

## Who is eligible for the program?

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Adult resident of Charlotte County, Florida
- Non-Violent
- Either (a) Sanctioned and approved by the Office of the State's Attorney for referral to the Drug Court Program as part of a binding plea agreement -or- (b) referred as a condition of a violation of probation
- Consent to enter Drug Court.
- Subject to at least 18 months of probation.
- Must have and admit to a drug problem.
- Clinically manageable in an outpatient program.
- If the defendant has a co-occurring mental health diagnosis, that person will be able to maintain compliance with medication management as prescribed (if applicable) and will be willing to maintain compliance during the course of the program.
- The Offender must be capable of participating in Drug Court activities and programs.

### EXCLUSIONARY CRITERIA

- Persons who do not live in Charlotte County.
- Persons on drug maintenance therapy (e.g. Methadone) or pain management medications. Exceptions will be considered on an individual basis.
- Persons with a history of violent crime, including sex offenders.
- Persons not meeting DSM-IV criteria for substance abuse or dependence and/or do not admit to having a drug problem
- Persons requiring detoxification and/or inpatient treatment. If detoxification and/or inpatient treatment services are required, the defendant shall be referred to appropriate facilities. Admission to drug court shall be deferred until the client is considered appropriate for outpatient treatment.

### Drug Court Committee:

Each week your case will be closely monitored and supervised by each participant involved in Drug Court to include the following:

- Presiding Drug Court Judge
- Drug Court Program Manager
- Charlotte Behavioral Health Care treatment team
- Defense Counsel
- State Attorney
- Pretrial Services
- Department of Corrections

For more information, contact:  
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CHARLOTTE



Behavioral Health Care

CHARLOTTE COUNTY  
DRUG COURT



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## What is the Drug Court program?

If you have been arrested and you have a substance abuse disorder or co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse disorder, you may have an opportunity to participate in the Charlotte County Drug Court program. Certain criminal charges are not eligible. It is a collaborative effort between the State Attorney, Defense Counsel, Judicial System, Department of Corrections, Criminal Justice System, and Charlotte Behavioral Health Care.

This is a voluntary program which includes regular court appearances before a designated Drug Court Judge, intensive outpatient treatment, which includes drug testing, participation in individual/group counseling, and regular attendance at 12-step meetings. The Drug Court Treatment Program is a four-phase, highly structured treatment program lasting for a minimum of twelve months, depending upon your individual progress. Drug Court works concurrently with DOC probation and you will be required to report to your probation officer as instructed and you are subject to terms and conditions of your probation during your entire course of treatment. Any deviation or noncompliance from your treatment and probationary requirements will result in a sanction as determined by the Drug Court Judge. Each phase consists of specified treatment objectives, therapeutic and rehabilitative activities, and specific requirements for advancement into the next phase.

## Summary and Overview of Treatment Phases

### PHASE I & II - INTAKE, ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT

In Phases I & II, you will be assigned to a probation officer and a drug treatment counselor. They will comprise your treatment team and will provide you with an orientation / overview of the Drug Court Program. Your needs will be assessed and a treatment plan will be developed. Phase I and II requirements include:

- Regular attendance at 12-Step meetings (90 meetings in 90 days upon admission, followed by a minimum of 4 per week)
- Drug Testing
- Four group therapy sessions weekly
- Weekly or bi-weekly court appearances as determined by the Drug Court Judge.

### PHASE III - ONGOING TREATMENT/RELAPSE PREVENTION

In Phase III, your treatment plan will be updated by you and your counselor to identify your treatment goals and objectives. Counseling and meetings will focus on relapse prevention issues and help you to identify ways of coping with stressful situations. Phase III requirements include:

- Two group therapy sessions weekly
- Drug testing
- Regular attendance at 12-Step meetings (minimum of 4 per week)
- Monthly court appearances as determined by the Drug Court Judge

### PHASE IV - GRADUATION/MENTORING

Phase IV will address your ongoing recovery needs including maintaining total abstinence from all substances. The focus will be on daily living skills. This phase is designed to support you in your return to the community as a productive and responsible member. Phase IV requirements include:

- One group therapy session weekly
- Drug testing
- Regular attendance at 12-Step meetings (minimum of 4 per week)
- Monthly court appearances as determined by the Drug Court Judge
- Prepare application for graduation

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