



The Superior Court
COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN
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**SAN JOAQUIN SUPERIOR COURT, VETERANS TREATMENT COURT
THIRD GRADUATION CLASS
April 3, 2017 – 10 a.m.
222 E. Weber Ave., Dept. 42, Stockton, California**

STOCKTON – The San Joaquin County Superior Court will hold its third graduation ceremony for the Veterans Treatment Court on Monday, April 3, 2017, at 10 a.m. in Department 42, Stockton Courthouse, 222 E. Weber Avenue, Stockton, California. Judge Barbara A. Kronlund has presided over the Veterans Treatment Court since its inception in February 2015. Six veterans are expected to participate in the graduation ceremony. The graduating veterans will have successfully completed 12 – 24 months on probation participating in mandatory treatment sessions, frequent and random drug and alcohol testing, and other services. The graduates credit the program for turning their lives around, addressing their issues, and improving relationships with family and friends.

The Veterans Treatment Court is one of approximately 200 nationwide designed to serve as an alternative to incarceration for eligible military veterans in the criminal justice system. The program is a combination of judicial supervision, justice partner collaborative efforts and appropriate treatment and support.

The Court is a joint effort between the Superior Court and other agencies, such as the County Veterans Services Office, U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, San Joaquin County Behavioral Health Services, and the District Attorney's and Public Defender's Offices. This unique collaboration focuses on a treatment-based alternative to incarceration for veterans in the community charged with committing crimes linked to issues such as traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, or mental health issues resulting from the veteran's service in the U.S. armed forces.

Veterans Treatment Courts combine rigorous treatment and personal accountability, with a goal of breaking the cycle of drug use and criminal behavior and for the veteran to lead a productive life as a contributing member of the community.

Another unique facet of Veterans Court is the pairing of each Veteran participant with a volunteer Veteran mentor for the duration of the program. Each mentor acts as a coach, role model and advocate, sharing experiences, guiding the veteran through the program and lending support when needed.

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