



# COMAL COUNTY

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## PUBLIC INFORMATION

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### **Veterans Treatment Court receives \$75,000 state grant**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, MAY 23, 2017:**

*NEW BRAUNFELS* — The Comal County Veterans Treatment Court has received a \$75,000 grant from the Texas Veterans Commission.

The grant will continue to help fund the salary of a court administrator, as well as pay for office supplies and other operational expenses for the court, which works with veterans who have been arrested for misdemeanor-level offenses, said County Court-at-Law Judge Charles Stephens, who oversees the program.

This is the second year the VTC has received a grant from the Veterans Commission's Fund for Veterans' Assistance. Last year, the court received \$50,000.

"We're grateful the commission continues to recognize the value our program brings to veterans in Comal County," Stephens said. "Expanding the amount of the grant is a vote of confidence in our work to improve veterans' lives and help them get back on the right track."

The Veterans Treatment Court was established by the Comal County Commissioners Court in August 2015 and held its first hearing in January 2016. The court is designed for veterans charged with misdemeanor offenses to receive help for addiction, PTSD and other mental disorders potentially connected to their military service. A veteran may enter the program as part of a pre-trial diversion to dismiss the charges or as a condition of post-conviction probation.

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