

deferred jail time, which can be used for a reward or punishment, as deemed necessary.

Sanctions may be imposed when participants break their contract. Close supervision and monitoring of the participants are necessary for the public's safety. Judges take quick action when an individual violates requirements of the program. Among the tools used by the judges are:

- Jail time for a weekend, or any duration that the judge determines is appropriate to get the participant's attention and recommitment to the program.
- Community service hours
- Curfews
- Electronic monitoring
- Attend and observe probation violation court hearings
- Removal from the program
- Revocation of probation, with imposition of a prison term

Rewards also are used to recognize a participant's achievements and promote further success. Public acknowledgement and encouragement by the judge during court proceedings before other participants is done regularly to let the compliant participant know the team appreciates and respects their commitment to the program.



DUI COURT – HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO GRADUATE?

There are three paths in the program.

Path 1 – The first 20 weeks in DUI Court focus on treatment, education and counseling. Each participant attends court sessions monthly to discuss his or her case with the judge. During these sessions, the judge can issue changes in the requirements a participant must meet in achieving success.

Path 2 – Over a 10-week period the program incorporates all of the Path 1 requirements with additional focus on relapse prevention and lifestyle changes. It is during this path that each participant attends a Victim Impact Panel, sponsored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), to learn how innocent lives are impacted by motorists who drive drunk.

Path 3 – During this 22-week phase, participants focus on maintaining sobriety. Meetings with the judge are less frequent, being scheduled every eight weeks instead of monthly. An aftercare program is initiated. This phase takes as long as necessary, determined by the team and the participant's success.

Success and Graduation – The individual must have been clean and sober for six months and be employed or attending school. He or she must also have successfully completed all court-ordered treatment, counseling sessions, appointments with his or her probation officer, and other program requirements.

The graduation is a positive and supportive event with a ceremony in the courtroom. The entire DUI Court team celebrates the graduate's success. Other DUI Court participants, who are still involved in the program, attend. This often serves to reaffirm their mission to succeed.

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DUI Court

A SPECIALTY
COURT OF
SUPERIOR COURT
IN MARICOPA
COUNTY

*Enhancing public safety
through offender
accountability*

*“Committed to the Timely, Fair and Impartial
Administration of Justice.”*



DUI Court: A Specialty Court of Superior Court in Maricopa County

DUI COURT'S MISSION

To provide direction and treatment to DUI offenders in an effort to change their drinking and driving behavior and to reduce the risk they pose to the safety of the community. This opportunity for change is afforded through monthly court interaction, monitoring of sobriety, probation supervision and participation in graduated levels of alcohol education and treatment.



DUI COURT – A SPECIALTY COURT TO ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY

DUI Court is one of the specialty courts operating within Superior Court's Criminal Department. The purpose of specialty courts, sometimes referred to as problem-solving courts, is to provide the framework to change people's destructive and illegal behavior.

Drunk driving is a menacing problem in Maricopa County. Arrests for drunken driving continue to rise each year despite intense efforts by law enforcement agencies to remove motorists from the road who pose extreme danger to other drivers, their passengers and pedestrians.

In 1998, Superior Court in Maricopa County created its first DUI Court with funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Justice and National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

The program has grown significantly through success. It stays true to its original mission to enhance public safety by providing defendants with the tools to change their behavior. The success stories provide proof that the DUI Court program helps substance abusers learn how to live sober, law-abiding lives.

DUI COURT - TEAMWORK: A JUDGE, PROSECUTOR, DEFENSE ATTORNEY, PROBATION OFFICER, TREATMENT PROFESSIONALS AND DEFENDANT

Success in the DUI Court program is achieved through teamwork. Everyone involved – the judge, prosecutor, defense attorney, probation officer and a treatment professional - discuss each case together to monitor progress and problems. It usually takes about a year to complete the program.

Eligible defendants, who already have been convicted of their crimes and served their prison terms, are ordered by the court to attend DUI Court, which combines punishment, probation and substance abuse treatment. Participants are mainly repeat offenders, with two or more arrests for alcohol-related driving offenses. No one who has committed an offense involving violence, injury or death is eligible for the DUI Court program.

Treatment is a key factor of the program and those selected demonstrate a willingness to stop drinking, thereby increasing their chances for rehabilitation. Most participants in the program have resources that are helpful for successful recovery. They have jobs and are encouraged to further their education and obtain emotional support of family and friends.

Each participant must sign a monthly or bi-monthly contract with the court that details his or her obligations, which include:

- abstinence from alcohol and drugs
- substance abuse counseling and any treatment needed
- Alcoholics' Anonymous meetings
- regular reporting to probation officers
- attending a DUI Victim Impact Panel program
- random tests for drug and alcohol
- regularly attend court proceedings to meet with judge and talk about progress or problems

DUI COURT – SANCTIONS AND REWARDS PROMOTE SUCCESS

Judges, with input from other members of the team, use a variety of tools to encourage participants to fulfill the requirements of their contracts. Each participant's sentence includes 60 days of