

# North Texas Veterans Court Program

## INFORMED CONSENT FOR INTERVIEW AND PERMISSION TO RELEASE INFORMATION

The goals of the North Texas Veterans Court Program are consistent with **Texas Health and Safety Code 617.001**, to provide diversion of Justice-Involved Veterans whom combat service resulted in a brain injury, mental illness, or mental disorder, including post-traumatic stress disorder. The Veterans Court Program will identify eligible veterans and link them to needed services as an alternative to subjecting those defendants to the traditional criminal justice system. By successfully completing the program, eligible charges will be dismissed and eligible for expunction.

I, the undersigned, understand that I am being interviewed by a member of the North Texas Veterans Court Program to help determine if I preliminarily meet the clinical criteria for admission into the Veterans Court Program. I understand that this interview does not mean I am accepted into the program and as such, I am required to follow all current bonds, pretrial, or court ordered conditions.

I hereby consent to the interview as described above and give my permission for information gathered during this interview, and other sources to be shared with the members of the Veterans Court Program Team which includes but is not limited to: other mental health professionals for consultation and training purposes, mentor coordinator, criminal defense attorneys, prosecutors and other criminal justice/court staff and personnel as outlined in **Texas Health and Safety Code Sec. 611.004**. By signing this document, I understand I am waiving my legal rights to confidentiality to allow judicial efficiency due to my current pending case(s).

I agree to meet with my attorney to discuss the conditions of the program to ensure I am making an informed decision to enter the program before I sign any required legal documents. I understand that admission to this program is voluntary and that the final approval for admission will be determined by a representative of the District Attorney's Office and the Judge of the North Texas Veterans Court Program.

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_