

**17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Drug Treatment Court**  
**Participant Handbook**

Name:

Date Issued:

Case Manager:

Probation Officer:

Counselor Name:

Counselor Phone:

**CHARACTER GETS YOU OUT OF BED; COMMITMENT MOVES YOU TO ACTION.  
FAITH, HOPE, AND DISCIPLINE ENABLE YOU TO FOLLOW THROUGH TO  
COMPLETION.**

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## **17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Drug Treatment Court Mission Statement**

The mission of the Drug Treatment Court of the 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Pennsylvania is to reduce recidivism by facilitating treatment and rehabilitation, and to provide increased supervision to the criminal substance abuser, as opposed to simply warehousing them. Our goal is to return individuals to the community who are clean and sober, with an improved quality of life, and who are better equipped to maintain their sobriety, thereby improving the lives of all of us.

## **Welcome to the 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Drug Treatment Court**

The Drug Treatment Court is committed to assisting with early intervention, treatment and rehabilitation of non-violent offenders with substance abuse problems. It is a great opportunity for those who wish to change the circumstances in their lives and break the cycle of drug dependency.

This handbook will provide complete information about the Drug Treatment Court Program and what is expected of you as a participant. **Do not lose this book!** You must take it with you to all meetings, treatment sessions, case management appointments and court dates. We also encourage you to share this handbook with your family and friends for support and encouragement.

We hope to see positive changes in your life as a result of your dedication to completing the Drug Treatment Court Program. The Drug Treatment Court Team is committed to providing you with support and encouragement as you earn your way to a clean and sober life through Drug Treatment Court.

## **Program Description**

The Drug Treatment Court is a highly structured program that combines drug rehabilitation and supportive services through court supervision.

Non-violent offenders with substance abuse problems can receive the help they need to overcome their addiction while under the strict supervision of the Drug Treatment Court Judge. Drug Treatment Court is unique because it represents a much closer working union between treatment and the criminal justice system than what is traditionally seen in the criminal courts.

The end result is a greater likelihood that offenders will remain drug-free and become productive members of society, while avoiding further contacts with the criminal justice system.

## **Benefits of the Drug Treatment Court Program**

When you successfully complete Drug Treatment Court, you will obtain the following rewards:

- You will be clean and sober
- You will have more job and education opportunities
- You will have better relationships with family and friends
- You will have a better understanding of yourself
- You will have a positive outlook on life

## **Rules and Regulations**

1. Each treatment program has different rules and regulations, and you agree to follow them as directed by the treatment program staff. Each program has its own set days/hours of operation and program length and you must attend as prescribed. Some of the inpatient programs require that a client be on a blackout period that does not allow him/her to use the telephone, receive mail/electronic communications, or accept visitors for a specified period of time. If you fail to follow the program rules and attend all sessions as required, you will be sanctioned.
  
2. You are required to actively participate in the treatment program and take the necessary steps to maintain abstinence from drugs and alcohol, including prescription narcotics and sedatives, unless ordered by a physician and approved by the Drug Treatment Court Team. This also includes attendance at self-help meetings.
  
3. The 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Drug Treatment Court will determine when you have successfully completed treatment. Treatment may include being placed in various levels of care including Residential, Intensive Outpatient, and Outpatient as prescribed by the Drug Treatment Court Clinical Evaluator (CMSU). The Drug Treatment Court program will take at least one (1) year to complete and in some cases may extend beyond the one (1) year minimum. Minimum and maximum treatment lengths are clinical determinations made by the Drug Treatment Court Clinical Evaluator (CMSU).

4. Upon admission to Drug Treatment Court, you must sign a release of information form for the 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, CMSU, the adult probation office, your treatment provider and your funding source. This will permit the treatment program to exchange information with your Drug Treatment Court Team regarding your progress, attendance, and drug-screening results.
5. If you are referred to an outpatient program, you may be required to live in alternative housing. If the Drug Treatment Court Team determines that your housing plans are a detriment to your recovery, or if you have nowhere to reside, alternative housing will be arranged for you as a requirement for participation in Drug Treatment Court. Failure to reside in approved housing will result in your being sanctioned.
6. You must notify your case manager and probation officer of any new arrest or police contact within 24 hours of the arrest/police contact. Failure to do so is a violation of Drug Treatment Court rules and may result in a sanction.
7. You must obtain government-issued photo identification (i.e. non-drivers license picture identification) within 30 days of entering treatment. Failure to do so is a violation of Drug Treatment Court rules and may result in a sanction.
8. **YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO POSSESS OR CONSUME ANY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO ENTER ESTABLISHMENTS**

THAT PROVIDE ALCOHOL UNLESS GIVEN PRIOR APPROVAL BY THE DRUG TREATMENT COURT JUDGE.

9. You can only take medication that does not contain alcohol, does not contain narcotics, is not addictive and will not show up positive on a urine drug screen. The use of any other medication must be reviewed with the Drug Treatment Court Team prior to beginning use of the medication.
  
