

Drug Court is...



- A judicially supervised treatment based program for adults who are charged with certain drug related crimes and who are facing criminal prosecution.
- A program offering non-traditional and individualized treatment for chemical dependency as an alternative to criminal prosecution.
- An environment with clear and specific expectations and goals. It features a team approach to rigorous treatment, coordinated with intensive supervision, random drug and alcohol testing, regular and frequent court appearances and educational opportunities.
- A proven method of controlling drug usage and criminality of drug-using offenders.
- It's not an easy way out of jail.

DRUG COURT TEAM

Presiding Judge.....Oscar J. Hale Jr.
Drug Court Administrator.....Myrthala Alejo
Drug Docket Coordinator.....Concepcion Wise
Drug Court Clerk.....Claudia Martinez
Drug Court Case Manager.....Melissa Carter
Assistant District Attorney's.....Jorge Trevino
Melissa Saldana
Defense Attorneys..... Dolores Martinez
Kristen Langford
Geovanna Guimbarde
Counselor (Outpatient).....Norma A. Gonzalez
Counselor (Inpatient).....Michael Benitez
Community Supervision Office.....Nancy Brewster
Juan Ramirez Jr.
Victor Oliveros

Drug Court Administrator: 523-4873
District Attorney's Office: 523-4900
Public Defender's Office: 523-4101
Rio Grande Valley Council: (956) 566-9501
Adult Probation: 523-4373

For Drug Court Information contact,

406th District Court
Adult Drug Court Program
1110 Victoria Street, Suite 402
Laredo, Texas 78040
Phone: 956-523-4954
Fax: 956-523-5074

Webb County
406th
District Court

Drug Court
Program



Participant's
Guide to the
Program

Judge
Oscar J. Hale Jr.

Judicially Supervised Treatment

Drug Court is a judicially supervised treatment program for chemical dependency as an alternative to criminal prosecution in Webb County. Screening for participation is a two step process—Eligibility and Suitability.

Drug Court Eligibility

The Prosecutor is the sole determiner of a participant's eligibility for Drug Court. Drug Court is limited to defendants who:

- Have no current charges involving a violent felony offense.
 - Have no current charges of a sexual nature.
 - Have no use of fire arm in their current charge.
 - Are charged with eligible offenses
- ⇒ Drug offenses including possession
- ⇒ Non-drug offenses if drug driven (such as: Forgeries, Thefts, etc)
- ⇒ Drug related felony probation violation

Drug Court Suitability

After a participant has been found eligible, they must be screened to determine suitability for the program. The candidate must be willing to participate in treatment and education programs.

Drug Court Program Elements

Treatment can be either inpatient or outpatient and is based upon the participant's assessment.

PHASE I—*Initiation and Stabilization*

- From 12 to 24 weeks
- Group Sessions: 2 times/week
- Individual Sessions: 1 time/week
- Weekly Random Drug Testing
- 12-Step Meetings: 3 times/week
- Weekly Court Appearances
- Weekly contact with Probation
- Payment of court fees (\$300)
- 15 Community Service Hours

◆ PHASE II—*Consolidation*

- From 12 to 24 weeks
- Group Sessions: 1 time/week
- Individual Sessions: Every 2 weeks
- Weekly Random Drug Testing
- 12-Step Meetings: 3 times/week
- Court Appearance: Every 2 weeks
- Meet with Probation: Every 2 weeks
- Employment or School Attendance
- Payment of court fees (\$300)
- 15 Community Service Hours

◆ PHASE III—*Reintegration*

- From 16 to 24 weeks
- Group Sessions: 1 time/week
- Individual Sessions: 1 time/month
- Weekly Random Drug Testing
- 12-Step Meetings: 3 times/week
- Court Appearances: 1 time/month
- Meet with Probation: 1 time/month
- Peer-to-Peer meeting: 2 times/month
- Employment or School Attendance
- Payment of court fees (\$400)
- 20 Community Service Hours

PHASE IV—*Aftercare*

- From 12 to 24 weeks
- 12-Step Meetings: 3 times/week
- Contact with Probation Office as directed
- Peer to Peer meetings: 2 times/month
- Employment and/or School Attendance
- Court fees paid in full
- Monthly alumni meetings group meetings

Drug Court Graduation

Successful completion of the Drug Court Program is recognized by a Graduation ceremony. Guest speakers acknowledge the efficacy of the program and the success of the participant. Graduation certificates are awarded and the original charge(s) against the participant are dismissed.

Drug Court Termination

Failure of a participant to abide by the Drug Court requirements results in termination from the program. There is no trial. The record is read, finding is made, and sentencing occurs immediately. Possible reasons for termination are: New Felony Drug Charge, Excessive Non-compliance and others.

