RICHARD J. HUGHES JUSTICE COMPLEX · P.O. BOX 037 · TRENTON, NJ 08625-0984

For more information contact: Carole A. Cummings, Trial Court Administrator 856-379-2231 For immediate release: Sept. 18, 2018

## **Camden Drug Court to Celebrate Largest Graduating Class**

Assignment Judge Deborah Silverman Katz announced that the Camden Vicinage will celebrate an anticipated 69 graduates from its drug court program on Tuesday, Sept. 25, at 1:30 p.m. at the Camden City Campus of Camden County College, 200 N. Broadway, Camden.

The ceremony for the vicinage's largest graduating class will formally acknowledge the candidates' successful completion of the program's requirements. Judge Silverman Katz will provide opening remarks.

Criminal Division Presiding Judge Edward J. McBride Jr., who led the vicinage's drug court team for three years, and current drug court Judge Kathleen M. Delaney will preside over the ceremony. Speakers will include Camden County Freeholder Director Louis Cappelli Jr. and Rutgers Law School Dean Michael T. Cahill. The keynote speaker will be Leeann Triboletti, a Camden County drug court graduate. This year, the graduating class has selected a valedictorian and salutatorian who also will speak.

The Judiciary's drug court program operates within the Superior Court to address nonviolent drug addicted offenders. The program requires completion of four phases of intensive drug and alcohol treatment and recovery. This level of supervision permits the program to support the recovery process but also allows the team to react swiftly to impose appropriate therapeutic interventions or to reinstate criminal proceedings when participants do not comply with the program.

The vicinage's drug court program, which began in 1996, has more than 700 participants and 482 graduates.