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## **Camden Drug Court to Celebrate Graduation**

Assignment Judge Deborah Silverman Katz announced that the Camden Vicinage will celebrate an anticipated 16 graduates from its drug court program on Tuesday, May 21, at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 63 at the Camden County Hall of Justice, 101 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St., Camden. The ceremony will formally acknowledge the candidates' successful completion of the program's requirements.

Superior Court Judge Kathleen M. Delaney will preside over the ceremony. The graduation speakers will include Camden County Assistant Prosecutor Greg Audino and Assistant Deputy Public Defender Katina Chase. Drug court graduate Vanessa V. will give the keynote address.

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 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 566 graduates and more than 700 participants.

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