>CLARK 9:00 - 4:00 Monday 9:00 - 12:00 Tuesday Bruce Brekke 200 Commercial St - N., PO Box 294 Clark, SD 57225 OFFICE: 532.5435 FAX: 532.5931 clarkvso@itctel.com</p>
<p>CLAY 8:00 - 5:00 Monday - Friday Cindy Aden 211 West Main Street, Ste. 203 Vermillion, SD 57069 OFFICE: 677.7145 FAX: 677.7104 cynthia.aden@claycountySD.org</p>	<p>CODINGTON 8:00 - 5:00 Monday - Friday Al G. Janzen 14 1st Avenue SE Watertown, SD 57201 OFFICE: 882.6289 FAX: 822.6392 veteran@codington.org</p>
<p>CORSON (also Perkins) 8:00 - 4:00 Tuesday Loyson "Loy" J. Carda 108 1st Street E McIntosh, SD 57641 OFFICE: 273.4416 FAX: 273.4561 lcarda@sdplains.com</p>	<p>CUSTER 7:30 - 4:30 Monday - Wednesday Kenneth Irwin 420 Mt. Rushmore Road Custer, SD 57730-1934 OFFICE: 673.8123 FAX: 673.8150 kirwin@custercountysd.com</p>
<p>DAVISON 8:00 - 5:00 Monday - Friday Steve A. McClure 200 4th Avenue E Mitchell, SD 57301 OFFICE: 995.8619 FAX: 995.8618 coservdir@davisoncounty.org</p>	<p>DAY 8:00 - 4:30 Monday – Thursday Mike Wiley 711 West 1st Street Webster, SD 57274-1359 OFFICE: 345.9512 FAX: 345.9507 daycvso@itctel.com</p>
<p>DEUEL 8:00 - 5:00 Monday – Friday Dennis D. Evenson 415 3rd Ave S, PO Box 977 Clear Lake, SD 57226 OFFICE: 874.2111 FAX: 874.8176 shkid@itctel.com</p>	<p>DEWEY 1:00 - 5:00 Wednesday Robert Dunsmore 710 C Street, PO Box 267 Timber Lake, SD 57656 OFFICE: 865.3539 FAX: 865.3691</p>



<p style="text-align: center;">DOUGLAS 9:00 - 3:00 Tuesday & Wednesday Fred Kuil 706 Braddock St., PO Box 159 Armour, SD 57313 OFFICE: 724.2750 FAX: 724.2204 Vetserviceofficer@goldenwest.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EDMUNDS 9:00 - 4:00 Tuesday & Wednesday Ron L. Hoffer 110 N Mitchell St., PO Box 266 Roscoe, SD 57471 OFFICE: 287.4629</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">FALL RIVER 9:00 - 5:00 Monday - Friday Wendy Weakland 906 North River Street Hot Springs, SD 57747 OFFICE: 745.5146 FAX: 745.5146 veterans@gwtc.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FAULK 8:30 - 4:00 Monday – Wednesday Wayne E. Vetter 110 9th Ave N, PO Box 309 Faulkton, SD 5743 OFFICE: 598.6222 FAX: 598.6680 faulkcvso@venturecomm.net</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">GRANT 9:00 - 12:00 Tuesday 1:00 - 5:00 Wednesday 9:00 - 2:30 Thursday (Scott Malimanek) 210 East 5th Avenue Milbank, SD 57252 OFFICE: 432.7505 FAX: 432.7506 scott.malimanek@state.sd.us</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GREGORY (also Charles Mix) 8:00 - 5:00 Monday Roy R. Farabee 221 E 8th Street, PO Box 437 Burke, SD 57523 OFFICE: 775.2672 FAX: 775.2596 rfarabee@threeriverwb.net</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">HAAKON (also Jackson) 8:00 - 4:00 Monday & Tuesday Terry Deuter 140 Howard Ave., PO Box 484 Philip, SD 57567 OFFICE: 859.2010 FAX: 859.2801 whittlinsbydeuter@hotmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HAMLIN 8:00 - 5:00 Monday – Friday Robert Arneson 118 Main Ave., PO Box 178 Hayti, SD 57241 OFFICE: 783.3651 FAX: 783.3652 rpa@itctel.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">HAND 8:00 - 5:00 Monday & Tuesday Dave Johnson 415 West 1st Avenue Miller, SD 57362 OFFICE: 853.2389 FAX: 853.2769 handcovso@hotmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HANSON 8:00 - 5:00 Wednesday Harry Huffman, Jr. 720 5th St., PO Box 500 Alexandria, SD 57311 OFFICE: 239.4245 FAX: 239.4296 hhuffman@santel.net</p>



