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Middlesex Vicinage Drug Court Celebrates 11th Graduation Ceremony

The Middlesex Vicinage Drug Court will hold its 11th graduation ceremony on Friday, May 12 at 10 a.m. in the jury room of the Middlesex County Courthouse, 56 Paterson St., New Brunswick.

Certificates will be awarded to 26 participants who will be completing the final phase of the program.

Assignment Judge Travis L. Francis will welcome the graduating class and Criminal Presiding Judge Alberto Rivas will officiate and speak about the long-term success of the program. Judge Dennis V. Nieves will speak about the importance of continuing with a lifelong recovery process. Judge Robert J. Jones, who presides over the Middlesex County Drug Court, will deliver introductory remarks.

The keynote speaker, Albie A., is a May 2013 graduate of the vicinage's drug court program. He will speak about his experience and recovery.

Drug court is a rigorous three-to-five year program of comprehensive treatment and intensive supervision for non-violent drug offenders that functions within the criminal division of the Superior Court.

Since the vicinage's drug court program began in September 2004, 229 participants have graduated and 18 children of participants have been born drug-free. There are more than 375 active participants in the program.

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