



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

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Mason County holds second drug court graduation

For immediate release

POINT PLEASANT, W.Va. – The Mason County Adult Drug Court held its second graduation on Friday, Feb. 27.

The single graduate requested anonymity, so no prior announcement was made of the ceremony held in the courtroom of Fifth Judicial Circuit Judge David W. Nibert in the Mason County Courthouse in Point Pleasant.

There currently are twenty-four adult drug court programs serving forty counties and sixteen juvenile drug court programs serving twenty counties.

Rigorous evaluation and research has demonstrated that, where adult drug courts are implemented consistent with models and procedures developed based on objective studies, they significantly reduce recidivism and substance abuse among high-risk substance abusing offenders. Properly implemented adult drug courts increase the likelihood of successful rehabilitation while simultaneously reducing the cost to the public below the historic costs of addressing these problems in the criminal justice system.

West Virginia's first adult drug court was established in the Northern Panhandle in 2005. In 2009 the West Virginia Legislature enacted legislation which codified adult drug courts in West Virginia under the administration, control and responsibility of the Supreme Court. As part of the Justice Reinvestment Act passed in 2014, adult drug courts will be established in all of West Virginia's counties by July 1, 2016.

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