

Structure of the Program

Participants will develop an individualized treatment plan.

A phase system is utilized to measure participant progress.

Services for education, counseling and other needs are provided by outside agencies.

Participants are referred to these agencies throughout the program as needed.

Supervision Monitoring - A case manager will monitor each participant placed in the program. The case manager will work closely with the program manager and service providers.

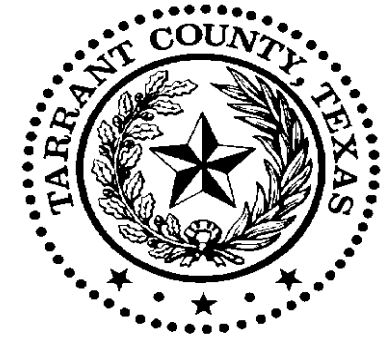
Compliance Hearing - All participants are required to attend bi-monthly compliance hearings. During the hearing, the progress of each participant is reviewed in open court. Both incentives and sanctions are used as methods of motivation.

Disposition of Court Case – The Public Safety Employee Treatment Court Program is an 8-to-24-month program. This period directly relates to the participant's needs and/or compliance.

Upon successful completion of the program, the case(s) is/are dismissed. In the event the agreement is terminated, the case(s) is/are remanded to the court of origin for continued prosecution.

Program Cost

Participants in the program are subject to program fees up to \$1,000. Participants are responsible for any additional fees necessary to cover the cost of any drug testing, counseling or treatment services performed or provided as required by the program.



Tarrant County Public Safety Employees Treatment Court

Honorable Charles L. Vanover
Presiding Judge

300 W. Belknap 4th Floor

Fort Worth, TX 76196

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Overview

The Public Safety Employees Treatment Court offers Public Safety Employees (PSE) a treatment option that is judicially supervised. The program is designed to divert eligible PSE out of the traditional criminal justice process and into appropriate rehabilitative alternatives. Once the PSE has been screened, assessed and approved for participation into the program, he/she will promptly begin a treatment regimen that is specific to his/her needs.

Mission

Our mission is to ensure public safety through successful rehabilitation of the defendant by diverting them from the traditional criminal justice system and provide them with the tools they need to lead a productive and law-abiding lifestyle while improving mental health recovery and successful re-entry into the community.

Goal

Our program's goals are to assess the needs of Public Safety Employees, offer assistance, manage their care and provide them with successful treatment options, and resolution of their criminal case(s).

Criteria for Participation

- Public Safety Employees are defined as a peace officer, firefighter, detention officer, county jailer or emergency medical services employee of the State of Texas or a political subdivision
- Clinical diagnosis of a brain injury, mental illness or mental disorder, including post-traumatic stress disorder, that occurred during or resulted from the defendant's duties as a public safety employee and affected the defendant's criminal conduct at issue in this case or a defendant's participation in a Public Safety Employees Treatment Court, considering the circumstances of the defendant's conduct, personal and social background, and criminal history, is likely to achieve the objective of ensuring public safety through rehabilitation of the Public Safety Employee in the manner provided by Section 1.02(1) of the Texas Penal Code;
- Current case must be pending in Tarrant County.
- PSE with criminal offenses outside Tarrant County may be eligible if PSE works or resides in Tarrant County.

Access to the Program

Criminal District Attorney (CDA) Approval
- All program applicants are reviewed by the Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Office for final approval.

Referrals

Referrals are accepted from a variety of sources, including law enforcement, jail staff, judges, defense attorneys, prosecutors, mental health professionals and family or friends.

Intake Process

- Once a referral is received, the CDA's office reviews it to ensure the minimum criteria are met.
- Following CDA review, the PSE is given a date and time to complete screening forms.
- The PSE is scheduled to attend an Orientation facilitated by PSETC.
- A formal comprehensive mental health evaluation is completed by licensed mental health professional and submitted to the CDA's office for final approval/denial.
- The PSE attorney and court of origin are notified of their status after completion of the screening process and again at final disposition.