

# SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

## MERCER VICINAGE

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For immediate release:  
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### **Mercer Vicinage to Hold Drug Court Graduation**

Mercer Vicinage will hold a graduation ceremony for 21 graduates of its drug court program on Thursday, June 8 at 10 a.m.

The event will be held in the Special Proceedings Courtroom on the fourth floor of the Mercer County Criminal Courthouse, 400 S. Warren St., Trenton.

Judge Timothy P. Lydon, who presides over the vicinage's drug court program, will host the ceremony. Mercer County Executive Brian M. Hughes will address the graduates.

Aaron Kucharski, an advocacy leader with the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, will be the keynote speaker. In recovery since 2003, Kucharski was featured in the film "The Anonymous People" and has worked on several national projects dealing with addiction recovery.

Drug courts operate within the existing Superior Court structure to treat nonviolent drug offenders. Drug court programs are rigorous, requiring completion of four phases of intensive drug and alcohol treatment and testing. Drug court participants are expected to comply with all treatment recommendations, gain employment, obtain a GED if not already attained, and demonstrate a payment of court fines.

Mercer Vicinage implemented its drug court program in 1999. There are more than 200 active participants in the program and 215 participants have already graduated.

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