

Re-referral to Wood County Adult Treatment Court

It has become necessary to adopt a policy regarding second or subsequent participation in drug court by a former graduate or by one who has been terminated previously.

According to our mission statement, the drug treatment court has two goals:

1. “to bridge the gap between treatment and the criminal justice system helping drug offenders break the cycle of drug use...”
2. “to optimize the opportunity for sobriety for offenders...”

The team recognizes that participation in the program offers an opportunity to avoid traditional criminal prosecution by demonstrating the ability to live a clean, sober and productive life.

The team recognizes that participation in or graduation from the program does not guarantee a lifetime of sobriety.

The team understands that relapse and re-arrest can be expected to occur with some graduates.

The team is concerned that drug court does not become a safe haven for consistent repeat offenders who have not lived up to the goals of their participation.

The team believes that its’ mission describes a program of inclusion rather than exclusion, that is, to find reasons to allow participation rather than to seek ways to bar participation.

THEREFORE as a matter of policy, there shall be no automatic bar to reentry in the program for any former participant, whether terminated or graduated, not shall there be any limit on the number of times a person may reapply. However, each applicant will be closely scrutinized before readmission and as needed, the program may vary in intensity or length, tailored to the individual.

Adopted by majority/unanimous vote and included as an addendum to the policy manual.