

Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Adult Drug Court Division “Y”

“RECOVERY COURT” PROGRAM HANDBOOK



Welcome to the Recovery Court Program!

You have a unique opportunity to take part in the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit’s Adult Drug Court Program, referred to as “Recovery Court”! This handbook (the “Recovery Court Handbook”) will answer your questions, address your concerns, and give you a summary of the Recovery Court Program. Recovery Court represents a non-traditional approach to criminal offenders who have substance use disorders and mental health issues. Recovery Court will address the problems that have led to your arrest. The Program will also address some of the things that can make your alcohol or drug problems worse. The drug court team, referred to in this handbook as the “Recovery Court Team,” will work together to create a plan to assist you in reaching sobriety and to help you in your recovery!

- The Recovery Court Team

Table of Contents

Mission Statement	p. 3
Eligibility Requirements	p. 3
The Recovery Court Team	p. 4
The Recovery Court Team Roles	p. 5
Program Requirements / Program Phases.....	p. 7
General Rules	p. 14
Attendance and Absence Policy	p. 17
Court Sessions	p. 18
Drug Screening Protocol	p. 19
Supervision Protocol	p. 22
Prescription Medication Policy	p. 23
Incentives and Sanctions	p. 24
Costs/Fees.....	p. 25
Transportation	p. 26
Graduation	p. 27
Termination	p. 28
Infection Control Policy	p. 28
Treatment	p. 29
Releases of Information and Confidentiality	p. 31
Complaints and Grievances	p. 31
Frequently Asked Questions	p. 33
Contractual Agreement	p. 35

Mission Statement

The Recovery Court Program addresses the root causes of justice system involvement through specialized dockets, multidisciplinary teams, and a non-adversarial approach. By offering evidence-based treatment, judicial supervision, and accountability, the Recovery Court Program provides individualized interventions for participants, thereby reducing recidivism and promoting confidence and satisfaction with the justice system process.

Eligibility Requirements

As a participant in Recovery Court, you must be 18 years of age or older, have a substance use disorder, and not contest your criminal charge(s). The total sentencing points on your Criminal Code Scoresheet must be 60 points or less, and your current criminal charge must be a non-violent felony. Certain medical or mental health diagnoses may prevent you from being able to participate in the Program, but that decision is made on an individual basis. You must enter a plea of guilty to your current criminal charge(s) prior to being accepted into the Recovery Court Program.

The Recovery Court Team

Recovery Court Judge:

Honorable Elizabeth G. Rice (813) 272-6994

Recovery Court Specialists:

Aretha Catchings (813) 276-2003

Joseph Wigley (813) 785-2628

Public Defender's Office:

Euri Barton-Jones, Asst. Public Defender (813) 277-1567

Khalila T. Frett, Asst. Public Defender (813) 272-5980

State Attorney's Office:

Matthew Pruiett, Asst. State Attorney (813) 274-1571

Department of Corrections (DOC):

Rebecca Hopkins, Senior Officer (813) 233-7264

Treatment Providers (including, but not limited to):

ACTS (813) 246-4899

DACCO (813) 384-4000

Phoenix House (813) 881-1000

Tampa Crossroads (813) 238-8557

Westcare (727) 502-0188

Director of Problem Solving Courts

Julia Schilling (813) 272-6275

The Recovery Court Team Roles

Recovery Court Judge: The focus and direction of the problem-solving court is provided through the effective leadership of the judge. The judge will maintain a non-adversarial atmosphere within the court and is the leader of the Recovery Court Team. The judge is committed to following evidenced-based practices.

Recovery Court Specialists: Court administration provides case management and oversight via specialty court case managers who work under the direction of the Court Administrator. The recovery court specialists assist the court in moving cases from application to successful completion. They also are responsible for obtaining information from all stakeholders and obtaining and maintaining compliance information from treatment providers and supervising officers. They complete initial assessments and coordinate referrals to treatment. They provide options and resources to the Recovery Court Team members to help participants successfully complete the Recovery Court Program.

