

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Burlington Vicinage Holds Drug Court Graduation**

The Burlington Vicinage will honor 15 graduates from its drug court program on Thursday, March 5 at 2 p.m. at the Burlington County Library, 5 Pioneer Blvd., Westampton.

Superior Court Judge Susan L. Claypoole, who leads the drug court team, will preside over the ceremony. Assignment Judge Ronald E. Bookbinder will give remarks to the graduates, family, friends and supporters. The keynote speaker will be an alumnus of the drug court program.

Judge Claypoole said, "I applaud the graduates for their hard work as they begin a new chapter in their life."

The ceremony celebrates the completion by the graduates of a rigorous program of comprehensive treatment, intensive supervision and strict accountability.

The drug court program is a highly-specialized team process within the existing Superior Court structure that address nonviolent drug-related cases. They are unique in the criminal justice environment because they build a close collaborative relationship between criminal justice and drug treatment professionals.

More than 100 participants have graduated from the Burlington Vicinage Drug Court Program since its inception in 2004. The program helps to restore lives, reunite families, and make communities safer.

Reporters and photographers are invited to attend.

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