

According to the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, research has shown that Drug Courts are effective and benefit everyone by the following.

Drug Courts Reduce Crime

- Fact: Nationwide, 75% of Drug Court graduates remain arrest free at least two years after leaving the program.

Drug Courts Save Money

- Fact: Drug Courts produce cost savings ranging from \$3,000 to \$13,000 per participant. These cost savings reflect reduced prison costs, reduced revolving door arrests, trials and reduced victimization.

Drug Courts Ensure Compliance

- Fact: Drug Courts provide more comprehensive and closer supervision than other community based supervision programs.

The Twelfth Judicial Circuit Adult Drug Court Program

Is a program of the Twelfth Circuit Solicitor's Office
E.L. Clements, III – Solicitor

In collaboration with

Twelfth Circuit Public Defender's Office
Circle Park Behavioral Health Services
Trinity Behavioral Care
South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department
Florence and Marion County Law Enforcement Agencies

You can find out more about the Twelfth Judicial Circuit Adult Drug Court Program by contacting the Drug Court Office at:

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Florence, SC 29501

Phone: (843) 679-7163
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Adult Drug Court Program



Solicitor's Diversion Programs

State of South Carolina
Twelfth Judicial Circuit

E.L. Clements, III, Solicitor
Scott Nutter, Adult Drug Court
Coordinator

What is Drug Court?

Drug Courts are judicially supervised court dockets that handle cases involving non-violent substance abusing offenders under the adult, juvenile and tribal justice systems. Drug Courts are problem solving courts that operate under a specialized model in which the judiciary, prosecution, defense bar, law enforcement, mental health, social service and treatment communities work together to help non-violent offenders find restoration in recovery and become productive members of their community.

Eligibility

- At least seventeen (17) years of age.
- Intent to reside in the Twelfth Judicial Circuit for the duration of the program.
- Charged with a non-violent felony offense(s), as defined in the South Carolina Code 16-1-60.
- Willingness to plead guilty to the offense.
- No felony charges pending in any other jurisdiction.
- Substance abuse problem
- No evidence of drug dealing.
- No record of convictions for violent or sexual offenses; not in possession of a firearm during the current or any previous offense.
- Voluntary participation.

Requirements

- Attend all court dates, on time and dressed appropriately.
- Comply with all orders issued by the Judge.
- Attend all required meetings and appointments.
- Complete required substance abuse treatment.
- Submit to random drug testing and/or alcohol breath testing as ordered by the Judge, Drug Court team or treatment providers.
- Obtain and/or maintain employment as approved by the Drug Court team.
- Attend self-help group meetings as directed by the Judge, Drug Court team or treatment providers.
- Notify his or her Coordinator/Case Manager in advance of any changes of address, employment, or telephone number.
- Pay an application fee of \$140.00 to the Office of Solicitor, Twelfth Judicial Circuit.

Length of the Program

The length of the program is a minimum of 12 months. The participant must complete all four (4) phases of the program in order to graduate.

Criteria for Graduation from the Drug Court Program

- Successful completion of all four (4) phases and program requirements.
- Payment of all fees and court ordered restitution.
- At least twelve months enrollment in the program.
- Completion of aftercare plan with the Adult Drug Court Coordinator.
- Unanimous recommendation from the Drug Court team and approval of the Judge.

Graduation from the Adult Drug Court program is a significant accomplishment, particularly for participants who have experienced repeated failures in the lives before they entered the program. Accordingly, graduations will be held and treated as celebrations by everyone in the program. The Judge will preside, refreshments will be served, and family members and friends will be invited to attend.