

News Release



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Mercer Vicinage to Hold Drug Court Graduation

The Mercer Vicinage will hold a ceremony for 18 graduates of its drug court program on Tuesday, Nov. 13 at 10 a.m. in the Special Proceedings Courtroom on the fourth floor of the Mercer County Criminal Courthouse, 400 S. Warren St., Trenton.

Assignment Judge Mary C. Jacobson will welcome the graduating class. Superior Court 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.

Levi Johnson, an associate director at Integrity House in Jersey City and a substance abuse counselor with the state Department of Health's special treatment unit, will deliver the keynote address. A former participant of the Judiciary's Intensive Supervision Program, Johnson works with clients in addiction and the criminal justice system.

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 supervisors to react quickly to impose appropriate therapeutic sanctions or to reinstate criminal proceedings when participants do not comply.

The vicinage's drug court program has more than 200 participants. Since the inception of drug court in 1999, more than 257 participants have graduated from Mercer's program.

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