



## Office of the County Prosecutor

### County of Camden

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## **CAMDEN COUNTY VETERANS DIVERSION PROGRAM**

### **ELIGIBILITY**

N.J.S.A. 2C:43-23 to 28

**SERVICEMEMBER + MENTAL ILLNESS + OFFENSE**

(MUST HAVE ALL THREE)

### **SERVICE MEMBER**

Any veteran or enlisted person or officer of the United States Armed Forces, or a reserve component thereof, or the organized militia of the State of New Jersey. (Must mark one YES):

1. Currently serving in the military? (verify through VSO)
2. Veteran<sup>1</sup>? (verify through VSO and/or VA)

Does the person: (must be NO)

1. Have a dishonorable discharge?

Has the person provided a: (Must be YES)

1. DD214?

### **MENTAL ILLNESS**

Mental disorder classified within the DSM<sup>2</sup>

Must have one of the following:

1. Diagnosis of mental illness?
2. Reasonable belief that the person has a mental illness based on behaviors and symptoms exhibited during the commission of the offense or while in custody
3. Based on information provided by family members or associates during the investigation of the offense

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<sup>1</sup> Veteran is defined as any enlisted person or officer who was discharged or otherwise released from active service in the U.S. Armed Forces, or any reserve component thereof, or the organized militia of New Jersey under conditions other than dishonorable, or if otherwise qualified for federal Veterans Affairs benefits as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. For characterizations of "other than honorable", the county prosecutors' offices should follow the VA determination for eligibility of VA benefits.

<sup>2</sup> "DSM" stands for "Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders" published by the American Psychiatric Association. For the purposes of the Statewide Veterans Diversion Program, an eligible Servicemember can be referred for evaluation and potential eligibility into the program if he/she has a 1) prior diagnosis of mental illness; or 2) a LEO or prosecutor has a reasonable belief that the person has a mental illness based on behaviors and symptoms exhibited during the commission of the offense or while in custody; or 3) based on information provided by family members or associates during the investigation of the offense.