



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

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Adult drug courts in Mason, Greenbrier Counties to hold graduation ceremonies Dec. 12

For immediate release

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Adult drug courts in Point Pleasant and Lewisburg will hold graduation ceremonies on Dec. 12.

The Mason County Adult Drug Court will hold its first graduation ceremony at noon in the circuit court courtroom of the Mason County Courthouse in Point Pleasant.

“This ceremony will not only recognize the first participant to successfully complete our program, but represents the diligent efforts the graduate has displayed throughout her participation in the program to live a sober, prosocial lifestyle,” said Christopher A. Johnson, the Mason County Drug Court Probation Officer.

Supreme Court Justice Brent D. Benjamin will attend the ceremony for seven adults who will graduate from the Southeastern Regional Drug Court Program. The ceremony will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Dec. 12 in the main courtroom of the Greenbrier County Courthouse in Lewisburg.

The graduates will bring to 64 the number of adults who have completed the program since it began serving Greenbrier and Pocahontas Counties in June 2009.

West Virginia has a growing network of adult and juvenile drug courts, which are intensive supervision probation programs.

Juvenile drug court participants are usually in the program for six to eight months. Initially, a participant meets with the drug court judge weekly and a probation officer several times per week. Juvenile drug courts are intended for youths who are at risk of becoming addicted, not those who are already addicted.

Adult drug courts include those who already are addicted. Participants complete a treatment program of no less than twelve months. They are required to attend group and individual counseling, to take drug tests multiple times per week, to perform community service work, to participate in education programs, and to work on individualized rehabilitation plans as directed. They meet with probation officers frequently and see the drug court judge at least weekly.

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