

# News Release



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GLENN A. GRANT, J.A.D.

Acting Administrative Director of the Courts

For more information contact:

PETER McALEER

MARYANN SPOTO

Office of Communications and Community Relations

609-815-2910

[www.njcourts.gov](http://www.njcourts.gov)

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

For additional information contact:  
Jennifer Shultis  
973-656-3969

For immediate release:  
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## **Morris/Sussex Vicinage Celebrates Drug Court Graduates**

The Morris/Sussex Vicinage will hold drug court graduation ceremonies on two dates during National Drug Court Month.

The Sussex County ceremony will be held Thursday, May 9 at 2 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center of Sussex County Community College, One College Hill Road, Newton. Chris Ogar, a Narcotics Anonymous member, will address the 14 new graduates and the 26 participants who will advance to the final phase of drug court. Superior Court Judge Michael E. Hubner, who presides over the drug court programs in Morris and Sussex counties, will host the graduation.

The Morris ceremony will take place on Tuesday, May 21 at 2 p.m. in the Dragonetti Auditorium of the County College of Morris, 214 Center Grove Road, Randolph. In addition to recognizing the 18 new graduates, the ceremony will acknowledge 26 participants who will advance to the final phase of drug court. Judge Hubner will host the ceremony.

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 testing. 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 Morris drug court program has approximately 217 participants and the Sussex program has about 165 participants.

For more information about the vicinage's drug court program or the commencement ceremonies, contact Sussex drug court coordinator Jennifer Gulden at 973-579-5982 or Morris drug court coordinator Maria Peralta at 973-326-6997.

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