

Can I leave my monthly report form on the box in the lobby of the Probation Department as I used to do? No, every person on Drugs Offender Supervision will report in person to a Probation Officer. No exceptions.

Can the Probation Officer do a drug test in my house? Yes, the Probation Officers have been trained in this area and will have drug testing capabilities. Defendants can be drug or alcohol tested at any time.

Am I going to be able to go on vacations or leave the state? That will be up to your Probation Officer after reviewing your case.

What happens when a defendant completes drug offender Probation? The defendant will have had six months to one year of drug free living, depending on the length of probation, and will possess the knowledge and tools needed to remain drug free. In addition, we will track successful terminations, as well as run local checks on defendants 6 months after probation to determine if they have re-offended and if so, the nature of the new charge.

How do I graduate from this program?  
A defendant who demonstrates a clean and sober lifestyle may be placed back onto regular probation for the remainder of their sentence. This will be determined on a case by case basis.

## 20th Judicial Circuit

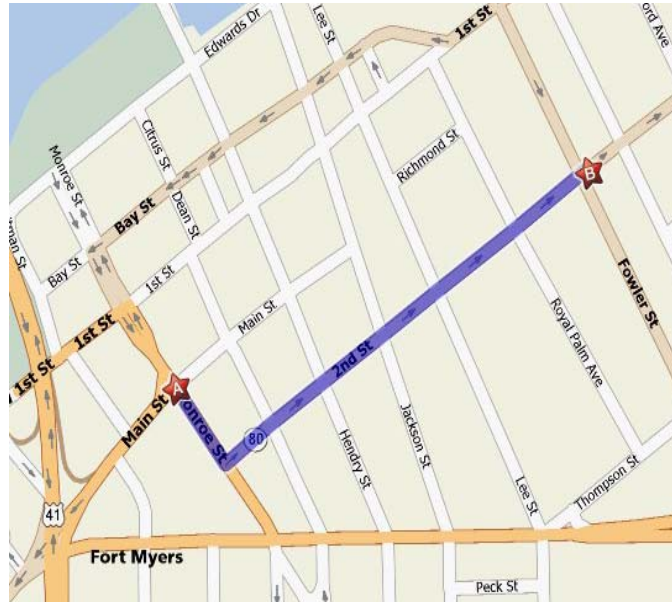
### Contacts for Drug Offender Probation referrals:

*Jeff Nichols, Deputy Criminal Justice Director*

*jnichols@ca.cjis20.org (239) 533-9199*

*Tanya Slater Director for TLS Consulting*

*tlsconsulting@embarqmail.com (239) 997-7770*



### A The Justice Center    B TLS Consulting

From the Justice Center you will take 2nd Street (East) all the way to the southeast corner of 2nd Street and Fowler Street. The building's name is Palm City Executive Center. TLS Consulting is located on the first floor.

## 20th Judicial Circuit

For additional information on our Drug Offender Probation beyond the referral process, please contact:

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## 20th Judicial Circuit

# LEE COUNTY DRUG OFFENDER PROBATION



### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

Drug Offender Probation is an intensified form of supervision where the Probation Officer provides a proactive approach towards defendants who show a pattern of committing crimes to support a drug habit. This approach will consist of the Officer having weekly contact with the probationer which may be out in the community or in The Justice Center.

### PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

Our Officers will work in a proactive, rather than reactive fashion with defendants who exhibit a substance abuse problem. The Officer will provide guidance and coaching to assist defendants in becoming and remaining drug free and active in counseling. It is our hope that a defendant that completes this program will become a productive member of our community.

### BENEFITS:

- Increased defendant contact achieved by requiring frequent face to face reporting.
- Consistent field visits to verify living

arrangements and employment.

- Random urine screens and/or Breathalyzer tests.
- Closer working relationship with treatment providers to ensure group attendance.
- More attention paid to the defendant from the onset which will boost compliance.
- Required participation in AA/NA, support group or other group counseling.

### HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS:

There are two ways for a defendant to enter Drug Offender Probation. The Court can order this program as a special condition when sentencing a person to a new term of probation or a Probation Officer can recommend the program in conjunction with reinstatement of an existing case where a violation has been proven. We feel that in order for the program to succeed we must work hand in hand with treatment providers. We have secured the participation of Tanya Slater of TLS Consulting, who will act as our primary treatment provider and offer a step plan approach derived by assessing the individual

needs of the defendant. Being that the defendants are in a more intensified form of supervision we would also consider defendants who have shown good faith and compliance with the program to be candidates for re-entry to a standard caseload. This option would be exercised when approved by the Deputy Criminal Justice Director.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

What happens if a defendant violates probation? Our Officers are aware that the defendant's main problem is drug/alcohol abuse and relapse is a very real possibility. If a violation occurs we may recommend additional community service or in extreme circumstances, and as a last resort we may ask that the defendant be placed back into custody and receive substance abuse treatment supervised by Tanya Slater in the Lee County Jail.

What happens if a defendant fails a drug screen or fails to attend treatment as recommended? The defendant may receive a sanction and the severity level will depend upon honesty. Defendants will be held accountable for their actions. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to attending additional treatment, community service or jail time.

Is the Probation Officer going to visit me at my house or employment? Yes, the Probation Officers assigned to this program will do regular field visits as well as checking the residence for Drugs or alcohol.