



# Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

## News

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### **Logan County to hold first drug court graduation**

**For immediate release Thursday, March 10, 2011**

**LOGAN, W.Va. – Four adults and two juveniles will be the first to graduate from the Logan County section of the Southwestern Regional Drug Court during a ceremony at noon on Friday, March 11.**

**Supreme Court Justice Brent D. Benjamin and Seventh Judicial Circuit Judge Eric H. O'Briant will speak at the event at the Earl Ray Tomblin Hotel and Conference Center in Chief Logan State Park.**

**The Southwestern Regional Drug Court serves Boone, Lincoln, and Logan Counties and began accepting clients in January 2009.**

**Adult Treatment Courts were implemented in West Virginia in 2003 with the opening of a regional mental health court serving Brooke, Hancock, Ohio, and Marshall Counties. West Virginia now also has 11 regional adult drug courts serving 29 of 55 counties and 10 juvenile drug courts serving 11 counties.**

**Treatment Courts integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services and/or mental health treatment services with criminal justice system case processing. The goal is to reduce recidivism, substance abuse and cost of incarceration while enhancing community safety and quality of life for all citizens. Treatment teams consist of judges, magistrates, prosecutors, defense counsel, treatment providers, day report center employees, law enforcement personnel, probation officers, court staff, and others.**

**Through a non-adversarial team approach, offenders who abuse or are addicted to substances are offered treatment, education, community service, and other rehabilitative services as an alternative to traditional criminal justice processing. This occurs under ongoing intensive judicial supervision, including frequent alcohol and drug testing, in order to help the offender become a productive, law-abiding, and tax-paying citizen.**

**Juvenile drug courts are cooperative efforts of the juvenile justice, social service, law enforcement and education systems in West Virginia. They divert non-violent youths ages 10 to 17 who abuse alcohol or drugs from the juvenile court system into an intensive, individualized treatment process which includes parental involvement and cooperation. The goal of juvenile drug courts is to prevent participants from having any further contact with the juvenile justice system.**

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