

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CUMBERLAND / GLOUCESTER / SALEM VICINAGE

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Vicinage XV Drug Court Holds Graduation Ceremonies

In celebration of National Drug Court Month, Vicinage XV will hold graduation ceremonies in Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem counties in May. Superior Court Judge Gary D. Wodlinger, who serves as the drug court judge in the vicinage, will preside over the events, which will highlight the accomplishments of the drug court participants and the success of the program.

In Salem County, the ceremony will take place on Monday, May 5, at 2 p.m. in Courtroom 3 on the second floor of the Salem County Courthouse, 92 Market St., Salem. Four participants will graduate from the drug court program.

In Gloucester County, ceremonies will be held on Tuesday, May 6, at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. in Courtroom 303 of the Gloucester County Justice Complex, 70 Hunter St., Woodbury. Eleven participants will graduate and three will commence into the final phase of the drug court program.

In Cumberland County, ceremonies will be held on Thursday, May 8, at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. in Courtroom 312 on the third floor of the Cumberland County Courthouse, Broad and Fayette streets, Bridgeton. Seven participants will graduate and three will commence into the final phase of the drug court program.

The drug court program is a highly specialized team process within the existing Superior Court structure that addresses nonviolent drug-related cases. Drug courts are unique in the criminal justice environment because they build a close collaborative relationship between criminal justice and drug treatment professionals.

Drug court programs are rigorous, requiring completion of four phases during five years of intensive drug and alcohol treatment, supervision and testing. This level of supervision permits the program to support the recovery process, but also allows supervisors to react swiftly to impose appropriate therapeutic sanctions or to reinstate criminal proceedings when participants do not comply with the program.

The Vicinage XV Drug Court team, under the guidance and direction of Assignment Judge Georgia M. Curio, provides management and services for one of the largest drug courts in New Jersey. The Cumberland County program has 218 participants, the Gloucester County program has 225, and the Salem County program has 63.



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Since April 2002, 129 participants have graduated from the Cumberland County program, 140 participants have graduated from the Gloucester County program, and 46 participants have graduated from the Salem County program.

More information on drug courts can be found at njcourts.com

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