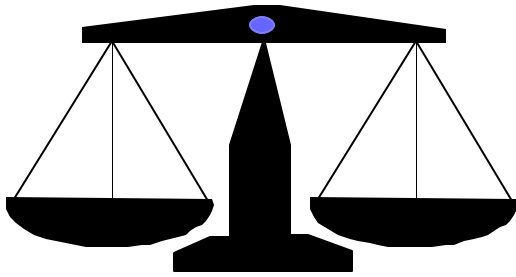


GENESEE COUNTY DRUG COURT PROGRAM

Introduction

This publication is designed as an outline of the Drug Court Program for the Genesee County Circuit Court. It also includes the basic rules of the program as a guide for the offender and highlights some frequently asked questions about drug court.



What is Drug Court?

The Drug Court is recognition that traditional case management techniques for drug offenders has not been uniformly successful.

The Drug Court will emphasize a swift identification and treatment referral for targeted offenders. It will also encourage the offender, through the power of the court to become drug free and abandon the lifestyle leading to criminal activity.

What are the goals of the Drug Court?

The Drug Court is based on the assumption that the offender-participant desires to achieve a drug free lifestyle in the future.

It utilizes the point of contact provide by involvement with the criminal justice system, to provide a program of treatment directed toward becoming drug free.

It also provides an opportunity to have criminal charges dismissed upon successful completing of the program.

Participation is a one-time opportunity. Failure in the program precludes acceptance in connection with future criminal charges.

This is a process by which the person accused of a drug related offense, the prosecutor, the Drug Court judge, defense counsel and treatment providers work together to assure successful completion of the program.

It involves continuous one-on-one interaction with the judge throughout the program as well as intensive counseling and treatment.

How does the Drug Court work?

At the beginning of the program a contract is entered into between the offender-participant and the court in which obligations of each are clearly set forth.

The responsibilities of the participant are covered, as are the sanctions for violations of rules.

As the program continues, the participant meets regularly with the treatment providers and is given the necessary treatment and counseling designed to achieve a future drug free life.

The participant is also required to meet personally with the Drug Court judge at various intervals through the Drug Court Program. Violations of the rules are noted and appropriate sanctions applied, depending on the seriousness or frequency of violations.

Likewise, success in the program is reinforced by various rewards, such as increased privileges, reductions in the length or cost of the program etc.

Upon success conclusion of the program, the participant will be discharged in an appropriate ceremony and will receive a certificate of completion from the court.

At that time, the charges, which provided the basis for inclusion in the program, will be dismissed.

What is the length of the Drug Court Program?

The Drug Court Program is 12 months, but may be extended to 18 months to complete program requirements.

What is the result if I am successful?

The purpose of the Drug Court Program is to develop in the participant the tools and motivation necessary to achieve a drug free life style.

All of the resources and treatment are focused on this goal.

The successful participant should be able to realize not only a legal success through the court, but also a personal success and growth through the treatment program.

This success should, in turn, lead to a productive and meaningful future life without the self-defeating and criminal behavior of the past. It is to this goal that the Drug Court Program for the Genesee County Circuit Court is dedicated.



Your Success is Our Reward.....

Drug Court Program Requirements

- Submit to drug testing
- Frequent contact with judge, probation, pre-trial services and treatment providers
- Abstinence from drug use
- No future criminal activity
- Attend school if required
- Continue or seek employment
- Fulfill financial obligations associated with Drug Court
- Attend AA/NC/NA/CA
- Other requirements as determined by the court

**7th Judicial Circuit Court
Genesee County Drug Court**

**Genesee County Courthouse
900 South Saginaw Street
Flint, MI 48502**

**Robert M. Ransom
Drug Court Judge**