



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

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Kanawha County to hold drug court graduation **For immediate release Monday, September 24, 2012**

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Five individuals will graduate from the Kanawha County adult drug court program at 3 p.m. Thursday, September 27.

The event will be held in the ceremonial courtroom in the Kanawha County Courthouse, 407 Virginia Street, Charleston. Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Judge Jennifer Bailey is the presiding judge of the drug court.

The West Virginia court system continues to add drug courts throughout the state and to celebrate graduates who complete the specialty court programs.

Currently there are thirteen adult drug courts serving thirty counties and thirteen juvenile drug courts serving fifteen counties.

The Kanawha County adult drug court was established in 2009 and is a hybrid DUI/drug court taking pre-adjudication, post-conviction, probation violation, and DUI cases.

The Kanawha County program has graduated twenty-eight other adults.

Adult drug courts serve eligible substance-abusing or drug-addicted offenders who receive treatment and other services in lieu of going through traditional justice system case processing.

The goal of drug courts is to help participants overcome addictions that led them to commit crimes, thus improving the quality of life for them and their families. Turning people who might have become repeat offenders into productive citizens also improves public safety and can be more cost-effective and humane than incarceration for those who have committed non-violent crimes and are a low to moderate risk to the community.

Prosecutors and judges choose which offenders may participate.

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