

Milwaukee County Drug Treatment Court

Participant Handbook



Property of: _____

If found please return to Justice 2000, Inc.:
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Milwaukee, WI 53233
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This Handbook was created by the Milwaukee County Drug Treatment Court Planning Team
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Table of Contents

Welcome to Drug Court	3
Program Description	4
Definitions	4
Court Attendance	6
Program Requirements	7
Graduation Requirements	8
Program Incentives	9
Program Sanctions	9
Tips on How to Succeed	10
Important Addresses and Phone Numbers	11

Welcome!

Welcome to the Milwaukee County Drug Treatment Court. This program gives persons charged with criminal cases an opportunity to address their addiction to drugs and alcohol. By choosing to enter this program, you are choosing to make a commitment to your recovery process. The Drug Treatment Court Team recognizes that the recovery process is a long-term process that requires time, energy and patience. The Drug Treatment Court program therefore requires a minimum of twelve months to attend court hearings, treatment appointments, drug testing and case management appointments.

This handbook is designed to answer your questions, provide overall information about the program, and explain what will be required of you as a drug court participant. As a participant, you will be expected to comply with the drug treatment court rules, follow instructions given in the drug treatment court by the judge and comply with the treatment plan(s) developed for you by your treatment provider and the Drug Treatment Court Team.

We welcome you into the program and wish you success in your recovery process. Please remember that the Drug Treatment Court Team is here to assist with your efforts to successfully complete the program, but the choice and effort to change your way of life must come from you.

Please read this handbook carefully. It is your responsibility to be familiar with its contents. We encourage you to share this information with your family and friends who support your recovery. The information in this handbook may change from time to time, without prior notice, and should not be considered a binding agreement between you and the drug treatment court program.

Program Description

The Milwaukee County Drug Treatment Court is a court supervised, comprehensive treatment program for non-violent felony offenders or habitual misdemeanants. This is a voluntary program, which includes regular court appearances, alcohol and drug treatment, drug testing, and weekly case management appointments. The Drug Treatment Court is a combined effort of the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, Court Administration, Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division, and Justice 2000, Inc. Program participants will be assisted with obtaining education and skills assessments and will be provided referrals for vocational training, education and/or job placement services mental health, "wraparound" services, and restorative justice programs. The program length will be determined by each participant's progress but will be no less than one year.



Some Definitions:

Assessment: To gather information about your drug and alcohol use and lifestyle to find the best treatment for you.

Case Manager: The person who monitors your progress during the program to make sure that all Drug Court requirements are satisfied.

Confidentiality: The requirement not to discuss specific names and personal information learned during treatment and court sessions with anyone outside of the treatment group or court.

Counselor: The person who provides your treatment services, in group and individual sessions, and gathers information about your efforts.

Defense Attorney/Public Defender: The person who represents you and provides legal advice and information as to your legal options. This attorney or another attorney will be present at all court hearings and staffings.

District Attorney/Prosecutor: The person who represents the State of Wisconsin and is responsible for ensuring community safety.

Drug Treatment Court Judge: The judicial officer who directs court each time you attend and talks with you about your efforts.

Drug Treatment Court Team: The group of professionals, including the Judge, case manager, counselor, public defender, and district attorney, that provide both legal and treatment oversight of your case.

Drug Testing: You will be assigned a “color” for the entire time you are in the program. Each weekday you will be required to call an assigned phone number to see if your color has been called. If your color is called that day, you must go to the assigned lab and submit to a urine drug screen. Any failures to test or diluted drug tests will be considered positive drug tests by the drug court team. You will also have to submit to random breathalyzer tests.

Evaluator: The evaluator is part of the Drug Treatment Court Team and is responsible for developing research techniques to measure the efficacy of the program. You may be asked questions about your experiences in the program

Incentives: The rewards the Drug Court Judge offers you for following the program rules.

Sanctions: The possible negative responses the Drug Court Judge uses when you fail to follow program rules as directed.

Drug Court Team Staffing: At the Drug Court Team Staffing your progress will be reviewed and decisions regarding the use of an incentive or sanctions will be made. The individuals involved in the staffing may change depending upon availability but all members of the Drug Treatment Team will be invited to attend.

Self-help or Support Groups: A group that provides support and an opportunity for personal growth in your new drug-free lifestyle. Examples include Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous.

Treatment: Counseling that you will attend during your entire time in the program. This may include residential treatment, intensive outpatient substance abuse counseling, standard outpatient substance abuse treatment, relapse prevention, family counseling, individual counseling, anger management, domestic violence counseling, mental health, cognitive therapy, aftercare or any other counseling that may be appropriate for you.

Drug Treatment Court Team

The Drug Treatment Court Judge serves as a lead partner in the Drug Treatment Court Team and presides at all team staffings and all court sessions. The Judge and other team members will make all decisions regarding your participation in the drug treatment court program based upon information from the various team members, providers, and other support services. In addition to the Judge, the team is made up of:

- Defense Attorney
- District Attorney
- Drug Treatment Court Coordinator
- Drug Treatment Court Case Manager
- Evaluator
- Law Enforcement
- Probation/Parole
- Treatment Provider

Drug Treatment Court Sessions

As a participant in this program, you will be required to appear in the drug treatment court on a regular basis. Missing a Drug Treatment Court Hearing may result in a warrant being issued for your arrest. Prior to each court session, the team will meet at a staffing to review your case and your progress report. This report will discuss your drug testing results, attendance, participation and cooperation with treatment, and compliance with the drug treatment court rules.

