

# **BUTLER COUNTY DRUG COURT PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK**



**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
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## **Welcome and Introduction**

Congratulations on your decision to participate in the Butler County Drug Court Program, also known as “Drug Court”. This Program is designed to provide support by linking you with services you will need to not only complete this Program, but that will also help you to establish a solid foundation in recovery. You will be linked to the appropriate services in a much shorter time frame than you would if you attempted to do this on your own.

You can expect to be in Drug Court for a minimum of fifty-two (52) weeks. However, this does NOT guarantee you will complete the entire Program in one (1) year. Your time may be extended in the Program if you fail to comply with all of the requirements. You may earn additional time in the Program if you fail to maintain sobriety, obtain new charges, fail to comply with the rules of Drug Court, fail to comply with the Drug Court *Participation Agreement*, or fail to comply with your Court orders. Drug Court is not for everyone. It requires a long-term commitment to maintain personal responsibility with treatment, compliance with Court-ordered sanctions, and the ability to maintain sobriety from alcohol and drugs while in the Program.

This *Participant Handbook* has been written to help you successfully complete the requirements of Drug Court. Please read it carefully. If you have any questions about its contents, please ask your Drug Court case manager or probation officer.

In this handbook, you will find specific information about the Court, Drug Court requirements, rules, guidelines, probation, and treatment information. There are four (4) phases of Drug Court, and you will be expected to meet the requirements of each of the phases. You will advance through each phase as you make progress and accomplish case plan objectives. There will be information regarding specific things you must do to complete each phase later in this handbook. If you fail to comply with the rules of Drug Court, specific penalties can, and will, be imposed.

### **What are the benefits of Drug Court to you?**

- A sober lifestyle;
- Improved familial and social relationships;
- Education, housing, and employment assistance;
- Possible dismissal of charges if you have been granted Intervention in Lieu of Conviction; and
- Overall healthier lifestyle.

### **What resources does Drug Court offer to you?**

- Access to a range of alcohol and drug treatment services;
- Case management services to assist you with linkages to local services such as employment, educational or vocational opportunities, housing assistance, and transportation assistance;
- Incentives for when you are doing well; and

- Relationships with Drug Court team members including the Judge, probation officers, case managers, and others.

### **What do you have to do?**

- Abstain from alcohol and drug use;
- Attend treatment as identified in your treatment plan;
- Attend status (Court) review hearings;
- Attend appointments with case managers and your probation officer;
- Comply with the Drug Court rules, the Drug Court *Participation Agreement*, the rules of probation, and any Court orders;
- Submit to frequent and observed, random alcohol and drug screens;
- Take prescription medications as directed;
- Obtain full-time employment; and
- Comply with sanctions for infractions when you are not doing well.

### **Team Approach**

Drug Court uses a team approach. The purpose of the team approach is to have all team members work together to assist you to become successful. Drug Court recognizes the distinct role of the prosecutor in pursuing justice and protecting public safety and victim's rights. Drug Court also recognizes the distinct role of defense counsel in preserving your constitutional rights.

Your attorney and a prosecutor may attend treatment team meetings and status review hearings. Treatment team meetings are also attended by the Judge, the Specialty Courts Director/Coordinator, the probation officers, treatment providers, and case managers. Other individuals, guests, or representatives from other agencies may attend if their presence is requested.

You have the right to request that your counsel attend the portion of the treatment team meeting concerning you. Defense counsel will be present at treatment team meetings and status review hearings to represent participants facing a probation violation hearing, graduated sanction or other participants, if requested. You will attend regular status review hearings before the Judge. At the status review hearing, the Judge will review any activity or developments, ask you questions, and provide incentives or issue sanctions as appropriate. You will converse with the Judge during the status review hearing.

You will learn more about the Drug Court treatment team, Drug Court requirements, and the different aspects of Drug Court as you read through this handbook.

### **Overview of Drug Court Requirements**

Now that you have been ordered to complete Drug Court, you will be required to attend all treatment sessions as identified in your treatment plan; submit to random, observed urine screens; attend sober support group meetings; comply with ongoing case

management services; report for status review hearings; complete corrective thinking; comply with the Drug Court *Participation Agreement*; and comply with all supervision rules as identified by the Court.

