



# DRUG COURT PRESENTATION

**PRESIDING JUDGE ALBERTO C. LAMORENA III**



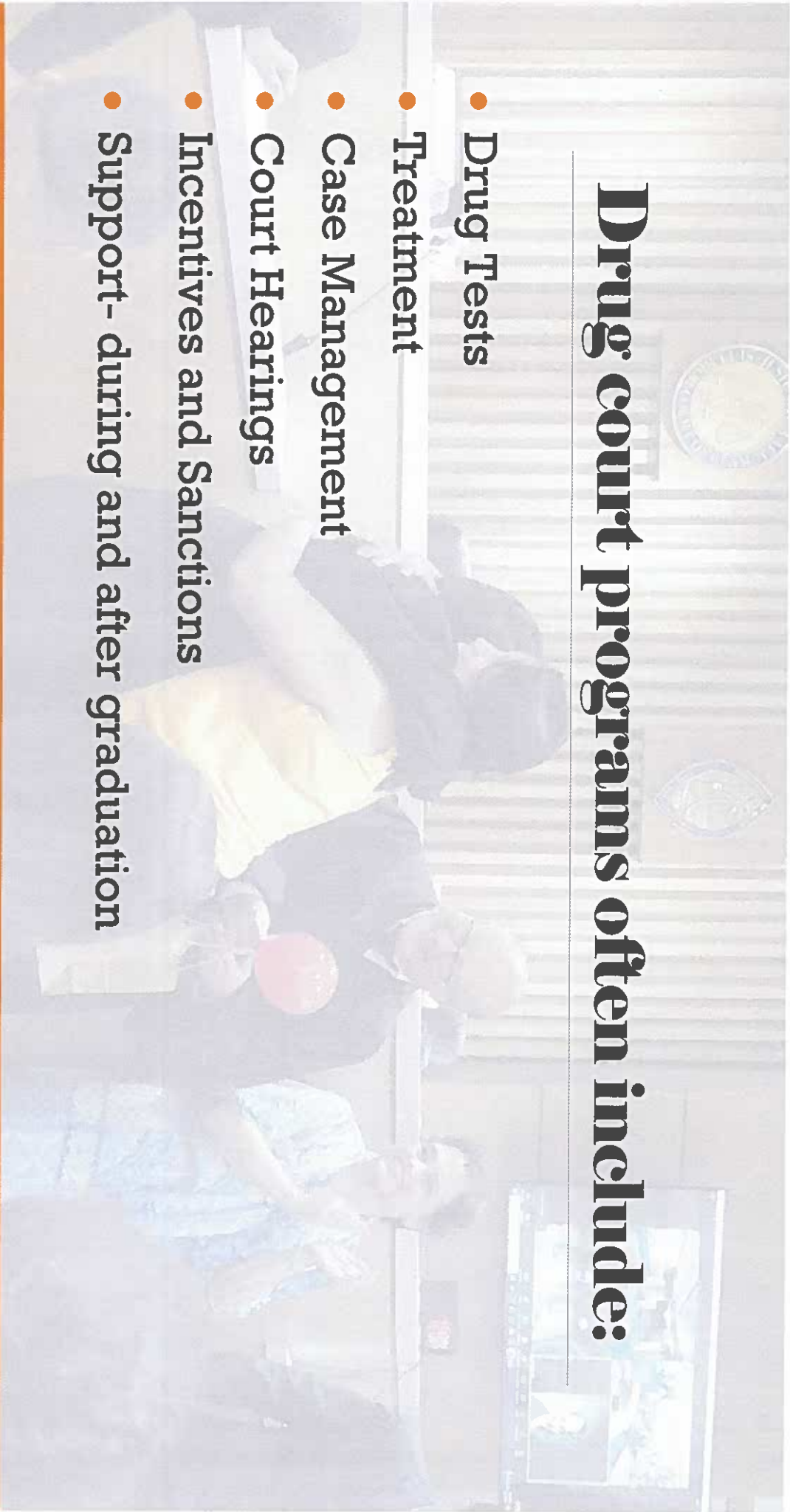
# Treatment Courts

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- ❖ **Alternative to incarceration**
- ❖ **Connect participants with individualized, evidence-based treatment and recovery support services**
- ❖ **Considered the most successful justice intervention**
- ❖ **Team Concept-collaborative justice working with Public Defender, Prosecution, and Judge as team leader**
- ❖ **Have proven that a combination of treatment and compassion can lead people to lives of stability, health, and recovery**
- ❖ **Emphasize long-term recovery over punishment**
- ❖ **Rewards for maintaining treatment plans and sanctions for failure to meet obligations**
- ❖ **2-year program compared to 5 years**
- ❖ **Behavior modification – breaking the cycle of addiction or power & control**

