

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

What happens if a defendant completes the drug court program? The defendant shall maintain a minimum of one year drug free living and will possess the knowledge and tools he or she needs upon graduation to remain drug free. Depending upon the Defendant's particular charge, the disposition of the case may range from the State dropping the charges, to the Defendant's drug offender probation terminating.

What happens if a defendant fails to complete drug court? A defendant who fails to comply with the terms and conditions of drug court may be terminated and the suspended sentence will be imposed.

What happens if a defendant fails a drug screen or fails to attend treatment as recommended? The defendant may receive a sanction. Sanctions may include but are not limited to writing essays, entry into a residential treatment program, community service or jail time.

What are the Drug Court treatment components? Components may include but are not limited to structured participation in adult basic education and employment training, mandatory random drug testing, self-help groups and integration with the recovery community, skills training in relapse prevention and coping skills associated with healthy life styles.

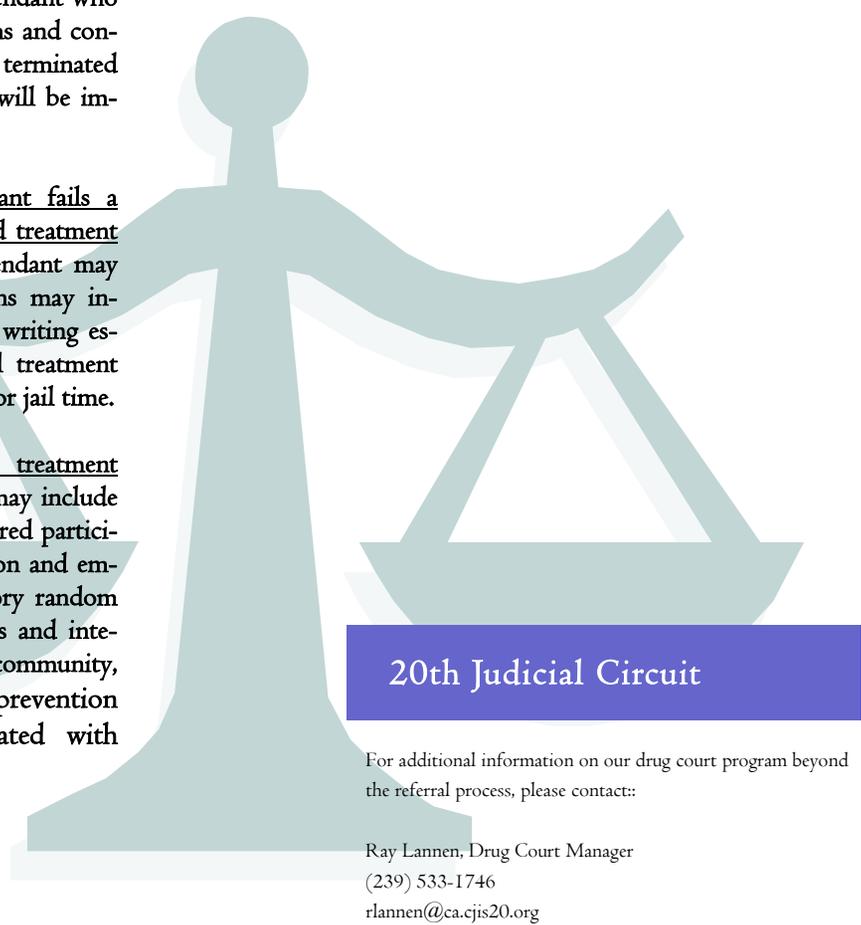
TREATMENT PROVIDERS

DAVID LAWRENCE MENTAL HEALTH CENTER:
Regina Gower-239-643-6101 Ext. 2218

ATWELL CENTER:
Patricia Bolitsky-239-450-0033

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (DOC):
Mr. Jay Freshwater: 239-417-4595

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER:
239-774-8397



20th Judicial Circuit

For additional information on our drug court program beyond the referral process, please contact:

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20th Judicial Circuit

COLLIER COUNTY ADULT FELONY DRUG COURT

*Changing and Saving Lives through
Honesty, Personal Responsibility and
Recovery*



Honorable Christine Greider
Collier County Court Judge

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Defendants are placed on two (2) years Drug Offender Probation, a requirement of which is an extensive treatment program lasting a minimum of the first twelve months of probation. A Defendant's successful completion of the program may avoid convictions on their record depending on the status of their case at the time they entered the program. A Defendant attends Drug Court regularly where their progress is discussed with the entire Drug Court Team, including the Judge. Entry into the program is voluntary, but once accepted into the program, compliance is required.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Felony drug court focuses on the individual adult offender charged with non-violent felony drug or drug related charges, including violations of probation. The goal is to teach substance abusers how to get off drugs and alcohol, and how to get into and stay in recovery. Another goal is to stop substance abusers from committing new crimes and going to jail.

This program will improve their lives by re-uniting them with their families and helping them to become productive members of society.

HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

In order to participate in the Drug Court program, Defendants must meet clearly defined criteria. Referrals come from the State Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, private attorneys, treatment providers, family members and the Department of Corrections.

Once identified, the Defendant is screened by a drug addiction specialist to confirm that they are appropriate for the program. The State Attorney's Office will review the booking report and criminal history record and make the final determination for acceptance into the program.

Once accepted, the Defendant begins one of four phases of treatment. The defendant will report for regular court appearances and his or her progress will be discussed with the Drug Court Team and the Drug Court Judge. The Drug Court Team consists of representatives from the State Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the Department of Corrections, the Atwell Center and David Lawrence Mental Health Center.

FEES

This program requires the participant to pay for his or her treatment, and other costs associated with the Program. Court Cost may be deferred until successful completion of the Program.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DRUG COURT AND TRADITIONAL COURT PROCEEDINGS THAT ORDER TREATMENT IS SIMPLE.

In Drug Court, Defendants not only receive the typical treatment interventions of group therapy, education and counseling, but are also required to appear before the Drug Court Judge on a weekly basis in addition to being tested randomly on a weekly basis for drug use. Each time the Defendant appears in court, their participation in treatment and urinalysis results are reviewed by the Judge. If the reviews are favorable, the Defendant receives incentives and praise for their efforts. If the report reflects a lack of treatment participation or the urinalysis testing reports drug use, the Drug Court Judge responds with an appropriate court-ordered sanction.