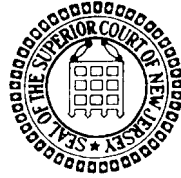


# SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

CHAMBERS OF  
**LAWRENCE M. LAWSON**  
ASSIGNMENT JUDGE

MONMOUTH COUNTY COURT HOUSE  
71 MONUMENT PARK  
FREEHOLD, NEW JERSEY 07728-1266  
TELEPHONE (732) 677-4100



For immediate release: Aug. 15, 2014

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## **Monmouth Vicinage to Conduct Drug Court Graduation**

The Monmouth Vicinage will conduct a drug court graduation ceremony on Monday, Aug. 18, at 9:30 a.m. at the Monmouth County Library, 125 Symmes Dr., Manalapan.

The ceremony will mark the graduation of 22 individuals from the drug court program. The graduates have successfully completed the requirements of all four phases of the program and will be released from their obligations to the court.

Superior Court Judge Honora O'Brien Kilgallen, who has presided over drug court since February 2013, said, "The 22 graduates are extraordinary people who have worked so hard at their recovery. It is truly an honor to share in this wonderful occasion."

The number of participants in the Monmouth Vicinage program has grown steadily since its inception more than 10 years ago. The vicinage now has 352 active participants. A total of 304 participants have already graduated.

Drug court 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 the criminal justice system and drug treatment professionals.

Drug court programs are rigorous, requiring the successful completion of four phases during five years of intensive drug and alcohol treatment and testing. In this graduating class, there are several participants who have completed their requirements within four years. Early graduation is a privilege, and a testament to participants doing what is asked of them. Participants follow a tightly structured regimen of treatment and recovery-focused services, combined with activities of daily living, problem solving, and productive use of time.

Many drug court participants return to school to advance their opportunities for employment. "The Monmouth Vicinage Drug Court Team is very proud of the accomplishments of each graduate, and their efforts in finding and sustaining recovery," said program coordinator Adri Lieb.

For more information about drug court or the graduation ceremony, contact Lieb at 732-677-4551.

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