<p>HARDING 8:00 - 5:00 Wednesday Milton L. Douglas 410 Ramsland St., PO Box 181 Buffalo, SD 57720 OFFICE: 375.3313 FAX: 375.3358 hcvso@sdplains.com</p>	<p>HUGHES (also Stanley & Sully) 8:00 - 5:00 Monday - Friday VSO is only in office 9:00 - 4:00 Tuesday - Wednesday and 9:00 - 3:00 Thursday Charles Quinn 104 East Capitol Avenue Pierre, SD 57501 OFFICE: 773.6975 FAX: 773.7453 charles.quinn@co.hughes.sd.us</p>
<p>HUTCHINSON 8:00 - 4:30 Monday - Wednesday Glenn R. Hartman 140 Euclid, Room 39 Olivet, SD 57052 OFFICE: 387.4204 FAX: 387.4209 vasohutch@hotmail.com</p>	<p>HYDE 9:00 - 5:00 Monday - Friday Robert "Bob" Sheffield 116 1st St SW, PO Box 188 Highmore, SD 57345 OFFICE: 852.2156</p>
<p>JACKSON (also Haakon) 8:00 - 4:00 Wednesdays & Thursdays Terry Deuter 700 Main St., PO Box 291 Kadoka, SD 57543 OFFICE: 837.2217 FAX: 837.2439 whittlinsbydeuter@hotmail.com</p>	<p>JERAULD (also Aurora and Brule) 8:00 - 12:00 Monday 8:00 - 5:00 Wednesday Ron Falor (Mail: PO Box 422) 205 Wallace Ave S Wessington Springs, SD 57382 OFFICE: 539.0092 FAX: 539-9125 ronf1997@midstatesd.net</p>
<p>JONES (also Lyman and Mellette) 9:00 - 12:00 1st & 3rd Wednesday Gary O. Sletto 310 Main St. Murdo, SD 57559 (Mail: 28401 SD 248, Draper, SD 57531) OFFICE: 669.7107 FAX: 669.7120 lgsletto@goldenwest.net</p>	<p>KINGSBURY 8:00 - 5:00 Monday – Friday Gary W. Schumacher 103 Joliet Ave SE, PO Box 29 De Smet, SD 57231 OFFICE: 854.3378 FAX: 854.9006 gary@wslawfirm.net</p>
<p>LAKE 8:00 - 5:00 Monday - Friday Donald E. Thomson 200 East Center Street Madison, SD 57042 OFFICE: 256.7611 FAX: 256.7622 lakeema@lakecountysd.com</p>	<p>LAWRENCE (Deadwood) 9:00 - 4:30 Tuesday & Thursday William "Bill" J. Locken 80 Sherman Street Deadwood, SD 57732 OFFICE: 578.9748 FAX: 605.578.3148 blocken@lawrence.sd.us</p>



