

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

PROGRAM GOALS:

The primary goals of the Support Court are to:

Support those in recovery or struggling with addiction

Reduce recidivism -- a reduction in arrests and contacts with the criminal justice system

Support participants in the development and maintenance of stable living conditions, employment, and self-sufficiency

Promote a reduction in judicial system costs relative to criminal case processing, and incarceration through the rehabilitation of participants

RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS OF PARTICIPATING AGENCIES:

All participating agencies agree to assist in the design and ongoing development of the U.S. District Court Support Court. Further, as appropriate, agencies will assist in providing all necessary data for evaluation purposes.

Each participating agency agrees to respect other agencies' roles and responsibilities to ensure the integrity of the judicial and therapeutic processes.

All participating agencies agree to the Support Court criteria for: (1) participant eligibility/disqualification, (2) program sanctions and incentives, (3) program termination/suspension, and (4) program graduation as delineated in the Support Court Policies and Procedures Manual. Any revisions will be approved in writing by the parties to this MOU.

The following sections outline the responsibilities each agency agrees to perform as part of its involvement in the Support Court, subject to the availability of adequate agency and outside resources:

U.S. District Court

Provide Judicial Officers to oversee Support Court meetings and conduct Support Court programs. The Judicial Officers will provide leadership, encourage collaboration among all participating agencies, and one judicial officer will chair the Support Court Steering Committee

Participate in the design and continued development of Support Court process and outcome evaluations

Participate in the development of operational standards and policies for Support Court in conjunction with other participating agencies

U.S. Attorney's Office

Provide an Assistant U.S. Attorney to staff each operational Support Court

Provide a representative to the Support Court Steering Committee

Participate in the development of operational standards and policies for Support Court in conjunction with other participating agencies

Assist in the evaluation of eligible participants

Public Defender

Provide an Assistant Federal Public Defender to staff each operational Support Court

Provide information on the nature and purpose of the Support Court to potential participants and assist in their evaluation for eligibility and willingness to participate

Provide a representative to the Support Court Steering Committee

Participate in the development of operational standards and policies for Support Court in conjunction with other participating agencies

U.S. Probation Office

Provide probation officers to supervise Support Court participants and to staff each operational Support Court

Provide probation officers to determine the eligibility/suitability of Support Court participants

Provide and administer drug testing on all Support Court participants

Provide a representative to the Support Court Steering Committee

Participate in the design and development of Support Court process and outcome evaluations

Participate in the design and development of operational standards and policies for the Support Court in conjunction with other participating agencies

Upon graduation, withdrawal or termination from Support Court, provide a summary of each participant's progress in Support Court to the presiding judge and, with respect to pretrial participants, for inclusion in the participant's presentence report

U.S. Marshal's Office

Provide personnel support to ensure the integrity and security of the operation of the Support Court meetings

Facilitate Support Court sanctions involving custody

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Memorandum of Understanding to be executed by their duly authorized officers.

By: /s/ Michael P. Shea
Michael P. Shea
Chief Judge

Date: 11/22/2022

By: /s/ Jesse Gomes
Jesse Gomes
Chief U.S. Probation Officer

Date: 11/28/2022

By: /s/ Vanessa Roberts Avery
Vanessa R. Avery
U.S. Attorney

Date: 11/22/2022

By: /s/ Terence S. Ward
Terence S. Ward
Federal Public Defender

Date: 11/29/2022