As part of your community control (probation), you will be required to report to your probation officer as directed by your probation officer. You may be asked to report more frequently, or appear at status review hearings on an increased basis as a sanction for a Drug Court infraction. Any significant changes such as your address, employment, family, or other matters are to be reported immediately. You are to be prepared to submit a urine sample at all office visits, treatment sessions, or status review hearings. You are to provide sober support group, employment, and/or community service (if applicable) verification as requested. You will also be required to make payments towards Court costs, supervision fees, and restitution (if applicable).

As part of your supervision, there will be home visits. These visits are random and unannounced. You may be asked to provide a urine sample during these visits.

You may also be expected to engage with additional services such as educational and vocational training, employment assistance, parenting classes, mental health assessments/services, and domestic violence, theft, and anger management classes.

### **Treatment Team**

The treatment team consists of the Drug Court Judge, assistant prosecuting attorney, defense counsel, probation officers, licensed treatment providers, case managers, and the Specialty Courts Director/Coordinator.

Below is a list of treatment team members and their responsibilities.

### **Judge**

- Discretion to decide the admission into or termination from Drug Court in accordance with the written legal and clinical criteria. The written legal and clinical eligibility criteria do not create a right to participate in Drug Court;
- Discretion to waive court ordered financial obligations if the participant is indigent.
- Knowledgeable about treatment and programming methods and limitations;
- Leader of the treatment team;
- Decision-maker, especially concerning incentives, sanctions, phase advancement, and successful completion or termination;
- Final decision-maker and resolves conflicts among treatment team members;
- Attends treatment team meetings, monitors treatment progress, directs Court orders at status review hearings, issues incentives and sanctions, grants phase advancement, and approves your successful completion, unsuccessful termination, or neutral discharge from Drug Court; and
- Discusses progress with you at status review hearings.

[The Judge assigned to the Drug Court Docket is Judge Keith M. Spaeth.]

### **Assistant Prosecuting Attorney**

Drug Court incorporates a non-adversarial approach while recognizing the distinct role of the prosecutor in pursuing justice and protecting public safety and victim's rights. The prosecutor plays an active role in identifying eligible participants for Drug Court in accordance with the Drug Court written criteria.

### **Defense Counsel**

Drug Court incorporates a non-adversarial approach while recognizing the distinct role of defense counsel in preserving the constitutional rights of the Drug Court participant. Defense counsel plays an active role in identifying eligible participants for Drug Court in accordance with the Drug Court written criteria. You do maintain the right to request the attendance of defense counsel during the portion of the treatment team meeting concerning you.

Defense counsel's role includes:

- Assists with decision-making regarding participation in Drug Court;
- Explains to you what rights are waived by entering the Program;
- Explains to you the possible sanctions that may be imposed;
- Explains to you the circumstances that may lead to termination; and
- Explains to you the effect that termination from Drug Court may have on your case.

### **Probation Officers**

- Meets with you regularly to discuss individualized Program goals and progress through Drug Court;
- Attends treatment team meetings and status review hearings;
- Conducts office, home, and field visits;
- Monitors compliance with Court orders, community control rules, sanctions, and individualized treatment plans;
- Informs the treatment team whether Court orders, rules, sanctions, and treatment plans are followed;
- Conducts or coordinates random alcohol and drug tests, and reports the results to the treatment team;
- Participates in discussions about incentives, sanctions, phase advancement, successful completion, and termination; and
- Provides written documentation to the Judge for a possible termination.

### **Licensed Treatment Providers**

- Anyone providing treatment for Drug Court must be appropriately licensed and trained to deliver services;
- Treatment providers, whenever possible, will maintain separate tracks for Drug Court participants;
- Conducts diagnostic assessments, provides the clinical diagnosis, and develops the treatment plan;
- Provides documentation on your progress in treatment and compliance with treatment plans, including treatment attendance and results of alcohol and drug tests;
- Attends treatment team meetings and status review hearings;
- During treatment team meetings, provides treatment updates and makes recommendations regarding treatment needs;
- Participates in discussions regarding incentives, sanctions, phase advancement, successful completion, and termination;
- Monitors service provider agreements and contracts; and
- Coordinates Drug Court treatment team professional education.