<p>LINCOLN 8:30 - 2:30 Monday - Wednesday Dick Lien 104 N Main Suite 40 Canton, SD 57013 OFFICE: 764.5571 FAX: 764.2432 dlien@lincolncountysd.org</p>	<p>LYMAN (also Jones and Mellette) 9:00 - 4:30 1st and 3rd Tuesday Gary O. Sletto 300 S. Main St., PO Box 251 Kennebec, SD 57544 OFFICE: 869.2237 FAX: 869.2203 vso@lymancounty.org</p>
<p>MARSHALL 8:30 - 12:30 Monday – Thursday David Daberkow 909 South Main, PO Box 986 Britton, SD 57430 OFFICE: 448.5190 FAX: 448.5142 vsomcsd@yahoo.com</p>	<p>McCOOK 8:30 - 4:30 Monday and Wednesday Keith Aden 130 W Essex Ave, PO Box 190 Salem, SD 57058 OFFICE: 425.2485 FAX: 425.2534 mccookvso@triotel.net</p>
<p>McPHERSON 8:30 - 4:00 Monday - Friday Harvey Schaible Highway 10, PO Box 457 Leola, SD 57456 OFFICE: 439.3320 hdschaible@valleytel.net</p>	<p>McPHERSON 11:00 - 2:00 Tuesday & Thursday Darrell Pfeifle 717 7th St., PO Box 202 Eureka, SD 57437 OFFICE: 284.5239 dpfeifle@valleytel.net</p>
<p>MEADE 8:00 - 5:00 Monday - Friday Angella Sutton 1300 Sherman Street Suite 212 Sturgis, SD 57785 OFFICE: 347.7623 FAX: 720.1633 asutton@meadecounty.org</p>	<p>MELLETTE (also Jones and Lyman) 9:00 - 4:00 1st & 3rd Friday Gary O. Sletto South 1st & McKinley, Courthouse White River, SD 57531 (Mail: 28401 SD 248, Draper, SD 57531) OFFICE: 259.3030 FAX: 259.3194 lgsletto@goldenwest.net</p>
<p>MINER 8:00 - 12:00 Wednesday Terrance P. Lee 301 N Main, PO Box 692 Howard, SD 57349 OFFICE: 772.4681 FAX: 772.2152 teepeelee@alliancecom.net</p>	<p>MINNEHAHA 8:00 - 5:00 Monday - Friday Patricia Kroupa 521 North Main Avenue, Ste 201 Sioux Falls, SD 57104-5965 OFFICE: 367.4201 FAX: 367.4235 pkroupa@minnehahacounty.org</p>



<p>MOODY 8:00 - 12:00 / 1:00 - 5:00 Monday - Tuesday James E. Delay 101 E. Pipestone Avenue Flandreau, SD 57028 OFFICE: 997.0094 FAX: 997.0094 mcvso@moodycounty.net</p>	<p>PENNINGTON 8:00 - 5:00 Monday – Friday Neal D. Lutke Dan Kivi (Deployed) Jamie Guffey (Veteran Services Caseworker) 725 N. LaCrosse Street, Suite 200 Rapid City, SD 57701 OFFICE: 394.2266 FAX: 394.6990 neall@co.pennington.sd.us jamiieg@co.pennington.sd.us</p>
<p>PERKINS (also Corson) Lemmon: 8:00 - 4:00 Monday Bison: 8:00 - 3:30 Thursday Loyson "Loy" J. Carda 600 4th Avenue W Lemmon, SD 57638 OFFICE: 374.5681 FAX: 374.5789 101 East Main Bison, SD 57640 OFFICE: 244.7299 FAX: 244.7110 lcarda@sdplains.com</p>	<p>POTTER 9:00 - 5:00 Monday Harlan Shaw 300 E. Garfield - Suite 3 Gettysburg, SD 57442 OFFICE: 765.2836 FAX: 767.2332</p>
<p>ROBERTS 8:00 - 5:00 Monday - Friday Larry J. Goette 411 2nd Avenue E Ste 2 Sisseton, SD 57262 OFFICE: 698.7376 FAX: 698.7380 rvso@venturecomm.net</p>	<p>SANBORN 8:00-5:00 Monday-Friday Kenneth Linblad 450 3rd Street SW - Suite 103 Huron, SD 57350 OFFICE: 353.8415 FAX: 353.8416 vet1@midco.net</p>
<p>SHANNON 9:00 - 4:00 Monday –Wednesday Archie L. Hopkins 1 Veteran Drive, PO Box 5080 Pine Ridge, SD 57770 OFFICE: 867.2555 archiehopkins@goldenwest.net</p>	<p>SPINK 8:00 - 1:00 Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday Gordon D. Richard 210 East 7th Avenue Redfield, SD 57469 OFFICE: 472.4589 FAX: 472.4582 spinkvso@nrcvtv.com</p>



