

# News Release



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## **Passaic Vicinage to Celebrate Drug Court Graduates**

The Passaic Vicinage is holding a ceremony for 40 drug court graduates during National Drug Court Month on Thursday, May 30 at 9:30 a.m. at Passaic County Community College, One College Blvd., Paterson.

The keynote speaker will be LaMarvin Bell, assistant clinical director of Renaissance House in Newark and CEO of First Step Clinical Services, LLC in Paterson. Bell also is a member of the vicinage's first graduating drug court class.

"I went to school to become a clinical supervisor because I saw a need for improved programming and for the rehabilitation and prevention of those affected by behavioral and substance issues," Bell said.

The Judiciary's drug court program operates within the Superior Court to address nonviolent drug addicted offenders. The program requires completion of four phases of intensive drug and alcohol treatment and recovery. This level of supervision permits the program to support the recovery process, but also allows the team to react swiftly to impose appropriate therapeutic interventions or to reinstate criminal proceedings when participants do not comply with the program.

Drug court programs are rigorous, requiring intensive probation supervision, treatment, frequent drug testing, and court appearances.

The vicinage's drug court program has more than 600 participants.

To learn more about the vicinage's drug court program or the graduation ceremony, contact Drug Court Coordinator Adrien Byrd at 973-247-8343.

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