### **Case Managers**

- Meets with you on a regular basis;
- Visits you at home, school, or other locations;
- Assists you in the development, utilization, and coordination of the individualized treatment plan;
- Assists you with transportation, housing, education, employment, obtaining medical care, family issues, training, and applying for government assistance;
- Makes referrals to other agencies;
- Provides documentation on your progress;
- Conducts random drug and alcohol screens;
- Monitors your medication compliance;
- Provides status reports for the treatment team meetings and status review hearings;
- Attends treatment team meetings and status review hearings; and
- Participates in discussions regarding incentives, sanctions, phase advancement, successful completion, and termination.

### **Specialty Courts Director/Coordinator**

- Assists with identifying potential participants;
- Coordinates referrals and assessments;
- Assists with decision-making regarding participation in Drug Court;
- Maintains the daily operations of the Drug Court Docket;
- Collects and maintains statistical information for Drug Court;

- Gathers status reports from treatment and service providers to present to the treatment team;
- Participates in discussions about incentives, sanctions, phase advancement, successful completion, and termination;
- Creates reports for review and submission to funding sources;
- Ensures that treatment team members follow Program policies and procedures;
- Monitors service provider agreements and contracts;
- Plans and facilitates Advisory Committee meetings; and
- Coordinates Drug Court treatment team professional education.

### **Status Review Hearings Schedule**

Drug Court incorporates ongoing judicial interaction with each participant. You are expected to appear at status review hearings so you can be educated as to the benefits of complying with Drug Court rules, and the consequences for noncompliance. Frequent status review hearings establish and reinforce Drug Court policies and ensure effective and efficient supervision of the participant. This allows the Judge to provide an explanation of responses to compliance and noncompliance, including the criteria for termination.

Status review hearings will take place every Wednesday and unless otherwise identified due to a sanction, your attendance will be scheduled as follows:

- Phase I            --        every week
- Phase II           --        every two weeks
- Phase III          --        once every three weeks
- Phase IV          --        once every four weeks

You shall adhere to a dress code for all Drug Court appointments:

- No short shorts or mini skirts;
- No spaghetti straps or tank tops;
- No tops or dresses with cleavage exposing any portion of the breast;
- No halter tops or strapless tops/dresses;
- No skin tight pants, skirts, or shorts;
- No baggy pants;
- No see through clothing;
- No clothing that makes reference to drugs and/or alcohol; and
- No sexually suggestive clothing.

If you are given the sanction of WWS (Wednesday's with Spaeth), you will be required to appear for a status review hearing every Wednesday at 2:00 PM. This is in addition to your regular status review schedule as identified above.

You will be expected to bring your calendar and be prepared to submit a urine sample for every status review hearing. Failure to attend a scheduled review hearing may result in the imposition of additional sanctions or the issuance of a warrant for your arrest.

### **Summary of Treatment**

You will receive a treatment plan (minimum of fifty-two (52) weeks in treatment) based on your individual needs. All provided services shall incorporate evidence-based strategies. You shall have prompt access to a continuum of approved treatment and rehabilitation services upon admission into Drug Court. The Drug Court Program maintains a current treatment plan and a record of activities for each participant. Treatment plans continue to develop throughout Drug Court to reflect your changing needs based on Program progress. Appropriately licensed and trained individuals will deliver services according to the standards of their profession. The Drug Court treatment plans take into consideration services that are gender responsive and culturally appropriate, while effectively addressing co-occurring disorders. All provided services including case plans are appropriate and clinically necessary to the degree that available resources allow.

Drug Court has partnered with the following agencies to provide services to you: Sojourner Recovery Services, Community Behavioral Health Mental Health Services, Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission (Ohio Means Jobs), Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, YWCA, Serve City, and the Hope House. Many of these provide registration/intake, baseline alcohol and drug testing, assessment, development of treatment plans, case management, group therapy, individual treatment sessions, relapse prevention plans, aftercare plans, gender specific programming, programming to address those who have been diagnosed with co-occurring disorders, supportive housing, family therapy, and medication monitoring. These agencies will collaborate with other community agencies to provide educational and vocational training, employment, individualized substance abuse programming, transportation, housing, domestic violence programming, parenting classes, and mental health services.

