

News Release



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Essex Vicinage to Hold Recovery Court Graduation

The Essex Vicinage will hold its recovery court graduation ceremony at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 9, in the 14th floor conference room of the Leroy Smith Building, 60 Nelson Place, Newark, Assignment Judge Sheila Venable announced.

Nine participants who have maintained recovery from drugs and alcohol will be honored. Graduates consist of all early graduates who have successfully completed the program sooner than the prescribed time.

Superior Court Judge Thomas A. Callahan, the vicinage's recovery court judge, will preside. Graduates will share their experiences of strength and hope. Roger Williams, a recovery court graduate, will give the keynote address.

The day will mark the graduates' accomplishments and will recognize the beginning of their journeys. Families, friends, and loved ones will be present to support the graduates. Current recovery court participants also will attend.

The Judiciary's recovery court program operates within the Superior Court to address nonviolent drug-addicted offenders. The program requires completion of several 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 recovery court team to react quickly to impose appropriate therapeutic sanctions or to reinstate criminal proceedings when participants do not comply.

The vicinage's recovery court program has more than 250 participants. Recovery court participants are expected to comply with all treatment recommendations, attend support meetings, gain employment, and demonstrate payment of fines.

The public can view the ceremony at <https://www.njcourts.gov/public/channels>.

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