

APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE PROCESS

Step 1. Eligibility to Apply: Defendants who meet the following criteria are eligible to apply for the VTC:

- a. Age 18 and older;
- b. Charged with at least one Felony criminal offense in Douglas County that is level 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10 on the Non-Drug Grid or level 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 on the Drug Grid or a non-grid Felony offense;
- c. Resident of Douglas County or resident of a county in Kansas with consistent and reliable transportation to services and treatment;
- d. Past or current service with any of the branches of the U.S. Armed Forces; and
- e. Diagnosis of or meet criteria for one or more of the following:
 1. Serious Mental Illness;
 2. Substance Use Disorder;
 3. Traumatic Brain Injury; or
 4. Military Sexual Trauma.

Step 2. Ineligible to Apply: The following cases and charges are ineligible and excluded from application:

- a. Off-Grid Felony Offenses;
- b. Felony offenses on the Non-Drug grid Level 1, 2, or 3;
- c. Any felony offense involving a loss of \$25,000 or greater;
- d. Any felony offense with a financial loss of \$10,000 or greater and the defendant was in a fiduciary relationship with the victim; or
- e. DUI offenses.

Step 3. Review at the Office of the District Attorney: After the Application is submitted, the DA's office reviews the Applicant for suitability for admission in the VTC. Beyond the initial eligibility criteria, the DA's office may deny the application for the following reasons:

- a. Victim opposition – the input of victims shall be taken into consideration but is not dispositive;
- b. Criminal history of the applicant;
- c. Crimes of violence or violent offenses;
- d. Use of firearm;
- e. Unresolved or pending cases in other jurisdictions (warrants, holds, KDOC, etc.);
- f. Age of victim; and
- g. Age of defendant.

Step 4. Referral for Further Screening or Assessment: If the applicant meets eligibility criteria and is not otherwise excluded at the Office of the District Attorney, the Applicant is referred for further screening (LSI-R:SV). The Douglas County VTC only accepts participants who are High Risk-High Need. The applicant may also be referred for further assessment (substance use assessment, physical or mental health assessments, etc.)

Step 5. Acceptance into VTC: If the Applicant meets eligibility criteria, the Team assesses whether to accept the Applicant based on the following non-exclusive list of criteria:

- a. Space and capacity;
- b. Results of further Assessments.

Step 6. Entry into VTC: If the Applicant is accepted into the VTC, the Applicant will be notified by letter from the Office of the District Attorney. The following steps must be executed to be an active participant in the VTC:

- a. Enter into a binding Plea Agreement offered by the State; and
- b. Sign the VTC Participant Agreement.