### **Phases**

Phases are the steps in which your performance and progress through Drug Court are monitored. These phases are used as guidelines that can be modified to meet your specific needs. You are required to frequently report to the Drug Court Judge and other treatment team members for compliance monitoring, assistance with treatment plans, and random alcohol and drug testing.

At a minimum, you shall appear before the Drug Court Judge weekly in the initial phase. In subsequent phases, you shall appear regularly according to the phase schedule. Phase advancement is based on your individual performance, on a case-by-case basis, and as recommended by the treatment team. Progression through Drug Court is based on your performance in the treatment plan and compliance with Drug Court rules. Phase advancement is not solely based on pre-set timelines. Time between status review hearings may be increased or decreased based upon compliance with treatment protocols,

Program rules, and overall observed progress. General criteria for phase advancement may include your sobriety, mental health, progress in treatment, compliance with Court orders, payment of Court fees (if applicable), and team recommendation.

### **Residential Treatment**

If you are placed into residential treatment you will still have an assigned drug court case manager; however, your treatment will take place in a general population treatment facility. Residential treatment lasts between ten (10) and twelve (12) weeks, and focuses entirely on stabilization and substance use treatment. Treatment programming takes place seven days a week, and you will receive intense daily programming and regular one-on-one counseling sessions.

If deemed necessary, you may be required to complete treatment through the River City Correctional Center, the Monday Program, or the Community Correctional Center (CCC). You will be given jail time credit for time served while in River City, Monday or CCC.

### **Phase I (Initial Phase)**

Phase I is an engagement and stabilization phase focusing strongly on their individual substance use disorder needs. This phase will focus intensely on engaging and obtaining sobriety. During this phase the participant will be required to attend status review hearings with the court one (1) time per week. While transitioning through phases is based on individual needs and success, this phase is developed to last approximately four to ten (4-10) weeks.

Participant requirements for Phase I compliance include:

- Attending treatment sessions, appointments, and other activities as scheduled;
- Attending status review hearings one (1) time per week;
- Attending meetings with case managers and/or probation officers;
- Submitting to alcohol and drug testing at a frequency determined by the treatment team, at a minimum of two (2) times per week;
- Taking prescription medication as directed;
- Cooperating with random home visits;
- Engaging in a sober support community and obtaining a sponsor;
- Obtaining employment;
- Abiding by the rules of Drug Court (as stated in the Participation Agreement), community control, and obeying all Federal, state and local laws; and
- Committing no new criminal offenses.

## **Phase II**

Phase II will focus on the next level of behavioral progression for the participants. During this time the participant will continue to work on their sobriety and they will also engage in treatment services that more broadly address their individual identified criminogenic needs. Working toward re-establishing relationships, greater sober support networks and developing educational, vocational and employment skills is high priority during this phase. Again, while progressing through each phase is based on individual performance, this phase is estimated to last approximately ten to twelve (10-12) weeks.

Participant requirements for Phase II compliance include:

- Attending treatment sessions, appointments, and other activities as scheduled;
- Attending status review hearings at a minimum of once every two (2) weeks;
- Attending meetings with case managers and/or probation officers;
- Continuing to submit negative alcohol and drug testing samples at a frequency determined by the treatment team, at a minimum of two (2) times per week;
- Taking prescription medication as directed;
- Cooperating with random home visits;
- Engaging in a sober support community and obtaining a sponsor;
- Maintaining employment;
- Abiding by the rules of Drug Court (as stated in the Participation Agreement), community control, and obeying all Federal, state and local laws;
- Committing no new criminal offenses; and
- Identifying long-term education, employment, and housing goals.

## **Phase III**

Phase III is a time where the participant can start putting into practice what they have learned in their previous treatment programming. This phase is designed to assist the participant in reintegrating into society and finding employment. These groups will help the participant process the struggles they are having and slowly step them back towards being self-sufficient. This phase will last approximately ten to twelve (10-12) weeks.

### **Corrective Thinking**

Once in Phase III, the participant shall also attend Corrective Thinking one (1) day per week for one (1) hour and thirty (30) minutes. The Corrective Thinking Program shall aid the participant in developing skills to assist in functioning more effectively within the community. The program addresses judgment skills, problem solving techniques, communication skills, boundaries, thinking errors, difficulty dealing with stress, problems with health and wellness, and financial management issues.