<p>STANLEY (also Hughes & Sully) 8:00 - 5:00 Monday - Friday VSO is only in office 9:00 - 4:00 Tuesday - Wednesday and 9:00 - 3:00 Thursday Charles Quinn 104 East Capitol Avenue Pierre, SD 57501 OFFICE: 773.6975 FAX: 773.7453 charles.quinn@co.hughes.sd.us</p>	<p>SULLY (also Hughes & Stanley) 8:00 - 5:00 Monday - Friday VSO is only in office 9:00 - 4:00 Tuesday - Wednesday and 9:00 - 3:00 Thursday Charles Quinn 104 East Capitol Avenue Pierre, SD 57501 OFFICE: 773.6975 FAX: 773.7453 charles.quinn@co.hughes.sd.us</p>
<p>TODD (also Tripp) 8:00 - 5:00 2nd & 4th Monday Terry Cousins (Mail: PO Box 806, Winner SD 57580) 315 Lincoln Street Mission, SD 57555 OFFICE: 842.1300 FAX: 842.3621 terrycvet@msn.com</p>	<p>TRIPP (also Todd) 8:00 - 5:00 Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday Terry Cousins 200 East 3rd Street Winner, SD 57580 OFFICE: 842.1300 FAX: 842.1300 terrycvet@msn.com</p>
<p>TURNER 9:00 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 4:00 Tuesday & Wednesday Thomas Sparrow 400 S Main Street, PO Box 370 Parker, SD 57053 OFFICE: 297.3431 FAX: 297.5556 tsparrow@iw.net</p>	<p>UNION 8:30 - 4:30 Tuesday & Thursday Daniel Veatch 209 East Main Street, Ste 110 Elk Point, SD 57025 OFFICE: 356.2181 FAX: 356.3047 ucvets@iw.net</p>
<p>WALWORTH 9:00 - 2:00 Monday – Wednesday Leo Rookey (Mailing: 103 N. Main St.) 212 Main Street Mobridge, SD 57601 OFFICE: 845.2725 FAX: 845.2725 walworth.vso@live.com</p>	<p>YANKTON 1:00 - 5:00 Monday 9:00 - 5:00 Tuesday & Wednesday Charles E. Haffner 321 W 3rd Street #107 Yankton, SD 57078 OFFICE: 260.4400 ext. 3471 FAX: 668.-9682 chuck@co.yankton.sd.us</p>
<p>ZIEBACH 8:00 - 5:00 Monday Harold "Pete" Veit 501 S Main Street, PO Box 68 Dupree, SD 57623 OFFICE: 365.5157 FAX: 365.5204 ziebachcvso@outlook.com</p>	



TRIBAL VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS

<p style="text-align: center;">CHEYENNE RIVER SIOUX TRIBE</p> <p>9:00-5:00 Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Robert Dunsmore Tribal Office, PO Box 590 Eagle Butte 57625 Office - 964-3050 FAX 964-8375 rdunsmore@hotmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CROW CREEK SIOUXTRIBE (also Buffalo)Ft. Thompson</p> <p>9:00 - 5:00 Third Wednesday</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nancy M. Falor Tribal Office, Highway 16 Ft. Thompson, SD OFFICE: 245.2221 ext 22 FAX: 293.3240 cvso14@midstatesd.net</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">LOWER BRULE SIOUX TRIBE</p> <p>Vacant (See your local County Veteran Service Officer)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">OGLALA SIOUX TRIBE</p> <p>8:30 - 4:30 Monday - Friday</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Frank W. Marshall PO Box 324 Pine Ridge, SD 57770 OFFICE: 867.5577 FAX: 867.5380 nativevets@goldenwest.net</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ROSEBUD SIOUX TRIBE</p> <p>8:00 - 5:00 Monday – Friday</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Orlando Morrison PO Box 720 Rosebud, SD 57570 OFFICE: 747.2593 FAX: 747.5418 rstvets@yahoo.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SISSETON-WAHPETON OYATE</p> <p>8:00 - 4:30 Monday – Friday</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Geri Opsal PO Box 509 Agency Village, SD 57262 OFFICE: 698-4400 Ext.110 FAX: 698.3515 GeriO@SWO-NSN.gov</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">STANDING ROCK SIOUX TRIBE</p> <p>8:00 - 4:30 Monday – Friday</p> <p>PO Box D, Tribal Office Ft. Yates, ND 58538 OFFICE: 701.854.8527 FAX: 701.854.8596 wenelle66@hotmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">YANKTON SIOUX TRIBE</p> <p>9:00 - 4:30 Monday - Friday</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dennis W. Rucker 800 Main Street, SW PO Box 1153 Wagner, SD 57380 OFFICE: 384.3641 FAX: 384.5687</p>