During your court appearance, the Judge may ask you questions about your progress and discuss any problems you may be experiencing. You must speak directly with the Drug Court Judge concerning your progress. You are responsible for your own behavior. Please be on time and remain seated and quiet while the court is in session.

Court Phases and Requirements

Phase 1

- 30 days substance free as measured starting after the second negative drug test
- Random drug/breathalyzer testing
- Engaged in and making progress in treatment
- 100% attendance at treatment and with community supervision contacts (verifiable excused absences only)
- No new arrest rising to the level of probable cause
- Appearance before Drug Court Judge once a week
- A minimum of 10 hours per week of documented participation in one or more of the following activities: treatment, vocational, educational, and community service.

Phase 2

- 120 days substance free as measured by random drug/breathalyzer testing
- Random drug/breathalyzer testing
- 100% attendance at treatment and with community supervision contacts (verifiable excused absences only)
- Continuing progress in treatment
- No new arrest rising to the level of probable cause
- Appearance before Drug Court Judge one time every other week
- A minimum of 10 hours per week of documented participation in one or more of the following activities: treatment, vocational, educational, and community service.

Phase 3

- 90-120 days substance free as measured by random drug/breathalyzer testing
- Random drug/breathalyzer testing
- Actively seeking employment/education/vocational training
- Continuing progress in treatment
- 100% attendance at treatment and with community supervision contacts (verifiable excused absences only)
- No new arrest rising to the level of probable cause
- Appearance before Drug Court Judge once a month
- A minimum of 10 hours per week of documented participation in one or more of the following activities: treatment, vocational, educational, and community service.
- By the end of Phase 3, the participant must be clean from all prohibited classes of drugs including prescribed opioid pain medications unless approved by the team

Phase 4

- 30-90 days substance free as measured by random drug/breathalyzer testing
- Random drug/breathalyzer testing
- Employed and/or enrolled in educational/vocational training
- No new arrest rising to the level of probable cause
- Stable housing
- Aftercare/relapse prevention plan in place
- Sponsor
- Appearance before Drug Court Judge once a month
- A minimum of 10 hours per week of documented participation in one or more of the following activities: treatment, vocational, educational, and community service.

Graduation Requirements

To be eligible for graduation from drug court, participants must, at a minimum, have been actively participated in drug court for 12 months, have successfully completed each of the phases of drug court, and have in place a specific plan for after-care and continuing sobriety and recovery.

In determining whether a participant should be graduated from drug court, the team will consider the participant's current circumstances, including (1) stability in family and other significant personal relationships, (2) housing and employment/education, (3) support systems in place for continued sobriety, (4) progress in treatment of substance abuse and/or co-occurring disorders, (5) recommendations of treatment providers, and (6) plans for and commitment to continued sobriety and recovery.

When a participant qualifies for completion of phase IV and graduation from drug court, a written application for graduation will be submitted to the drug court team. A written application, prepared by the participant in the form prescribed by the drug court team, will be submitted to the coordinator and case manager for preliminary review with the applicant and subsequent presentation to the drug court team. The participant may be required to attend the team staffing at which the application for graduation is presented and reviewed.

Graduation ceremonies will take place in the courtroom and will be scheduled as needed. Upon graduation, a participant is relieved of all drug court requirements.

Incentives may include:

- Promotion to next Phase
- Praise from the Judge in court
- Having your case called 1st
- Gift Certificates
- Recognition by the court/judge
- Reduction in certain program requirements
- Early dismissal from court session
- Certificates of accomplishment
- Dental/Medical Assistance
- Scholarships/donated courses
- Early termination from program
- Reduction of deferred jail days

Sanctions may include:

- Remaining until the end of court
- Increased reporting to court and/or probation officer
- Increased drug testing
- Written paper
- Curfew
- Community service hours
- Jail time
- Revocation to prison

TIPS ON HOW TO SUCCEED

1. BE HONEST. HONESTY IS ESSENTIAL TO RECOVERY.
2. Keep all your appointments and make all court appearances. Keeping appointments is as important as coming to court.
3. You will be busy with appointments and court dates, so put all of your appointments in the calendar that has been provided to you. You must bring your calendar to all meetings and court appearances.
4. Plan your schedule (work, school, treatment) in advance.
5. If you have a problem making early morning appointments and court appearances, go to bed early and buy an alarm clock or set your cell phone alarm. Excuses are not tolerated.
6. Know your treatment schedule.
7. If you absolutely cannot make an appointment, **CALL BEFORE**, not after.
8. Plan ahead. If transportation is a problem, have a back-up plan to get where you have to be. Failure to have adequate transportation is not an excuse.
9. Keep all your paperwork. Do not throw anything away.

Important Telephone Numbers

Case Manager: _____

Defense Attorney: _____

Drug Testing Telephone Number: (414) 628-0182

Justice 2000 (414) 278-2140

Probation Officer: _____

Treatment Provider: _____