Participant requirements for Phase III compliance include:

- Attending treatment sessions, appointments, and other activities as scheduled;
- Attending status review hearings at a minimum of once every three (3) weeks;
- Attending meetings with case managers and/or probation officers;
- Continuing to submit negative alcohol and drug testing samples at a frequency determined by the treatment team, at a minimum of one (1) time per week;
- Taking prescription medication as directed;
- Cooperating with random home visits;
- Engaging in a sober support community and obtaining a sponsor;
- Abiding by the rules of Drug Court (as stated in the Participation Agreement), community control, and obeying all Federal, state and local laws;
- Committing no new criminal offenses;
- Paying Court costs, fines, and probation supervision fees on a regular basis;
- Obtaining a GED or High School Diploma; and
- Maintaining long-term employment and housing.

#### **Phase IV**

Phase IV is the final phase and will focus on maintaining self-sufficiency and sobriety maintenance. During this phase the participant should become self-sufficient and should maximize their own personal potential. This phase will focus on problem solving and processing their personal struggles as they become independent. This is the final phase and can last approximately twenty-four (24) weeks.

Participant requirements for Phase IV compliance include:

- Attending all treatment sessions, appointments and other activities as scheduled;
- Attending status review hearings at a minimum of once every four weeks;
- Attending meetings with case managers and/or probation officers;
- Continuing to submit negative alcohol and drug testing samples at a frequency determined by the treatment team, at a minimum of one (1) time per week;
- Taking prescription medication as directed;
- Cooperating with home visits;
- Engaging in a sober support community and has obtained a sponsor;
- Abiding by the rules of Drug Court (as stated in the Participation Agreement), community control, and obeying all Federal, state and local laws;
- Committing no new criminal offenses;
- Paying Court costs, fines, and probation supervision fees on a regular basis;
- Obtaining a GED or High School Diploma; and
- Maintaining long-term employment and housing.

#### **Incentives**

Immediate, graduated, and individualized incentives govern the responses of Drug Court to your compliance. Incentives are individualized according to the specific treatment plan and directly related to your achievements as certain milestones of the Drug Court

treatment plan are attained. Incentives are also tracked to ensure you are rewarded on a progressive basis.

The following are types of behavior appropriate for incentives:

- Attending required status review hearings;
- Attending required treatment appointments;
- Maintaining close and productive contact with your case managers;
- Reaching individual treatment objectives;
- Abstaining from alcohol and drugs, as evidenced by negative drug testing results;
- Taking prescription medication as directed;
- Engaging in vocational or educational activities;
- Complying with the rules of Drug Court, the *Drug Court Participation Agreement*, community control, and the laws;
- Securing stable housing;
- Advancing in Drug Court phases; and
- Accomplishing any other milestone identified by the treatment team.

The following are types of incentives:

- Encouragement and praise from the Judge;
- Ceremonies and certificates of progress, including advancement in Drug Court phases;
- Reducing supervision contacts;
- Decreasing frequency of status review hearings;
- Reducing, suspending, or dismissing fines;
- Increasing or expanding privileges;
- Encouragement to increase participation in positive activities you find pleasurable;
- Reducing jail days;
- Graduating from Drug Court; and
- Having the Indictment against you dismissed (if the case is Intervention in Lieu of Conviction).

### **Sanctions**

Immediate, graduated, and individualized sanctions govern Drug Court responses to your noncompliance. Graduated sanctions are used to help you conform your behavior to Program requirements. Sanctions are crafted in an individualized and creative manner, as well as in a progressive manner based on the infraction. Sanctions are issued when there is noncompliance with either Program protocol or the treatment plan. Sanctions shall be used as a deterrent to negative behavior and to encourage future compliance. An adjustment in treatment services, as well as participation in community-based mutual support meetings is based solely on your clinically informed interests. Incremental adjustments to the treatment plan made at the discretion of the Judge and the treatment

team are not to be considered sanctions. However, failure to comply with treatment plan adjustments will subject you to sanctions.

At the time of a positive drug test (which may include a test taken at admission to the Program), the treatment team may consider an adjustment in treatment and/or the possibility of sanctions. Any change in the treatment plan and/or sanctions are enforced and reinforced by the Judge.