Veteran Screening Project Tip Sheet

1. Legal foundation:
 - a. SDCL 23A-27-52 a.k.a Senate Bill 70
2. Veterans Screening Project
 - a. **NOT a Veterans Court with a judicial or Drug Court Team oversight or treatment component.**
 - b. Objective
 - i. Identify veterans early in the process
 - ii. Connect them with Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator
3. Only applies to person facing Felony and Class 1 misdemeanors
4. **Do not ask the defendant if he/she “is a veteran?”**
5. Ask, **“Are they currently serving or have previously served in the U.S Armed Forces?”**
6. Veteran or Military status **does not** automatically qualify them for Veterans Affairs services; therefore, contact your federal Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator or your local Veterans Service Office as soon as possible.
 - a. Contact information
 - i. **East River: Sioux Falls VA Health Care System**
 1. **Rebecca (Becky) Hess**
 2. **605-336-3230 ext. 7762**
 - ii. **West River: Black Hills VA Health Care System**
 1. **Cathy King**
 2. **605-347-2511 ext. 7904**
 - iii. **All local veteran service officers can be found on**
 1. http://mva.sd.gov/vet_service_officers.html
7. Local County Veterans Services Officers should only be contacted if you cannot reach federal Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator
8. Local County Veterans Services Officers are limited in their ability to help. They can:
 - a. Locate DD-214
 - b. Determine if defendant is already receiving VA services
 - c. Determine if defendant is eligible for VA services
9. Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator is a licensed clinical social worker and can:
 - a. Do all of #8
 - b. Assess psychological, biological, and social history
 - c. Be a broker for VA mental health services
 - d. Coordinate transportation to services
10. Helpful websites
 - a. Federal Department of Veterans Affairs
 - i. <http://www.va.gov>
 - b. UJS site
 - i. www.ujs.sd.gov
 1. Specifically Senate Bill 70
 - ii. <http://legis.state.sd.us/sessions/2013/Bill.aspx?File=SB70P.htm>

Veteran Screening Project Referral From

Name: _____ **Date of Referral:** _____

Phone #: _____ **Referring CSO:** _____

Address: _____

DOB: _____

Social Security #: _____

Current Charges: _____

In Custody: _____ **Where:** _____

Next Court Date: _____

Service Branch: _____

Dates of Service: _____ **Discharge Status:** _____

Response from VA

Is Veteran currently accessing VA services? _____

What services are being accessed? _____

What services are available for the Veteran? _____

Fax referral to Becky Hess (**East River**) at: (605) 333-5387
Cathy King (**West River**) at: (605) 720-7257



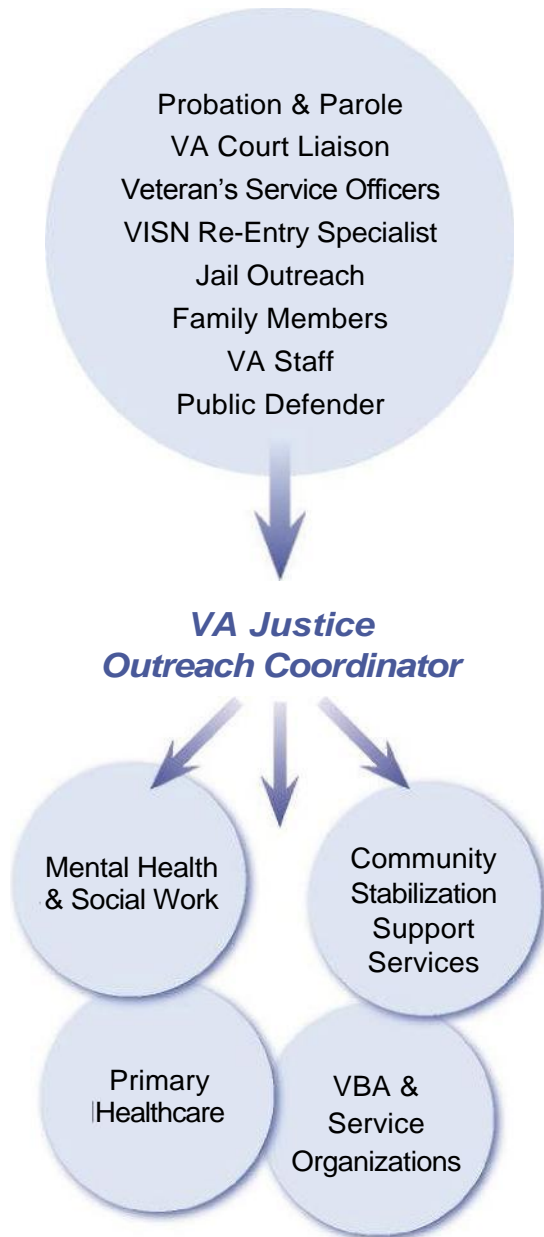
(Interim) Veteran Screening Project Procedure