Defense Attorney: The defense attorney is tasked with protecting your due process rights and advocating for case resolutions that are in your best interest. The defense attorney's roles and duties are to (1) advocate for treatment while protecting your constitutional and statutory rights; (2) ensure due process rights are protected;

(3) advocate for incentives and ensure sanctions are applied appropriately; (4) monitor compliance with the Recovery Court Program's rules and requirements; (5) request and advocate for graduation from Recovery Court; (6) share information with team members as appropriate while protecting the attorney-client privilege; and (7) protect confidential information from persons outside of the treatment team and defense team.

State Attorney's Office (SAO): The state attorney is tasked with protecting and enforcing public safety and holding you accountable for your Program obligations. The state attorney's roles and duties are to: (1) advocate for treatment while protecting public safety; (2) advocate for incentives and sanctions when appropriate; (3) monitor compliance with Recovery Court Program rules and requirements; and (4) protect confidential treatment information from persons outside of the treatment team.

Supervision (DOC): The role of the probation or community control officer with the Department of Corrections is to provide community supervision by reinforcing the rules and policies of the problem-solving court and to provide updates and progress reports to the Recovery Court Judge for review at case reviews and staffings. A supervision officer attends court and provides information to the Recovery Court Judge about the status of your court-ordered supervision.

Treatment Providers: There are numerous Recovery Court-approved community treatment providers who provide treatment to participants in Recovery Court. Treatment providers are licensed and/or have the proper education and experience, consistent with evidenced-based best practices, in treatment required in Recovery Court. Treatment providers provide individual and group counseling, drug screens, and make referrals as needed, on an individual basis. The role of a treatment provider is to: (1) meet with the participant to conduct assessments and evaluations and develop a treatment plan; (2) provide treatment and adjust treatment recommendations as needed; and (3) provide the Recovery Court Team with compliance information and relevant updates on your progress, while protecting confidential information.

Program Requirements

Recovery Court is a five-phase structured Program that takes approximately 14 months to complete. Depending on your progress through the phases, you may spend more than 14 months in the Recovery Court Program. Prior to entering the Program, you will complete a risk/needs assessment, which will guide your individualized treatment. This assessment is administered by a recovery court specialist.

Program Phases

Recovery Court phases and phase requirements include the following:

PHASE 1 - STABILIZATION, ASSESSMENT AND ENGAGEMENT (a minimum of 60 days)

- Complete Risk-Needs-Responsivity (“RNR”) Assessment
- Review and sign participant agreement/handbook
- Attend detox, if recommended
- Develop individualized treatment case plan
- Address housing and transportation needs
- Consult with defense attorney
- Engage and comply with treatment
- Engage with supervision officer
- Curfew 10PM – 6AM
- Comply with all supervision requirements
- Submit to random drug/alcohol screening, two times per week at a minimum
- Attend court two times per month
- Attend support group meetings as recommended
- Submit to monthly supervision home visits
- Assess medical needs through physical exam, if applicable
- Participate in mental health evaluation and treatment, if applicable

Requirements to Advance to Phase 2:

- Regular attendance at treatment, support meetings, supervision, and court dates
- Minimum of 14 consecutive days of negative drug screens
- Apply for advancement to Phase 2

PHASE 2 - INDIVIDUALIZED TREATMENT AND PARTICIPATION (a minimum of 90 days)

- Comply with treatment
- Comply with all supervision requirements
- Review court-ordered requirements with Recovery Court Team
- Submit to monthly home visits
- Curfew 10PM- 6AM
- Submit to random drug/alcohol screening, two times per week at a minimum
- Attend support group meetings as recommended
- Attend court up to two times per month
- Maintain stable housing and transportation
- Address court costs and restitution, if applicable

Requirements to Advance to Phase 3:

- Regular attendance and compliance with treatment, support meetings, supervision, court dates
- Minimum of 30 consecutive days of negative drug screens
- Apply for advancement to Phase 3

