

News Release



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For immediate release:
Oct. 28, 2019

Burlington Vicinage to Hold Drug Court Graduation

The Burlington Vicinage will hold a drug court graduation ceremony on Friday, Nov. 1 at 2 p.m. at the Burlington County Library, 5 Pioneer Blvd., Westampton.

Assignment Judge Jeanne T. Covert will address 30 drug court graduates and their guests. Superior Court Judge Christopher J. Garrenger, who leads the vicinage's drug court team, will preside over the ceremony.

"I am proud to preside over the Burlington Vicinage drug court, where a specialized team of attorneys, probation staff and supervisors, substance abuse evaluators and treatment professionals work tirelessly to assist the participants through the difficult journey from addiction to recovery," Judge Garrenger said.

The ceremony will celebrate the graduates' completion of a rigorous five-year program of comprehensive treatment, intensive supervision and strict accountability. Since the inception of the vicinage's program in 2004, 25 drug free babies have been born to participants, 19 parents have regained custody of minor children, 87 participants had their drivers' licenses restored, and 38 participants were granted expungements.

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.

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