A level of sanction is applied to each type of possible infraction. This type of planning ensures lesser infractions will be met with lesser, more commensurate sanctions. Infractions are also tracked, along with resulting sanctions, so that additional sanctions can be applied in a graduated manner.

The following are common types of infractions:

- Failure to attend status review hearings and treatment appointments;
- Failure to follow Drug Court rules;
- Failure to keep scheduled appointments with probation officers, case managers, or any other treatment team member;
- Failure to have your calendar at all Drug Court appointments;
- Noncompliance with other requirements of the treatment plan;
- Noncompliance with random alcohol and drug screens or testing positive for alcohol and/or drugs;
- Failure to take prescription medication as directed;
- Failure to comply with the Drug Court *Participation Agreement*;
- Failure to comply with curfew as established by the treatment team;
- Failure to maintain confidentiality outside of treatment groups;
- Failure to improve troublesome behavior;
- Failure to complete community service hours;
- Failure to meet employment or vocational goals as determined by the treatment plan; and
- Failure to keep other appointments as scheduled, such as those for public benefit aid, health care benefits, housing assistance, etc.

The following are common types of sanctions:

- Warnings and admonishments from the Judge;
- 
- Increasing frequency of alcohol and drug testing;
- More frequent Court appearances (bi-weekly reviews and/or WWS: Wednesday's with Spaeth);
- Refusing specific requests, such as permission to travel;
- Denying additional or expanded privileges, or rescinding privileges previously granted;
- Increasing supervision contacts and monitoring;
- Issuing a no contact order with identified individuals;

- Individualized sanctions such as writing essays, reading books, or performing other activities to reflect upon acceptable behavior;
- Imposition of suspended fines;
- Ordering community service;
- Ordering corrective thinking classes;
- EMHA (Electronic Monitored House Arrest) or SCRAM (Secure Controlled Remote Alcohol Monitoring) bracelets;
- Escalating periods of jail time;
- Filing of probation violation or Intervention in Lieu revocation; and
- Unsuccessful termination from Drug Court.

### **Substance Use Monitoring**

Drug Court monitors your substance use by random, frequent, and observed alcohol and drug testing protocols. Substance monitoring will be part of your individualized treatment plan. You will submit to random, frequent, and observed alcohol and drug screens. Testing positive will result in a sanction. Failure to submit to testing, submitting an adulterated sample, submitting the sample of another individual, or diluting the sample is treated as a positive test and immediately sanctioned.

Testing may include PassPoint ocular scans, instant urinalysis screens, SCRAM, portable breathalyzers, use of scientifically validated technology for ethyl alcohol, or other devices that are deemed reliable. PassPoint ocular scans and urine screens test for many common substances including the participant's substance of choice. All testing shall be recorded and maintained for the duration of your involvement in Drug Court.

In addition to the PassPoint ocular scans, Drug Court utilizes instant urine screens and other types of testing that allow for laboratory confirmation testing. Upon a positive test result, you will be confronted with the result and given the opportunity to either sign an admission form or contest the positive test. If contested, the test will be sent to a certified laboratory for confirmation. While waiting for the laboratory results, sanctions are not issued. However, if the test returns a positive confirmation, then a more severe sanction, which could result in a probation violation, an Intervention in Lieu revocation hearing, and/or termination from Drug Court, may be issued based on deception and the use of substances. The laboratory fee for a confirmed positive test may be applied to your Court costs.

The results of substance monitoring tests will be provided to the appropriate treatment team members. The Judge shall be immediately notified if/when you fail to submit to a test, submit an adulterated sample, submit the sample of another individual, or dilute the sample. You shall be ordered to appear before the Judge on the next available status review hearing Docket so that sanctions can be immediately issued.

At the time of a positive drug test (which may include a test taken at admission to the Program), the treatment team may consider an adjustment in treatment and/or the

possibility of sanctions. Any change in the treatment plan and/or sanctions are enforced and reinforced by the Judge.

Your responsibilities include the following:

- Call the PassPoint ocular scan system voicemail daily between 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 A.M. to find out if you are required to submit to a scan that day.;
- If your assigned color has been selected, you are to report to the Butler County Department of Court Services located at 824 South Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Hamilton, Ohio to submit to the PassPoint ocular scan during the specified hours that same business day;
- Submit an instant urine screen if upon PassPoint ocular scan and passive breath test the PassPoint system determines you are a high risk for substance use;
- Provide information regarding prescription medications to both your assigned probation officer and your assigned case manager.