PHASE 3 - TREATMENT COMPLIANCE AND SOCIAL HABILITATION
(a minimum of 90 days)

- Comply with treatment
- Comply with all supervision requirements
- Continuing changing people, places, and things
- Review court-ordered requirements with Recovery Court Team
- Submit to monthly home visits
- Curfew 10PM-6AM
- Submit to random drug/alcohol screening, two times per week at a minimum
- Attend sober support meetings
- Attend court, one time per month
- Maintain stable housing and transportation
- Begin criminal thinking classes
- Establish sober network

Requirements to Advance to Phase 4:

- Regular attendance and compliance with treatment, support meetings, supervision, and court dates
- Minimum of 45 consecutive days of negative drug screens
- Begin pro-social activity (i.e., employment, volunteering)
- Begin sober support network
- Apply for advancement to Phase 4

PHASE 4 - PERSONAL MAINTENANCE AND RELAPSE PREVENTION
(a minimum of 90 days)

- Comply with treatment
- Comply with supervision requirements
- Continue changing people, places, and things
- Review case plan with Recovery Court Team
- Submit to monthly home visits
- Curfew 10 PM- 6AM
- Submit to random drug/alcohol screening, two times per week at a minimum
- Attend sober support meetings
- Attend court one time per month
- Maintain stable housing and transportation
- Maintain pro-social activities
- Maintain sober support network

- As needed based upon assessment:
 - Job training
 - Parenting/family support
 - Vocational training

Requirements to Advance to Phase 5:

- Regular attendance and compliance with treatment, support meetings, supervision, and court dates
- Minimum of 60 consecutive days of negative drug screens
- Maintain pro-social activity
- Maintain sober support network
- Begin/maintain other areas (employment, etc.)
- Apply for advancement to Phase 5

PHASE 5 - CONSISTENT COMPLIANCE AND TRANSITION TO GRADUATION
(a minimum of 90 days)

- Comply with treatment and supervision requirements
- Continue addressing medical issues through follow-up appointments
- Continue changing people, places, and things
- Review case plan with Recovery Court Team
- Monthly office visits with supervision officer
- Comply with curfew requirements
- Maintain stable housing and transportation

- Submit to random drug/alcohol screening, two times per week at a minimum
- Participate in the development of a continuing care plan
- Maintain pro-social activities
 - Job training
 - Parenting/family support
 - Vocational training

Requirements to Graduate:

- Regular attendance and compliance with treatment, support meeting, supervision, court dates
- Minimum of 90 consecutive days of negative drug screens after all treatment is completed
- Maintain pro-social activity
- Maintain recovery network

In addition to what is listed above, your supervision and/or case plan MAY require the following:

- Compliance with Prescribed Medication(s)
- Anger Management Classes
- Domestic Violence Classes
- Trauma Counseling
- Payment of Restitution
- Community Service Hours

General Rules

These are the general rules that all Recovery Court participants must follow:

- Sign all agreements and releases necessary for entrance into the Program.
- Report to court as required.
- Report to supervision officer as required.
- Appear on time for all court dates, treatment appointments, and other scheduled appointments as ordered by the judge.
- Participate in any and all evaluations or assessments.
- Fully cooperate and actively participate in treatment, counseling, support groups, and any other court-ordered elements of your treatment plan.
- Answer truthfully any question posed by the judge, supervision officer, or any other member of the Recovery Court Team.
- Take any and all medications prescribed, in the manner prescribed. Non-prescribed medications may not be taken without prior approval from the judge. You must disclose participation in a treatment program to all of your health care providers.
- Do not use or possess intoxicants (alcohol), illegal drugs, synthetic drugs, or any dangerous or mind-altering

substances (a list of these synthetic drugs and prohibited substances are included in the Recovery Court Agreement).