10. You are not permitted to travel out of Pennsylvania without the permission of the Drug Treatment Court Judge. Further, you are not permitted any overnight trips outside of Snyder/Union Counties, without first obtaining permission from your probation officer.
  
11. Sexual conduct/communication of any type (physical, verbal, electronic, written) directed at Treatment Court team members or other Treatment Court participants is not permitted. Acts of sexual conduct/communication will be reported to the Treatment Court Team. Violation of this rule is grounds for dismissal from Treatment Court.

## **Court/Judicial Supervision**

You will be required to appear regularly in Drug Treatment Court to discuss and review your progress. The Drug Treatment Court Judge will encourage and reward you when you are doing well in the program. The Drug Treatment Court Judge will discuss any infractions that have occurred and will impose sanctions/orders if you are not doing well.

If you cannot make your court date, you **MUST** call your probation officer and/or the Drug Treatment Court Coordinator as soon as possible and explain why you cannot attend the court date. If you do not come to court, the Drug Treatment Court Judge may issue a Bench Warrant for your arrest.

## **Services Provided**

The Drug Treatment Court will refer you to treatment providers for the following services:

- Substance abuse assessments
- Detox, inpatient or outpatient treatment
- Individual counseling
- Group counseling
- Recovery support group
- Drug testing

The Drug Treatment Court will also provide you with a case manager and probation officer to provide the following services:

- Employment counseling
- Training referrals
- Education and literacy assistance
- Referrals for health care services
- Alternative housing services and/or placements
- Referrals to social services

Phases: Drug Treatment Court is comprised of three phases. You must complete all three phases to graduate from Drug Treatment Court.

### **Phase I**

Phase I: (4 months)

- Weekly court appearance
- Random urine screens on court date
- Attendance at recommended treatment
- Attendance at self-help meetings (5 per week)
- Obtain stable housing
- Obtain employment/community service with team approval upon 45 days clean/sober in program.
- Begin payment of Drug Treatment Court fees
- Minimum of 2 weekly probation contacts
- Minimum of 2 weekly urine screens, with one being random
- EMHA/GPS/Sleeptime/Sweatpatch/SCRAM compliance
- Scheduled case management appointments

## **Phase II**

Phase II: (4 months)

- Bi-weekly court appearances with random urine screen
- Attendance at recommended treatment
- Attendance at self-help meetings
- 90 days clean/sober
- Maintain stable housing
- Begin employment search/secure employment or job/  
educational training
- Removal of EMHA/GPS
- Compliance with Sleptime/Sweatpatch/SCRAM
- Continue payment of Drug Treatment Court fees
- 2 weekly probation contacts
- 2 weekly urine screens, with one being random (This can  
be reduced after 45 days clean)
- Scheduled case management appointments

### **Phase III**

Phase III: (4 months)

- Monthly court appearance with urine screen
- Continue in recommended treatment
- Job training
- 120 days clean/sober in order to move to graduation
- Secure employment or means of financial support
- Maintain stable housing
- Continue payment of Drug Treatment Court Fees
- Drug-free urine screens
- Weekly probation contact
- Attendance at Self-help meetings
- Minimum of 2 weekly urine screens which can be reduced with Drug Treatment Court Team approval
- Scheduled case management appointments

*Note: All phases can be extended for violation of program rules. Drug Treatment Court participants can be moved back in Phase for violation of program rules.*

## **Graduation**

When you have successfully completed the Drug Treatment Court Program, you will be scheduled for graduation. In order to graduate from Drug Treatment Court you must:

- be treatment compliant
- have stable housing
- have all pending legal matters resolved
- have employment or viable source of income
- be compliant with drug/alcohol testing procedures

Before you graduate, you will write a graduation speech and prepare an aftercare plan stating how you intend to maintain your sobriety after graduation. Your aftercare plan and speech will be presented to the Drug Treatment Court Judge on graduation day.

At the graduation ceremony, the Drug Treatment Court Judge will present you with a certificate of completion of the Drug Treatment Court and will recognize your excellent accomplishments. Your family and friends are invited to attend your graduation.

## **Rewards**

Drug Treatment Court participants will be eligible to receive rewards for compliance with program rules. Attendance at counseling, case management appointments, probation appointments, status hearings, community service work assignments, and meeting other program goals will create opportunities to receive rewards.

Rewards can come in a variety of forms, including but not limited to applause, gift cards, movie tickets, clothing, coffee mugs, certificates, reduction in hearings, reduction in drug testing, and other small tokens of appreciation.

The Court will recognize the 100% Club on a weekly basis. Membership in the 100% Club will be dictated by perfect attendance at mandated meetings, counseling appointments, community service assignments, case management appointments, probation appointments, and other scheduled meetings. Participants will be required to pass all drug testing requirements. Compliance with program rules on a week to week basis will enable participants to pull a popsicle stick from a bowl/basket. Sticks will be marked with inspirational quotes as well as other markings that will dictate the opportunity to receive additional rewards.

