

## **SOBRIETY COURT PROGRAM RULES**

As a Sobriety Court participant, you will be required to abide by the following rules:

1. Follow all probation conditions as ordered, including all appointments with the probation officer.
2. Attend your assigned treatment program and recovery support meetings as required.
3. Notify the probation officer and Sobriety Court immediately of all changes of address, phone number, and employment status.
4. Be on time for all Sobriety Court sessions and come prepared to stay for the full session.
5. Pay fine and program fees as directed by the Judge.

## **PROGRAM VIOLATIONS/TERMINATION**

It is important to follow the program rules and keep all scheduled appointments. Program violations could result in the imposition of sanctions or termination from the Sobriety Court. Program violations could include \*\* missed or positive drug or PBT tests \*\* failing to cooperate with or actively participate in the treatment program \*\* failing to attend the treatment program or recovery support meetings as required \*\*providing false information \*\*violence or threats of violence directed at program staff, treatment staff, or other clients \*\* arrest or conviction for a new criminal case. All decisions regarding sanctions or termination from the program will be made by the Sobriety Court Judge in collaboration with the Sobriety Court Treatment Team. Termination from the program may result in a jail sentence.

## **GRADUATION**

Once you have successfully completed the Sobriety Court program, you will graduate. Advancement to graduation will be determined by the Sobriety Court Judge in collaboration with the Treatment Team and based on your program progress. You will be required to have completed all phases of the program, maintain employment, and have paid all required fines, restitution, program and court fees, prior to graduation from the program. At your graduation ceremony, your family and friends will be invited to be in attendance as the Judge and team congratulate you for successfully completing Sobriety Court and achieving **YOUR** goal to live a sober life.

### **61<sup>st</sup> District Court Sobriety Court**

180 Ottawa Ave. NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
Phone (616) 632-5650

# **61<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT COURT SOBRIETY COURT**



## **PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK**

**Sobriety Court Judge:**

Honorable Jeanine N. LaVille

**Sobriety Court Probation Officers:**

Jacquelyn Morris  
Jeanette Boggiano

**Phone:** (616) 632-5650

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# WELCOME TO THE 61<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT COURT SOBRIETY COURT

This pamphlet is designed to answer questions, address concerns and provide overall information about the Sobriety Court Program. As a participant, you will be expected to comply with the treatment plan developed by the Judge, your probation officer and treatment counselor. Specific questions should be directed to your probation officer. We encourage you to share this pamphlet with your family and friends, however, although they are important to your recovery, we request that you **NOT** have them accompany you at your scheduled court status hearings.

## **SOBRIETY COURT SESSIONS**

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The Sobriety Court is a comprehensive treatment and monitoring program for non-violent defendants that uses a team approach to supervision. The Judge, probation officer, and treatment staff will regularly communicate regarding your progress. Sobriety Court targets individuals charged with drunk driving or other alcohol-related offenses, who have a substance abuse history, and are likely to continue a pattern of crime because of their addiction.

Inclusion in this program is not voluntary and is determined by agreement of the probation staff, assigned Judge, and the Sobriety Court Judge and team after their review of your substance abuse history as well as your driving and criminal records. This program includes regular court appearances before a designated Sobriety Court Judge. The Sobriety Court uses a combination of positive and negative reinforcement to change behavior. Upon entry into Sobriety Court you will be assigned to a treatment program that best suits your needs. Treatment will include Preliminary Breath Test (PBT) and drug testing, individual and group counseling, and regular attendance at recovery support meetings or other recovery groups. In addition to substance abuse treatment, each individual will be screened for inclusion in education, job-training, family counseling, or other programs designed to alter negative behavior.

Other conditions of probation such as fines, fees, restitution, tether, work crew, or community service may also be imposed. Your license will be suspended and an abstract sent to the Secretary of State. Your **successful** participation in Sobriety Court will reduce the length of anticipated incarceration for your offense.

## **SOBRIETY COURT SUPERVISION**

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As a Sobriety Court participant, you will be required to appear in Sobriety Court before the judge on a regular basis and to fulfill all other requirements of the program. The Sobriety Court program is divided into four phases.

### **PHASE I: Duration minimum of three months**

Participants are required to appear in court bi-weekly and attend probation appointments weekly. There will be drug/PBT tests and attendance at a recovery support meetings a minimum of three times each week. Additionally, there will be individual and/or group counseling and participation in educational programs and/or employment.

### **PHASE II: Duration minimum of three months**

Participants are required to appear in court monthly and attend probation appointments bi-weekly or as directed. There will be random drug/PBT tests and attendance at a recovery support meetings a minimum of three times each week. Additionally, there will be individual and/or group counseling as directed and required participation in education programs or employment.

### **PHASE III: Duration minimum of three months**

Participants are required to appear in court monthly and attend probation appointments bi-weekly or as directed. There will be random drug/PBT tests and attendance at a recovery support meetings a minimum of three times each week. Additionally, you are to maintain any other counseling as directed and continue participation in education programs or employment.

### **PHASE IV: Duration two to five months**

Participants are required to appear in court monthly and attend probation appointments monthly. There will be random drug/PBT testing and attendance at a recovery support meetings a minimum of three times each week. Additionally, you are to maintain any other counseling as directed and continue participation in education programs or employment.

Movement between phases of the program is based on “individual progress” and will be decided by the Sobriety Court Team (Judge, probation officer, treatment providers). The progress of each client is assessed weekly. Program violations will result in sanctions and possible return to an earlier phase of the program.

## **SOBRIETY COURT SESSIONS**

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**ATTENDANCE AT ALL SOBRIETY COURT SESSIONS IS REQUIRED.** The Sobriety Court Judge will be given a progress report from the treatment team at each Sobriety Court session. The report will include information about your drug and PBT test results, attendance at counseling, attend recovery support meetings and probation meetings, attitude toward participation in the program and employment/education status. The Judge may ask you questions about your progress and discuss any specific problems you have been experiencing. If you are not doing well, the Judge will discuss this with you and determine further action/changes. The goal of the Sobriety Court is to help you achieve abstinence from alcohol and other drugs. The Judge and the Treatment Team may change the conditions of your treatment program based on your success or failure. Sanctions such as jail, tether, increased reporting, and work crew or community service may be imposed for program failures.

## **PROGRAM SANCTIONS**

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Each violation of a program rule or relapse will be reviewed individually. Discharge from the program will depend on the severity of the violation. However, in all cases, a sanction may be imposed. Sanctions may include: increased court appearances, increased recovery support meetings, community service, tether, a jail sentence, extension of or repetition of a treatment program, or movement to a lower phase in the program.