### **Successful Completion**

Written successful completion criteria has been collaboratively developed, reviewed, and agreed upon by the Advisory Committee. Successful completion criteria serve as the guidelines used to identify how you can successfully complete Drug Court. In order to successfully complete Drug Court, you shall demonstrate the compliant behavior and accomplishments listed below:

Compliant behavior may include:

- Demonstrating a period of abstinence from alcohol and drugs (evidenced by negative drug screens for a minimum of ninety [90] days prior to completion of Drug Court);
- Completing community service hours;
- Maintaining prescription medication as directed;
- Attending sober support group meetings;
- Obtaining a sober support sponsor;
- Active member in a sober support group;
- Complying with Drug Court rules, the Drug Court *Participation Agreement*, and/or the rules of community control;
- Displaying a change in thinking, attitude, and beliefs;
- Successfully completed treatment and programming;
- Obtaining/maintaining consistent employment;
- Demonstrating the ability to identify and eliminate criminal thinking patterns;
- Paying towards Court costs, supervision fees, and restitution (if applicable); and
- Writing an essay on how Drug Court has affected your life.

Accomplishments may include:

- Demonstrated a period of abstinence from alcohol and drugs (evidenced by negative drug screens for a minimum of ninety [90] days prior to completion of Drug Court);
- Relapse prevention plan established;
- Regular sober support attendance;
- Obtained a sober support sponsor;
- Completed community service hours;
- Completed any other Drug Court requirements;
- Completed vocational or educational plans;
- Paid towards Court costs, supervision fees, and restitution (if applicable);
- Displayed responsibility for your behavior;
- Demonstrated stability in the community;
- Obtained/maintained consistent employment;
- Obtained/maintained stable housing; and
- Completion of treatment.

Upon review of the compliant behavior, and of your accomplishments, the treatment team may recommend successful completion. The Judge has final discretion to determine when you will successfully complete Drug Court. Upon successful completion of Drug Court, you shall participate in a graduation ceremony hosted by the Court and shall receive a Certificate of Completion. If your case is that of Intervention in Lieu of Conviction, and you have complied with all requirements under R.C. 2951.041, then the Indictment against you may be dismissed.

### **Unsuccessful Termination**

Written unsuccessful termination criteria has been collaboratively developed, reviewed, and agreed upon by the Advisory Committee. Unsuccessful termination criteria serve as the guidelines used to identify how you can be unsuccessfully terminated from Drug Court. The Drug Court Judge has final discretion in determining termination from the specialized docket. The written legal and clinical eligibility and termination criteria do not create a right to participate in Drug Court.

Criteria for unsuccessful termination from Drug Court include:

- On-going noncompliance with treatment;
- Continued use of illegal substances;
- A verified positive confirmation from a contested drug screen;
- On-going noncompliance with Drug Court rules, the Drug Court *Participation Agreement*, or the rules of community control;
- Noncompliance with prescribed medications;
- Noncompliance with confidentiality;
- Absconding from community control supervision;
- New criminal convictions;

- Continued Drug Court infractions resulting in graduated sanctions; and
- Probation violation or Intervention in Lieu revocation hearings.

### **Neutral Discharge**

Written neutral discharge criteria has been collaboratively developed, reviewed, and agreed upon by the Advisory Committee. Neutral discharge criteria serve as the guidelines used to identify how you can be neutrally discharged from Drug Court. The Drug Court Judge has final discretion in determining termination from the specialized docket.

You may be neutrally discharged from Drug Court if you are no longer capable of completing Drug Court as a result of any of the following:

- A serious medical condition;
- Death;
- Other factors that may keep you from meeting the requirements for successful completion; and
- Discretion by the Drug Court Judge to determine if you are no longer appropriate for Drug Court.

Upon neutral discharge from Drug Court, the level of community control supervision shall be determined by the Judge.

### **Inactive Status**

Drug Court has an inactive status for participants who meet any of the following:

- Placed in a residential facility (Community Based Correctional Facility) and cannot be transported for Court review hearings;
- Serving time in a local or state jail facility for another county/jurisdiction; and
- Absconded from community control supervision.