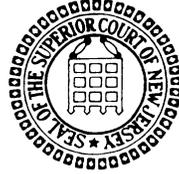


SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY

CHAMBERS OF
LISA P. THORNTON
ASSIGNMENT JUDGE



MONMOUTH COUNTY COURT HOUSE
71 MONUMENT PARK
FREEHOLD, NEW JERSEY 07728-1266
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For immediate release: August 20, 2015

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Monmouth Vicinage to Conduct Drug Court Graduation Ceremony

The Monmouth Vicinage will conduct its 21st drug court graduation ceremony on Monday, Aug. 24, at 9:30 a.m. at the Monmouth County Library, 125 Symmes Dr., Manalapan. Fourteen drug court participants will be recognized for advancing through the four phases of drug court and satisfying all of the significant requirements of drug court probation.

The keynote speaker will be former Drug Court Coordinator Adri Lieb, who retired from the Judiciary in April.

Superior Court Judge Honora O'Brien Kilgallen, who has presided over drug court since February 2013, said, "It is extraordinary to note how many of our graduates have reunited with loved ones, furthered their education, obtained promotions in employment, regained driving privileges, and more. The graduates have truly realized the rewards that come with recovery and we wish them continued success in their recovery efforts."

The number of drug court participants in Monmouth County has grown steadily since its inception more than 12 years ago. The vicinage now has 369 active cases and a total of 357 participants have graduated from the program.

The drug court program is a highly specialized team process within the Superior Court structure that addresses nonviolent drug-related cases. Drug courts are unique because they build a close collaborative relationship between the criminal justice system and drug treatment professionals. The program has a proven track record of success in changing the lives of those who suffer from the disease of addiction.

For more information regarding drug court or the graduation ceremony, please contact Monmouth Vicinage Drug Court Coordinator Melissa Garrett at 732-677-4551.

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