



COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION
Commission on Veterans Affairs
Recommendation Number: 20190717-003a

Approve an ordinance to expand the Community Court jurisdiction to include military veterans

WHEREAS, many veterans return to civilian life with significant service-connected physical and mental trauma, which may contribute to their involvement with the criminal justice system.

WHEREAS, identifying veterans who are having legal issues would ensure that those who have served in our military forces receive the services they need and deserve.

WHEREAS, a Community Court would dramatically increase identifying veterans that need U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission on Veteran Affairs encourages the Austin City Council to expand the Community Court jurisdiction to include military veterans throughout the Austin City limits by establishing a veteran's court.

Be it further resolved that the Community Court should explore building a relationship with the U.S. Department Veterans Affairs to facilitate any rehabilitation services for those veterans before the Community Court.

Date of Approval: August 13, 2019

Record of the vote: (Unanimous on an 8-0 vote, with names of those voting yes listed)

Jason Denny

Pete Salazar

Elisabeth Collura – Rosenberg

Chris Ehlinger

Thomas Just

Adrenne Mendoza

Manuel Jimenez

Doris Williams

Attest: _____


Pete Salazar, Vice Chair Veterans Commission

Commission on Veteran Affairs