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Hudson Vicinage Drug Court to Hold 22nd Graduation

The Hudson Vicinage will hold its 22nd drug court graduation celebration on Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 12:30 p.m. in courtroom 908 of the Hudson County Administration Building, 595 Newark Ave., Jersey City.

The event will recognize 28 participants who successfully completed the requirements of the program. Each graduate has attained a minimum of one year of continuous sobriety, has maintained employment, has earned or is working towards a GED or high school diploma, has established a regular payment history on all court fines, and has established a sober community network where they reside.

Assignment Judge Peter F. Bariso Jr. will address the graduates, family, friends and supporters. Drug Court Judge Edward DeFazio will preside over the event.

Herbert Rhim, a 2015 graduate of the vicinage's drug court program, will be the keynote speaker. Judiciary Voices in Unity, a choir composed of judges, attorneys and court staff, will perform.

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, established in 2004, has 1,452 participants.

For more information about the event, contact Margareth Alwart, drug court coordinator, at 201-748-4400, ext. 60215.