1. If a defendant pleads guilty or no contest to a felony or Class 1 misdemeanor, the Court **shall** inquire if the defendant is currently serving or has previously served in the US Military. If the defendant is currently serving in the military or is a military veteran, the Court **may**:
 - a. Order that a Court Service Officer (CSO) consult with the US Department of Veteran Affairs or another agency or person with suitable knowledge or experience, for the purpose of providing the court with information regarding the treatment options available to the defendant, including federal, state, and local programming.
 - b. Consider treatment recommendations of any diagnosing or treating mental health or substance abuse professionals together with the treatment options available to the defendant in imposing sentence.
2. If the Court orders that a CSO consult with the VA, the defendant will be directed by the Judge to immediately report to Court Services so a CSO can make a referral to the VA Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator (VJOC) (*contact information at end of page*) or the local Veterans Service Office.
3. CSO will meet with the Veteran and complete the following information.
 - a. Release of information to the VA.
 - b. Veteran Screening Project Referral
 1. If Veteran informs you he/she is not interested in services at the time of referral, note that information on the form and return to the Judge (redact the social security #). We cannot force the Veteran to participate in services at the VA.
4. Fax referral and release of information to the VA VJOC or the local Veterans Service Office
 - a. Ask Veteran to contact the VA VJOC or the local Veterans Service Office
5. VJOC will assess the defendant and obtain the following information:
 - a. Locate DD-214
 - b. Determine if defendant is already receiving VA services
 - c. Determine if defendant is eligible for VA services
 - d. Assess psychological, biological, and social history
 - e. Broker VA services for defendant
 - f. Coordinate transportation to services
6. If/when the Veteran contacts the VA; the VJOC will complete the screening and fax back the completed Veteran's Screening Project Referral to the referring CSO.
 - a. The VJOC will also need the Veteran to sign a release at the VA due to HIPAA laws. If the Veteran does not contact the VJOC or refuses to sign the VA release, the VJOC will return the referral with the statement "she has no knowledge of the Veteran."
7. CSO will provide the Judge with a copy of the completed referral once it is received from the VA.
 - a. Redact the Social Security number on the referral form once you receive it back from the VJOC.

VJOC Contact Information: Cathy King (**West River**)
Phone: (605) 347-2511 ext. 7904
Fax: (605) 720-7257

Becky Hess (**East River**)
Phone: (605) 336-3230 ext. 7762
Fax: (605) 333-5387

VA Justice Outreach Process



The Veterans Justice Outreach Program works with justice involved veterans. A justice-involved veteran is any veteran who has contact with the judicial system, law enforcement or the jail system.

Cathy T. King, MSW, CSW-PIP
Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator
(605)499-9528 (Cell)
(605)347-2511 ext. 7904 (Desk)
(605)720-7257 (Fax)
Cathy.King2@va.gov



Veterans Justice Outreach Program

VA Black Hills Health Care System

Western South Dakota



Veterans Justice Outreach



The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has committed to preventing incarceration and reducing recidivism among veterans through the development of the Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) Program.

VJO Initiative

“The purpose of the VJO initiative is to avoid unnecessary criminalization of mental illness and extended incarceration among veterans by ensuring that eligible veterans in contact with the criminal justice system have access to Veterans Health Administration (VHA) mental health and substance abuse services.”

Source: Department of Veterans Affairs, April 30, 2009. Under Secretary for Health's Information Letter.

The Veterans Justice Outreach Program has three focus areas:

Courts and Attorneys

Provide information and education about veterans' issues to include PTSD and TBI and services available. Develop and implement Veterans' Courts.

Law Enforcement

Provide training to local law enforcement on veterans' issues and strategies to help work with Veterans.

Jails

Develop communication with jails to identify veterans who are incarcerated and engage veterans in available services upon their release.

