



*SUPERIOR COURT OF
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COUNTY OF SOLANO*

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Press Release

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SUPERIOR COURT RECEIVES ADULT DRUG COURT GRANT

The Superior Court of California, County of Solano is pleased to announce it is the recipient of a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration within the Department of Health and Human Services. The \$929,085 grant will be used to start an Adult Drug Court program at the Court's Vallejo Branch through July 2016. The Hon. Tim. P. Kam will handle this calendar, which anticipates serving 50 adults per year over the next three years, for a total of 150 adults. The program will also add a probation officer and a case manager to the team to handle the cases in Vallejo.

As stated by the Hon. Paul L. Beeman, Presiding Judge, "The Court is thrilled to be the recipient of this federal grant. We are pleased to expand this program to the Vallejo Courthouse. Judge Kam will do an outstanding job handling this calendar."

According to Brian Taylor, Court Executive Officer, "this is one of ten grants awarded nationwide by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration for this funding cycle."

The mission of the Adult Drug Court is to create an environment that reduces crime and promotes the offender's recovery through a coordinated response of the Drug Court Judge and other Team members. Rather than focusing on punishment, the Drug Court Judge and other team members take on the role of trying to keep participants engaged in treatment by using the powers of the Court to monitor and enforce compliance.

Drug Courts significantly reduce drug use and crime and are more cost-effective than any other proven criminal justice strategy. According to the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, 75% of Drug Court graduates remain arrest-free at least two years after leaving the program. Statistics show that Drug Courts significantly reduce crime as much as 45 percent more than any other sentencing option. Nationwide, for every \$1.00 invested in Drug Court, taxpayers save as much as \$3.36 in avoided criminal justice costs alone.

The program's intensive monitoring is proven to keep participants engaged in substance abuse treatment. Unless offenders are held accountable through a program, 70% drop out of treatment prematurely. Drug Courts are very effective in reducing methamphetamine use by more than 50% compared to outpatient treatment alone.

Drug Courts are also effective in restoring families. Parents in Drug Courts are twice as likely to go to treatment and complete it. Children of those participants spend significantly less time in out-of-home placements such as foster care. Family reunification rates are 50% higher for Drug Court participants.