# Drug court programs often include:

- Drug Tests
- Treatment
- Case Management
- Court Hearings
- Incentives and Sanctions
- Support- during and after graduation



**The Drug Court program design is based on the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) 10 Key Components as its guiding principles.**

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- 1. Integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice system case processing**
- 2. Use a non-adversarial approach where prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights.**

- 3. Identify eligible participants early and promptly for immediate placement into the program.**
- 4. Provide access to a continuum of treatment and rehabilitation services.**
- 5. Monitor abstinence by frequent drug testing.**
- 6. Coordinate court and treatment program responses to participant's compliance or lack of compliance.**



- 7. Require ongoing judicial interactions with drug court participants.**
- 8. Monitor and evaluate achievement of program goals and program effectiveness.**
- 9. Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective drug court planning, implementation, and operations.**
- 10. Forging partnerships among drug courts, public agencies, and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances drug court program effectiveness.**



# **Treatment Court Team**

- Judge as Team Leader
- Drug Court Coordinator
- Case Manager/Probation Officer
- Assistant Attorney General
- Defense Attorney
- Treatment Providers
- Peer Support Specialist



# Treatment Court Processing

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Magistrate Hearing: Courts appoint

- Public Defender or Alternate Public Defender if the defendant is indigent

Treatment Plan:

- Service Providers & Case Managers

Legal Screening:

- Attorney General Office

Treatment-Phases I through IV

- Service Providers

Clinical Screening/Assessment:

- Case Manager/Probation Officer





# Eligibility

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Potential candidates must qualify under two types of eligibility:

- Legal Eligibility
- Clinical Eligibility



# Legal Eligibility

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- The eligible charges include but are not limited to possession of a controlled substance
- No prior felony convictions of a violent and/or sexual nature
- No pending charges of a violent and/or sexual nature (except Veterans Treatment Court and Family Violence Misdemeanor cases)
- Must be 18 years of age and a legal resident of the U.S.

# Clinical Eligibility

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## Screening & Assessments

- ORAS
- SASSI
- Mental Health Screening Form III

## Appropriateness for treatment

Participant has the ability (transportation) and voluntarily agrees to participate in the program

Readiness for treatment

# Phases of Treatment

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## **Phase I: Abstinence (Minimum 8 weeks)**

- Behavioral modification-Emphasis on sobriety – an increase in drug testing
- Frequent court hearings and meetings with a case manager
- Stabilization

## **Phase II- Treatment and Early Skills Development (Minimum 10 weeks)**

- Comply with recommended treatment

## **Phase III- Skill Development and Transition (Minimum 10 weeks)**

- Demonstrate changing people, places, and things – a positive network
- Begin Pro-social activity

## **Phase IV- Aftercare and Graduation (Minimum 20 weeks)**

- Prepares for the workforce and educates on financial responsibility
- Obtains diploma or GED

# Superior Courts Specialty Courts



Adult Drug Court



Juvenile Drug Court



Family Violence Court



Veterans Treatment Court



Mental Health Court



Driving While Intoxicated Treatment Court



Guam Adult Reentry Court Program



Guam Family Recovery Program



# Adult Drug Court

The treatment court is structured into two tracks:

**ADC I** designed for first-time possession offenders who are identified as high risk, and **ADC II**, for repeat offenders whose offenses are specifically related to drug or alcohol use.

**Judge Alberto E. Tolentino** presides over Adult Drug Court I Treatment Court and

**Judge Maria Cenzone** presides over Adult Drug Court II Treatment Court.

A total of **490** have graduated since inception in 2002.

