

Steven F. Nemeth, J.S.C.  
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Kenneth W. Kerwin  
Trial Court Administrator

Michelle L. Tierney  
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### **Ocean Vicinage to Host Drug Court Graduation Ceremony**

Ocean Vicinage will celebrate the graduation of 20 drug court participants at a ceremony on Tuesday, May 17 at 11 a.m. in the Mancini Hall of the Ocean County Library, 101 Washington St., Toms River. Judge Steven F. Nemeth will preside over the event.

The drug court program is a highly specialized team process within the existing Superior Court structure that relies upon a collaborative relationship between criminal justice officials and drug treatment professionals to assist non-violent drug offenders in rehabilitation. Drug court programs are rigorous, requiring completion of four phases during five years of intensive drug and alcohol treatment and testing. The program supports 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 graduates have met all the requirements of the program and have successfully completed their terms of probation supervision.

The vicinage's drug court program serves approximately 475 participants. There have been 320 graduates since the program's inception in 2002.

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