At the end of each month, participants who have 100% compliance with all program rules will have their names placed into a basket for a drawing to be completed by the Drug Treatment Court Judge, with the opportunity for an additional reward for compliance with program rules.

## Sanction Policy

### **Relapse**

- Incarceration up to termination from the program
- Additional 45/90/120 days in phase
- Relapse in Phase III-restart Phase II
- Tampering/Adulterating drug screens may result in termination from Drug Treatment Court
- For participants that relapse after graduation:
  1. Speak at Drug Court session
  2. Incarceration
  3. Weekly APO contacts
  4. Mandated attendance at Self Help meetings by CMSU
  5. Reassessment

### **Court Proceedings**

- Failure to attend Drug Court may result in incarceration, community service work assignment, an increase in Status Hearings, and an increase in probation contacts.

### **APO Reporting**

- Failure to report as scheduled may result in incarceration, community service and/or placement on Electronic Monitoring.
- Electronic Monitoring violations may result in incarceration

### **Treatment**

- Missed treatment appointments may result in incarceration, community service and/or placement on Electronic Monitoring.
- Failure to obtain a temporary sponsor within two weeks or failure to provide meeting attendance sheets at Status Hearings may result in community service work assignments.
- Unsuccessful discharges from treatment may result in termination from the program
- If in Rehab at start of program, Phase I begins upon successful discharge
- If referred to Rehab while in program, this adds 60 days to current phase
- If referred to rehab and a halfway house while in program, restart Phase I or II upon successful discharge from treatment.

### **Hospital/Medications**

- Not following protocol will result in sanctions
- Must notify APO/CMSU prior to taking prescribed meds
- If requested, participants must sign consents for medical personnel to release information to program

### **CMSU Drug & Alcohol Case Management Appointments**

- Failure to attend an appointment will result in a community service work assignment.

**\*\*Any violation resulting in incarceration will extend current phase by 60 days.**

*In an effort to maintain consistency, these general guidelines have been developed by the 17th Judicial District Drug Treatment Court Team. Every attempt will be made to review policy violations on a case by case basis. Please be advised these guidelines are subject to change at the Judge's discretion.*

## Community Service Requirements

Drug Treatment Court participants will be required to complete community service as a component of Drug Treatment Court. The following sets forth community service requirements.

1. Participants will be assigned 40 hours of community service upon entry into treatment court. Assigned hours must be completed within the first 45 days of entry into PHASE I.
  
2. After completion of 40 hours of community service, participants who are working less than 20 hours per week will be required to complete 60 hours of community service on a monthly basis.
  
3. Participants working 20-34 hours per week in part-time employment will be required to complete 10 hours of monthly community service.
  
4. Participants working full time hours, a minimum of 35 hours per week, will not be required to complete a monthly community service assignment.
  
5. Community service hours can also be assigned as a sanction for noncompliance with Drug Treatment Court rules.

6. Community service hours will be tracked on time sheets provided by the supervising probation officer.
  
7. Drug Treatment Court participants will be required to participate in any special/annual community service projects as deemed appropriate by the Drug Treatment Court Judge.

### **Dismissal from Drug Court**

You can be dismissed from Drug Court for violation of program rules, including but not limited to new offenses, technical violations, continued drug/alcohol use, attempting to circumvent drug testing procedures and failure to successfully complete treatment. Every effort will be made to meet your treatment/program needs thereby limiting the potential for dismissal from Drug Court.

If it is recommended that you be dismissed from Drug court, you will be informed of this decision by the Drug Court Judge during a regularly scheduled Status Hearing. If not already in custody, you may be detained in the county jail with the filing of a detainer against you by your supervising probation officer. A petition to revoke your Intermediate Punishment sentence will then be filed with the Court. Appropriate Gagnon I and Gagnon II Hearings will be scheduled. Upon program violations being confirmed at a Gagnon II Hearing, a new sentence will be imposed. The original sentencing guideline form will be reviewed prior to sentencing for use as a guide in the imposition of a new sentence.































**Important Phone Numbers**

Snyder County Public Defender .....	570-837-4283
Union County Public Defender .....	570-524-8780
Snyder County District Attorney .....	570-837-4233
Union County District Attorney .....	570-524-8651
Snyder County Adult Probation Office .....	570-837-4251
Union County Adult Probation Office .....	570-524-8741
	Toll Free 1-877-246-5895
CMSU/Drug/Alcohol Services .....	570-275-4962
Tapline .....	1-800-222-9016

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**Every worthwhile accomplishment, big or little, has its stages of drudgery; a beginning, a struggle, and victory.**

Union County Courthouse  
103 South Second Street  
Lewisburg, PA 17837

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Snyder County Courthouse  
9 West Market Street  
Middleburg, PA 17842