

News Release



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Middlesex Vicinage's 17th Drug Court Graduation Will Be Its First Virtual Ceremony

In honor of National Drug Court Month in May, the Middlesex Vicinage will hold its 17th drug court graduation virtually on Tuesday, May 26 at 9 a.m. by Zoom.

Unlike in years past when a standing-room-only crowd assembled in the jury room of the Middlesex County Courthouse in New Brunswick, judges, managers, Judiciary staff, program participants, treatment providers, graduates' families and friends can attend the ceremony as it is livestreamed. The public can watch the ceremony at njcourts.gov.

Assignment Judge Michael A. Toto will welcome the 27 graduates. Criminal Presiding Judge Colleen Flynn will give introductory remarks. Superior Court Judge Robert J. Jones, who presides over the vicinage's drug court, will officiate and speak about the long-term success of the program.

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. Drug court programs are rigorous, requiring intensive probation supervision, treatment, frequent drug testing, and court appearances, which are currently being held virtually.

Since the vicinage's drug court program began in September 2004, 352 participants have graduated and more than 30 children of participants have been born drug-free. There are currently more than 400 participants in the program.

To view the ceremony, visit the Middlesex channel at njcourts.gov/public/channels.html.

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