- Do not enter any establishment whose primary source of income is the sale of alcohol including, without limitation, bars, liquor stores, pool halls, or nightclubs.
- Submit to random urine, breath, and other drug or alcohol screening throughout Program participation. Such screening may be ordered by the judge or recommended by your treatment provider or any other member of the treatment team.
- Do not commit any new law violations while participating in the Program.
- Be employed, participating in a job-training program, engaged in a pro-social activity, or enrolled full-time in school unless excused or modified by the judge. Participants must produce verification documentation upon request, and the supervising officer may visit places of employment or contact employers.
- Remain in Hillsborough County unless given advanced permission by the judge. Notify supervision officer and clerk's office of change of address promptly.
- Do not possess or attempt to purchase any firearm or weapon while participating in the Program.

- Do not possess any alcohol, illegal drug, drug paraphernalia, or firearms, or any other item that is prohibited.
- Allow visitation to your place of residence and consent to random searches of your person, possessions, residence, and vehicle by the Department of Corrections, law enforcement, or any other official authorized to conduct a search by the judge for purposes of determining compliance with this agreement and the rules and conditions of the court.
- Behave and dress appropriately for court and treatment sessions.
- Pay required costs and fees and any court-ordered restitution. Participants may be allowed to “work off” required costs by completing community service hours.
- State and federal laws require strict confidentiality regarding issues relating to medical, mental health, and substance abuse treatment. The Recovery Court Team may not share personal information with outside parties without your consent. Participants may not share information pertaining to other participants with anyone. Direct any questions regarding confidentiality to your defense attorney.

Attendance and Absence Policy

Recovery Court participants are required to attend all court, supervision, and treatment sessions, unless the participant's presence is waived or excused in advance. Unexcused absences or late appearances may result in sanctions, up to and including a warrant for your arrest. Late appearances to a scheduled court, supervision, or treatment session may result in an unexcused absence.

Recovery Court participants must make every effort to be prompt, avoid unexcused absences, and maintain good communication with providers, defense attorneys, and probation officers. Unexpected or emergency matters that conflict with a Recovery Court appointment should be immediately communicated to applicable members of the Recovery Court Team. Requests to reschedule appointments are at the applicable team member's discretion.

Court Sessions

All Recovery Court sessions are held before the **Honorable Elizabeth Rice** in **Courtroom 32** in the Criminal Annex of the Edgcomb Courthouse, unless otherwise ordered by the judge (i.e., virtually, via video conference). Court sessions typically are held on **Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00 a.m.**, unless otherwise scheduled by the judge. You are required to attend all scheduled court appearances unless your presence is excused or waived by the judge. Failure to appear before the judge on a scheduled court date and time may result in a warrant for your arrest.

During court hearings, participants must dress appropriately, arrive on time, and remain in the courtroom or “virtual courtroom” until your case is called. Court sessions may take longer than anticipated, so please be patient and flexible. The judge takes the time necessary to address the needs and issues of each participant.

Drug Screening Protocol

All participants must complete court-ordered drug screening at your treatment program, at the Department of Corrections (DOC), or as otherwise instructed by the Recovery Court Team. You will be placed on a “call-in” system which requires you to call a drug screen phone line daily to determine if a drug and alcohol screen is required that day. You will receive the call-in instructions at the time of Program enrollment. Please note the following:

- Drug and alcohol screening will be performed frequently and on a random basis throughout Recovery Court enrollment.
- Drug and alcohol screening will be performed by a laboratory or program approved by Recovery Court.
- Drug and alcohol screening may be conducted on the first day of Recovery Court to capture baseline information related to substance use.
- You must arrive at the screening facility as soon as possible, after being notified that a screen has been scheduled.
- A staff person will directly observe the collection of screen specimens. A same gender staff person will be the observer, unless you, the defense attorney, or therapist requests otherwise.
- Failure to provide a screen specimen or a sufficient volume of fluid for analysis is an infraction of the rules of Recovery

Court. Participants will receive sanctions accordingly. Sufficient time (up to one hour) and ability to drink water in the presence of staff is allotted to deliver a urine specimen.