**117** active participants in the program. **69** in ADC I and **48** in ADC II.

Target is **200** participants.



Adult Drug Court I & II Combined Graduation Ceremony  
(May 9, 2024)

# Juvenile Drug Court



Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Graduation Ceremony (March 23, 2023)

The Juvenile Drug Court (JDC) involves juvenile cases with a drug or alcohol offense.

**Judge Arthur R. Barcinas** presides over the Juvenile Drug Court.

Approximately **540** graduated since inception in 2001.

**23** participants are currently in the program.

# Veterans Treatment Court

The Veterans Treatment Court assists justice-involved veterans, diverting them from incarceration into treatment, judicial monitoring, and supervision

**Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III** presides over the Veterans Treatment Court.

A total of **64** graduated since inception in 2015.

The program currently has **27** participants.

Target is **80** participants.



National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) Training  
(March 13, 2023)



# Driving While Intoxicated Treatment Court



Driving While Intoxicated Treatment Graduation Ceremony (June 20, 2024)

The Driving While Impaired Treatment Court serves eligible defendants charged with Driving While Impaired and Driving Under the Influence Offenses.

**Judge Vernon P. Perez** presides over the DWI Treatment Court.

A total of **77** graduated since inception in 2017.

The program currently has **27** participants.

Target is **180** participants.

# Guam Adult Reentry Court Program

The Guam Adult Reentry Court Program strives to provide the necessary tools to individuals transitioning from incarceration or parole into the community, aiming to reduce recidivism rates and increase public safety.

**Judge Vernon P. Perez** presides over the Guam Adult Reentry Court Program.

A total of **8** graduated since inception in 2017.

The program currently has **19** participants.

Target is **45** participants.



Guam Adult Reentry Court Graduation Ceremony  
(February 29, 2024)

# Guam Family Recovery Program



Guam Family Recovery Program Graduation Ceremony  
(November 17, 2023)

The Guam Family Recovery Program aims to promote the health, safety, and welfare of children from abuse and neglect where parental substance misuse is a factor.

**Family Court Referee Linda L. Ingles** presides over the Guam Family Program.

A total of **29** graduated since inception in 2017, involving **98** children. **60** children restored custody.

The program currently has **30** participants. Target is **40** participants.

# Family Violence Court

The Family Violence Court addresses all criminal felony and misdemeanor cases with a family violence charge.

**Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III** and **Judge Maria T. Cenzon** preside over the Family Violence Court Docket. Family Violence docket began in 1991.

Approximately **980** Family Violence Cases.



# Mental Health Court



The Mental Health Court strives to provide sustainable and adequate treatment for adult defendants who are mentally impaired or developmentally disabled- a segment of our population that is often misunderstood and under-served.

Mental Health docket began in 2009.

**Judge Arthur R. Barcinas** presides over the Mental Health Court.

Approximately **29** Mental Health Court Cases.

# **Collaboration between Treatment Courts and Employers**

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- Will ensure the best interest and success of the participant
- Will notify the employer of court-ordered conditions
- Will provide documentation of attendance of required obligations – Court hearings, drug testing, treatment, and meeting with case manager or probation officer
- Work together to support participant's work and court responsibilities



# Benefits of Treatment Courts

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- Immediate access to substance addiction treatment
- Reductions in Recidivism
- Cost Effectiveness of Treatment Court Programs
- Graduates become productive citizens in our community
- Been proven to combat drug addiction and produce positive behavioral change
- Participants are provided ongoing support even after graduation
- With Treatment Courts, we are doing something different, something that has been proven to be effective
- **Once program has been completed, then early closure of their case or dismissal and expungment of case.**

# In Conclusion

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- Treatment courts employ a program designed to reduce drug use, relapse, and criminal recidivism among persons charged with or convicted of a crime through risk and needs assessment, judicial interaction, monitoring, and supervision, graduated sanctions and incentives, treatment, and various rehabilitation services
- Justice-involved individuals who volunteer to enroll in Treatment Courts and complete the program are making a significant impact in addressing Guam's substance abuse problems.
- Individuals who complete the program are significantly less likely to be arrested again.