What a VJO Can Do:

- » Serve veterans of all eras
- » Assess veterans' health care needs; identify appropriate VA and non-VA services
- » Refer & link veteran to comprehensive health care services
- » With veteran consent, communicate essentials (attendance, progress, treatment testing, and discharge plan)
- » Function as a court team member
- » Provide Evidence Based Treatment

What a VJO Can't Do:

- » Perform forensic psychiatric/psychological evaluations for the court
- » Accept custody
- » Guarantee program acceptance
- » Write lengthy court report, complete Diversion paperwork
- » Advocate for legislation
- » Serve VHA ineligible veterans
- » Decide criminal justice criteria for Veterans' Court participation or decide who gains admission to specialty treatment court.



Sioux Falls VA Health Care System Veterans Justice Outreach

Helpful Websites

Department of Veterans Affairs:
<http://www.va.gov>

Record Request (DD214):
<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html>

Enroll/Update for VA Benefits:
<https://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/Form/vha-10-10ez.pdf>

Health Care for Homeless Veterans
Homepage:
<http://www1.va.gov/homeless/>

Veterans Justice Outreach Program
Homepage:
<http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/VJO.asp>

Helpful Phone Numbers

Sioux Falls VA Regional Office
Toll Free: 1-800-827-1000

Crisis Hotline for Veterans
Toll Free: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

National Call Center for Homeless Veterans:
Toll Free: 1-877-424-3838
(1-877 4AID-VET)

Sioux Falls VA Health Care System Veterans Justice Outreach

Rebecca Hess, MSW, CSW-PIP
Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO)
Coordinator
605-336-3230, Ext 7762
1-800-316-8387, Ext 7762
rebecca.hess@va.gov

Candice Cummings, MSW, CSW-PIP
Homeless Coordinator
605-336-3230, Ext 6135
1-800-316-8387, Ext 6135
candice.cummings@va.gov

VJO Initiative

“The purpose of the VJO initiative is to avoid unnecessary criminalization of mental illness and extended incarceration among Veterans by ensuring that eligible Veterans in contact with the criminal justice system have access to Veterans Health Administration (VHA) mental health and substance services.” *Source: Department of Veterans Affairs, April 30, 2009. Under Secretary for Health’s Information Letter.*

Sioux Falls VA Health Care System
2501 W 22nd St.
PO Box 5046
Sioux Falls, SD 57117

Hess 6/13

Veterans Justice Outreach Services



VA HEALTH CARE | Defining
EXCELLENCE
in the 21st Century

Sioux Falls
VA Health Care System

What is Veterans Justice Outreach?

- Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) is a VA outreach program designed to collaborate with local justice system partners to identify Veterans who enter the criminal justice system and are in need of treatment services rather than incarceration.
- The VJO Coordinator will assist with eligibility determination, enrollment and referral to VA services upon release.
- The VJO Coordinator works with local justice system partners to identify Veterans who may be in crisis as a result of mental illness or substance abuse and assists with connecting them with appropriate treatment services.
- The VJO Coordinator will assist justice system partners in the development and implementation of Veteran Courts and participate as a Court team member.
- The VJO Coordinator will assist with coordination of staff training on Veteran-specific issues; including PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).
-

How to know if a Veteran is eligible for VA services.

Eligibility will be determined by the VA Eligibility Office after review of a Veteran's discharge paper (DD-214).

Basic requirements include but are not limited to:

- Honorable or General Discharge from military service.
- Veterans who enlisted after September, 1980 must have 24 months of continuous service
- National Guard and Reservists may also qualify for VA benefits if they were called to active duty (other than for training) by Federal order.

Eligibility determination is based on each individual's service; we encourage all Veterans to apply for VA services



What can Veterans Justice Outreach do to help Veterans?

A VJO can assist with the following:

- Provide direct outreach and assessment for justice-involved Veterans in local courts and jails
- Obtaining a Veteran's DD214
- Eligibility determination and enrollment in VA Health Care
- Collaborate with judges and specialty courts to connect Veterans with VA treatment services and homeless prevention programs
- Function as a Court team member
- Provide short-term case management to Veterans engaged in the justice system.
- With Veteran consent, provide updates to justice system partners on Veteran participation in VA services

What a VJO cannot do:

- Forensic psychiatric/psychological evaluations for the court.
- Guarantee acceptance to VA programs
- Accept custody
- Write lengthy court reports or make sentencing recommendations
- Provide court ordered drug testing
- Provide treatment services to incarcerated Veterans
- Serve ineligible Veteran
- Advocate for legislation