- You may not drink any fluid excessively before screening and must avoid environmental contaminants, over-the-counter medications, or foods that can reduce the accuracy of the screens (please refer to the prohibited substance list).
- You may be subjected to immediate spot screening if the Recovery Court Judge has reason to suspect recent use or during high-risk times, such as weekends or holidays.
- You have the right to challenge the results of a screening screen and to request proof that an adequate chain of custody was established for a specimen. The Recovery Court Team will rely on the results of an instrumented or laboratory-based screen in confirming whether substance use has occurred. You may be charged the cost of the confirmation screen if a screening screen is confirmed as positive.
- You may be sanctioned for providing diluted, adulterated, or substituted screen specimens. Urine specimens below 90° F, above 100° F, or that have a creatinine level below 20 mg/dL will be presumed to be diluted or fraudulent. Participants bear the burden of establishing a convincing alternative explanation for such results.

- You may be sanctioned for using Prohibited Substances (as defined in the Recovery Court Agreement), especially synthetic substances that are designed to avoid detection by standard drug screens. Switching to a new substance of abuse (for example, switching from heroin to an unauthorized prescription opioid) will be presumed to be an effort to defraud the drug screen. You may receive two sanctions in such circumstances, one for the substance use and one for the effort at deception.
- You may be sanctioned for associating with people who are engaged in substance use or for being exposed to passive inhalation or secondhand smoke.

Supervision Protocol

Nearly all Recovery Court participants are placed on Drug Offender Probation, supervised by the Department of Corrections (DOC). This type of supervision requires participants to meet with probation officers at least one time per month. Your probation officer is required to verify housing by completing home visits and verify employment status through pay-stubs or work visits. While on probation, you are unable to leave the county without prior permission from your probation officer or the judge. You must notify your supervising officer, defense attorney, and your Recovery Court specialist if you change your residence. You will have a curfew.

Once accepted into the Recovery Court Program, you will go directly to the Probation Office. Directions will be provided. You will register with the DOC, and they will provide you with the specific Drug Offender Probation terms and conditions. You will then be assigned to a specific probation officer, based on your home address.

For Probation Related Questions, please contact:

Rebecca Hopkins, Correctional Probation Senior Officer
(813) 233-7264

Prescription Medication Policy

While enrolled in Recovery Court, you must disclose to your treatment program all medications you are currently prescribed. You will be asked to sign a Release of Information (ROI), giving the treatment program the ability to communicate with your prescribing physician. Medication Assisted Treatment (e.g., methadone, buprenorphine, and Vivitrol) is allowed in the Program. The decision to take these types of medications will be a decision made between you and your physician.

If you receive healthcare attention while in the Program, you are required to inform your medical, dental, or ocular health care provider that you are a participant in Recovery Court and in a drug and alcohol treatment program before any diagnosis is made or prescription prepared for you. You will be given a "Prescriber Notification Form" to provide to your prescribing health care provider at the time of treatment (and in the case of emergency treatment, as soon as is possible after such treatment). You are required to contact your treatment program and your supervision officer when you are prescribed medication while in the Program. You must present proof of your prescription by a prescribing healthcare provider.

Incentives and Sanctions

The Recovery Court Team recommends rewards or “incentives,” and the judge grants them. You will receive incentives/rewards to support treatment progress, positive behaviors, and accomplishments. Incentives may include:

- Being called early on the docket
- Less frequent court hearings
- In-court encouragement and recognition
- Travel privileges out of county or out of state
- Community service hours instead of court fees
- GED/college course credit instead of community service hours
- Early termination of probation/supervision
- Formal graduation and a certificate/token of completion
- Other incentives, as appropriate

Willful failure to comply with the Program rules will result in sanctions. Sanctions may include:

- Extra community service hours
- Written assignments
- Oral admonishment by the judge
- Increased court appearances

- Increased urine drug screens
- Extended supervision
- Remaining in a phase without advancement, until compliant
- Incarceration
- Reinstatement of criminal proceedings
- Discharge from the Recovery Court Program
- Other sanctions, as appropriate

Costs/Fees

There are costs associated with Recovery Court, including cost of supervision and other standard court costs. You may also be required to pay treatment costs, attorneys' fees, and restitution. Your attorney will explain all of these costs, fees, and restitution before entering the Program.

