

Office of National Drug Control Policy/Partnership for a Drug-Free America

I respect myself

That is, until I saw myself get high
It's just an ugly side of myself I didn't recognize
Saying and doing things that were not myself
I barely recognized myself



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Chambers County Juvenile Drug Court



Guidelines

RULES

Drug Court Program Policies:

The following policies pertain to all participants. Sanctions will be issued by the judge for not obeying the following Court policies:

- All participants must appear regularly in court unless directed otherwise by Drug Court staff. Failure to appear at court sessions may lead to a warrant being issued for contempt of court. If participants are ill, the case manager must be notified of the illness or emergency. Transportation problems need to be dealt with prior to court sessions.
- All participants will be required to participate in an individual treatment program that will be developed by the treatment providers and the Drug Court team.
- Each participant will have a case manager who is the probation officer assigned to the juvenile. Case managers will work in conjunction with the Drug Court Coordinator to assure that needs are identified and that the appropriate services are provided to the participants.
- All participants or parents must complete recommended Drug Court programs. These programs may include: conflict resolution, anger management, parent empowerment, creative writing, wellness workshop, and a mentoring program. Graduation will be delayed for participants who have not completed the required programs.
- Participants must submit to random drug tests. The Juvenile Drug Court probation officer or drug court coordinator may have participants check-in at unscheduled times as well as perform drug screening at school and/or at home. If participants are unable to give a sample, sanctions may be given as a missed test. Missed tests will be assessed as a positive drug screen. Positive tests will be sanctioned according to the sanctions recommended by the treatment team.
- New participants pay no program fee. Participants are also required to pay \$15.00 for each dirty drug test they receive and \$15.00 fine for all missed counseling/treatment sessions. The fees need to be paid in full before moving to the next phase or before graduating. ?? What about probation fees?
- Participants assigned community service hours and other sanctions must complete them by the date and time ordered by the judge. Tardiness or excuses will not be accepted. Further sanctions (additional community service, house arrest, etc.) will be given for hours not completed on time.
- All juvenile participants will be required to attend school. The school will assign a counselor to be the contact in school between the juvenile and the court. In some cases, participants may be allowed to obtain their GED. Participants are not permitted to withdraw from school without the permission of the Drug Court team. Unexcused school absences, suspensions, and/or tardiness will be sanctioned accordingly. School resource officers will be made aware of the involvement of the juvenile with the drug court.
- If conduct warrants, additional treatment, and/or out-of-home treatment/placement may be ordered.
- Participants will not graduate from the drug court until all terms and conditions of the program are met and all drug test fees and other court fines (including fines outside of the drug court) are paid in full.
- Participants must be drug and alcohol free a minimum of 60 consecutive days in Phase 3 in order to graduate from the program.
- Criminal charges received after admission into the drug court may result in dismissal from the program. These additional charges may remain on a participant's record regardless of graduation from drug court.
- Participation in the drug court for juveniles may extend past the participants' 18th birthday.

Drug Court Guidelines:

The following program guidelines have been developed and approved by the drug court team. All participants and parents should read through these guidelines carefully. To avoid unnecessary sanctions and misunderstanding, please ask if you have any questions. These guidelines will be discussed with the juvenile and parents prior to entry into the Drug Court Program.

Many of the Drug Court-sponsored treatment programs have their own separate "protocols" or guidelines for behavior that must be followed as well. In the absence of other guidelines, the following guidelines hold true for all programs.

- **Do not use or possess any drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products.** Sobriety is the primary focus of this program. Maintaining a drug free lifestyle is very **important** in your recovery process. This includes mood altering prescription drugs, i.e., benzodiazepines (Valium, Xanax, etc.), opiates (Tylenol 3, Percocet, Darvocet, etc.), certain over the counter drugs, herbal products and tobacco.
- **Language and Behavior:** During all drug court activities each participant is expected to refrain from the use of profanity and the glorification of alcohol or drug use. No racist, sexist, homophobic, sexual, violent or other offensive comments will be tolerated. Abusive behavior (in the form of insulting language, physical gestures, aggression or otherwise offensive behavior) will be sanctioned and may be grounds for expulsion.
- **Punctuality and Advance Notification of Absences:** Drug Court participants are expected to be on time for all Drug Court activities. If a participant is unable to attend any Drug court activity, he or she must provide advance notice. Twenty-four hours' notice should be given when possible. All attendance, notification and or lateness issues will be reported to the Court and are subject to sanction. If you are late for counseling session, you may not be allowed to attend your counseling session and will be considered non-compliant. You must contact your assigned treatment counselor if there is a possibility that you may be late.
- **Weapons:** No weapons are allowed in ANY Drug Court activities. If a weapon is found on a participant he or she will be charged and may be expelled immediately from the Drug Court program.
- **Smoking:** Smoking is prohibited in all Drug Court functions regardless of the participant's age.
- **Attend all ordered treatment sessions.** This includes program orientation, individual, family and group counseling, aftercare, and educational sessions. If you are unable to attend a scheduled session, you must contact your treatment counselor.
- **Do not make threats toward other participants or staff or behave in a violent manner.** Violent behavior will not be tolerated and will be reported to the Court. This will result in termination from the drug Court Program.
- **Courtroom Behavior:** The Drug Court team expects all Drug Court participants to show respect and courtesy to all courtroom staff, families in attendance, and other observers. No food or beverages are allowed in the courtroom.
- **Dress appropriately for Court and treatment sessions.** Participants are expected to dress appropriately for all Drug Court program activities. Clothing displaying drug or gang symbols, colors, or language is prohibited. Hats and do-rags are not to be worn in court. Flip-flops and bedroom slippers are prohibited. Tank tops and provocative clothing are not allowed. Males need to have shirt tucked in pants, and pants are to be at waist level. Males are to remove their earrings.
- **Cell Phones are to be turned off. Use of them is prohibited in court.**