



Supreme Court of Appeals State of West Virginia

News

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Justice Benjamin to attend drug court graduation in Romney today

For immediate release

ROMNEY, W.Va. – Supreme Court Justice Brent D. Benjamin will attend a graduation ceremony today for about a dozen adults who have completed the program of the South Branch Valley Drug Court.

The ceremony will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, June 13, in the courtroom of the historic Hampshire County Courthouse, 66 North High St., in Romney.

The twelve adults who will graduate, plus one who will graduate in a private ceremony next week, join thirteen others who have completed the program since the South Branch Valley Drug Court opened in January 2011.

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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