Treatment Costs:

Depending on the availability of resources, including, health insurance coverage, your personal income, grant eligibility and/or utilization of other Recovery Court funding, you may be required to pay costs associated with your treatment. Full disclosure of the possible costs of your treatment will be discussed with and provided to you prior to your engagement with the treatment provider.

Cost of Supervision/Court Costs:

If you are unable to pay your cost of supervision by DOC, the judge may waive these costs. You also may have your court costs converted into community service hours at an approved location at a current rate of \$15.00 per hour, at the judge’s discretion.

Restitution:

Depending on your charges, you may have to pay restitution. If you are required to pay restitution, the Assistant State Attorney will inform you and your attorney of the amount prior to entering Recovery Court.

Transportation

You are responsible for transportation to treatment, court, and supervision. However, the judge, treatment provider, or other member of the Recovery Court Team may provide you bus passes, as appropriate and if available.

Transportation resources that may be able to assist you:

Hillsborough Area Regional Transit (HART)	(813) 384-6301
Hillsborough County Sunshine Line	(813) 272-7272

Graduation

When you successfully complete all phases of the Program, you will be a candidate to graduate from the Recovery Court Program. You will discuss your progress toward the goals you initially set and why you believe you have met the graduation criteria. After hearing input from the Recovery Court Team, the judge may approve graduation from the Program. The Recovery Court Judge has discretion to grant or deny your request for early termination and successful discharge from the Program. At your graduation, you will be given a chance to speak, and the judge will congratulate you on successfully completing the Program and achieving your goal of establishing a sober and stable life. You need at least 90 days of negative drug screens to graduate from the Program.

Pursuant to a negotiated plea agreement between the State Attorney’s Office and the participant, the State Attorney’s Office may permit a participant referred to Recovery Court on stand-alone Drug Charges to have their plea withdrawn and sentence vacated upon successful completion of the Recovery Court program.

Termination

A consistent lack of Program participation, continuously failing to follow instructions of your treatment team, or picking-up new criminal charges may result in your termination from the Program. Compliance with the Recovery Court Program is a condition of your supervision. A willful failure to comply could result in a court finding that you have violated your probation or community control which may result in a new sentence that could include incarceration.

Infection Control Policy

Every reasonable attempt will be made to prevent the spread of infection in the Recovery Court Program. There are infection control measures used for decreasing the risk of transmission of disease. All body and blood fluids will be considered infectious regardless of the assumed status of the source individual.

Universal precautions are used during interaction with all participants regardless of their diagnosis or presumed infection status. Please know that Program staff are required to report instances of infectious disease that pose a threat to the public to the Hillsborough County Health Department.

Treatment

Below is information about the contracted treatment providers in Recovery Court. Please know that you may be able to attend treatment at another provider, but your Recovery Court specialist will contact the provider to ensure that they can provide treatment that satisfies the Program's requirements.

ACTS:

Residential: Men's and Women's residential programs 3-4 months
IOP: M, W, F 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
OP: M-Th. 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, F 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

DACCO:

Residential: Men's and Women's residential programs 3-6 months
Day/Night (Women's): M-F 8:30 am - 1:30 pm
IOP (Women's): M, W, F 8:30 am - 11:30 am
IOP (Men's): T, W, and Th. 8:00 am - 11:00 am or M, T, and Th. 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
OP: M, W, and Th. 10:00 am - 11:00 am or 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm, two groups per week

Phoenix House:

Residential (Citra, Florida): Men's and Women's residential programs 6-8 months (short-term), 12-18 months (long-term)

IOP: M, T, Th. 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

OP: M-Th. 10:00 am - 11:00 am or M-Th. 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm; 2-5 hours based on individual needs

Tampa Crossroads:

Residential: Women's residential program 3-6 months, 6 mos. aftercare

IOP M-Th. 9:00 am - 8:00 pm, F 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, 9 hours of treatment per week

OP: M-Th. 9:00 am - 8:00 pm, F 9:00 am - 6:00 pm, 3-8 hours of treatment per week

Westcare:

Residential: Men's and Women's residential program 6-18 months

OP: T-F 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Releases of Information and Confidentiality

Your identity and privacy will be protected, consistent with Florida law. In response to these regulations, policies and procedures have been developed which guard your confidentiality. You will be asked to sign a release of information (ROI) allowing the transfer of information among all participating agencies and members of the Recovery Court Team. You are also expected to respect and maintain the confidentiality of others and can be held accountable for breaching such confidentiality.

Complaints and Grievances

The following procedure is available to participants who want to seek review of any conflict existing between them and a member of the Recovery Court Team. The only disputes to which these procedures shall not apply are those that might result in a participant's suspension or dismissal from the Recovery Court Program.

A grievance is any form of unfair treatment, harassment, bullying, or disrespect toward the Recovery Court participant by a Recovery Court Team member.

The participant is notified of the right to file a grievance if they believe a Recovery Court Team member has treated them unfairly.

They are directed to contact the Director of Problem Solving Courts (see p. 4). If the Director is the source of the complaint, the participant is directed to contact the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Trial Court Administrator or the Chief Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Court. Their contact information can be found at: www.fljud13.org.

After notification of the complaint, the Director of Problem Solving Courts will meet with the participant to hear any information regarding the conflict. All parties involved in the conflict will be questioned and given the opportunity to present their respective arguments. Participants filing a grievance will not be retaliated against in any way. The grievance process will be utilized to improve the quality of services provided to Recovery Court participants.

Frequently Asked Questions

What happens if a participant relapses or violates the terms of the Program? Relapse or other violations of the terms of supervision do not automatically result in a prison sentence or incarceration. The Recovery Court Team is well aware of the difficulties of staying sober and is willing to work with individuals who are making the effort to stay clean. Violations normally result in sanctions and treatment modifications and may be based on the participant's candor to the Recovery Court Team.

How does drug offender probation differ from regular probation? Drug offender probation usually involves drug treatment, increased contact with the probation officer, a curfew, more frequent drug screens, and support group attendance.

Do I give up my legal rights by entering the Recovery Court Program? No. You have the right to legal representation at every step of the process. You have the right to an evidentiary hearing with counsel in the event of a violation of probation. However, a decision to litigate a case will result in a transfer to a standard criminal division court.

Can I drink alcohol while in Recovery Court? No! Alcohol use in any form is prohibited in Recovery Court.

If I have been using up until my entry into the Recovery Court Program, will I be violated for a positive urine screen? Not necessarily. If you report recent drug use to the Recovery Court specialist or the judge, you normally will be allowed time to produce negative drug screens. However, continued use after entering the Program will result in sanctions.

Can Recovery Court help me with problems other than substance abuse? Yes! Individuals are regularly given referrals to programs that deal with medical, employment, mental health, education, vocation, and other issues.

Has this Program been proven to work? Yes! Many studies across the country have demonstrated that when following evidence-based practices, the combination of drug treatment, case management, drug screening, and vigorous judicial oversight available in this type of program is an effective way to help people with drug problems and an efficient method for reducing the costs of drug-related crimes.

Contractual Agreement

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the Recovery Court Program Handbook. I have read this handbook and understand all terms and conditions of the handbook, including the following sections:

Mission Statement
Eligibility Requirements
The Recovery Court Team
The Recovery Court Team Roles
Program Requirements
General Rules
Attendance and Absence Policy
Court Sessions
Drug Screening Protocol
Supervision Protocol
Prescription Medication Policy
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Participant Signature

Date

Defense Attorney

Date