



Welcome to the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Sobriety Court Program. This is a team approach to a very serious personal and social problem. I, along with the sobriety court probation agent, sobriety court coordinator, prosecutor, city attorney, law enforcement, defense lawyer, treatment provider, and even the court recorder and bailiff are here to do our jobs so that you can maintain your sobriety.

**You can do this if you follow some simple rules:**

**BE HONEST.** We can work through almost any problem together if you are truthful with us.

**DON'T WHINE!** This program is about accountability and personal responsibility. Sobriety does not come easily for anyone. Anything in life worth having requires some personal sacrifice.

**SHOW UP ON TIME.** This applies to all appointments and hearings. Ultimately, this program is about self-respect and respect for others.

There are a lot of people supporting you – the Sobriety Court Team, as well as other participants in the program. We look forward to working with you toward your successful completion of this program and a clean and sober life.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SKM', located below the main text.

S. Kerene Moore  
District Court Judge



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## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 15th Judicial District Sobriety Court. This program is designed primarily for people with multiple drinking and driving convictions. You enter the program by pleading guilty and being sentenced into the Sobriety Court. You will receive little or no jail time then, but the maximum can be imposed if you fail in the program. License sanctions are imposed by the Secretary of State.

As a person whose problems stem from substance abuse, this program is specially designed for you. As you enter this intensive supervised court program, you will need to be motivated to work toward changing your lifestyle and becoming free from alcohol and drugs. This program is accessible regardless of race, religion, sex, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, marital status, age, or physical and/or mental disability.

## PROGRAM RULES

We believe that if you follow three simple rules you will succeed in this program:

1. **BE HONEST.** Of all the rules, this is often the most difficult. The program staff and the Court expect you to be honest in all areas of your life. Do not attempt to falsify your records, conceal alcohol/drug use or tamper with or dilute your urine. Eventually, you will be caught.
2. **DON'T WHINE.** Effort is necessary to complete this program. It will be necessary to make sacrifices in order to be fully engaged in recovery and to successfully complete this program.
3. **SHOW UP ON TIME.** You are responsible for being on time for all meetings, groups and court.



## **COST OF THE PROGRAM**

A payment plan can be established with the Court until all fines, costs and restitution are paid in full. However, you will be expected to pay for preliminary drug tests/urine screens at the time of testing. Treatment cost will vary depending on your income and the agency providing your treatment.

Remember, the offense you committed would have resulted in some significant jail time and you would have been billed for the costs of your incarceration in addition to the fines, costs, restitution, and cost of counseling/treatment.

## **TREATMENT**

Sobriety Court participants must complete a substance abuse assessment within 14 days of sentencing. The assessment determines the required treatment. There is very little tolerance for missed counseling appointments. The Court will be communicating on a regular basis with your counselor to discuss progress and attendance. The Sobriety Court reserves the right to alter your treatment to better suit your needs.

## **THE SOBRIETY COURT TEAM**

The key to the success of the Sobriety Court is the TEAM approach. The Sobriety Court Team consists of the judge, prosecutor, city attorney, law enforcement, defense counsel, sobriety court coordinator, probation agent, treatment providers, and YOU. Each case is reviewed on a regular basis by the team members prior to review hearings.



## REVIEW HEARINGS

Sobriety Court participants are required to attend Sobriety Court review hearings every two to four weeks, or more frequently if necessary. The judge, prosecutor, city attorney, law enforcement, defense counsel, sobriety court coordinator, probation agent, treatment providers, other Sobriety Court participants, family members and friends are invited to attend these hour-long hearings. The judge will review your progress during review hearings and will determine what rewards, sanctions or adjustments may be appropriate. You are encouraged to ask the judge any questions and voice any concerns you may have about the Sobriety Court program. You will be given written notice of your next review hearing. It is your responsibility to keep track of your court dates. You will not receive additional notices by mail.

## REPORT DAY

Sobriety Court participants are expected to report to the sobriety court probation agent on their assigned report day **and on time**. All Sobriety Court probationers are required to provide proof of 12-step meeting attendance and preliminary breath test (PBT) sheets every Friday. PBT and 12-step attendance verification can be faxed to (734) 794-6754, emailed to [sobrietycourt@a2gov.org](mailto:sobrietycourt@a2gov.org), or dropped off at the Probation Department. If you have changes in your life such as address, roommates, employment, etc., you need to inform the sobriety court probation agent immediately.



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## **EMPLOYMENT AND/OR SCHOOL**

The judge may require you to obtain/maintain or enroll in a vocational/educational program. If you are not employed, you may be required to participate in community service as directed by the judge in lieu of employment. Sobriety Court requires that clients without a high school diploma pursue and complete a general equivalency diploma (G.E.D.) or complete high school.

If you lose your job while in the program, you will be given a time frame in order to secure another job. While searching for employment, you may be required to participate in job training or community service.

Sobriety Court staff will routinely verify employment through phone contact with the employer or copies of paycheck stubs. We strongly encourage you to notify your employer of your participation in the Sobriety Court program including required court appearances and group sessions.

## **PBT's & URINE SCREENS**

An initial drug screen is required as a condition of bond, on the same date that you enter a guilty plea. You are expected to take daily morning PBT's and weekly random urine screens for at least the first 90 days of the program. Thereafter, testing MAY decrease depending on your performance in the program.

If you miss or are late for a PBT or urine screen, it is mandatory that you call the sobriety court probation agent immediately. Missed or late tests will be treated as positive tests for the purpose of assessing sanctions.

### **PBT's**

You are responsible for finding out the rules of the testing site. Do **not** consume anything orally for a minimum of 30 minutes prior to taking your PBT. Absolutely NO SMOKING before taking a PBT.



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If you test positive, contact the sobriety court probation agent immediately.

### **Urine Screens**

In order to participate in Sobriety Court, you must be able to provide a urine screen on a random basis. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** All urine screens will be witnessed. A variety of drugs can be detected by the lab.

### **Diluted Urine Screens**

Any attempts to dilute your urine with fluids or other products will be detected and will be treated as a positive (dirty) urine screen.

## **SANCTIONS**

Violation of program rules, including but not limited to: missed appointments, court appearances or treatment meetings; positive alcohol and drug tests; violations of law; missed 12-step meetings (AA/NA); and failing to turn in AA and/or PBT sheets on Friday will be met with sanctions ordered by the judge. Sanctions may include: increased monitoring; community service; jail work program; and jail time. The amount and/or length of time of any sanction will be increased progressively for multiple violations.

## **HOME VISITS**

During your involvement in Sobriety Court, the sobriety court probation agent and/or Ann Arbor Police Officers (or officers from your local jurisdiction if you live outside Ann Arbor in Washtenaw County) will be conducting home visits of your residence. These will be done on a random basis, and the officers will administer a PBT while conducting the home visit.



## **DISCHARGE**

You may be terminated from the program for a variety of reasons including:

- § You petition the Court for voluntary termination (may result in serving jail time).
- § You exhibit violent behavior or threats of violent behavior toward self or others.
- § You display inappropriate, disruptive or non-compliant behavior.
- § You refuse to satisfactorily participate in program requirements.
- § You are charged with another criminal offense (case by case basis).
- § You fail to show for review hearings or report days.
- § Repeated violation of program rules.
- § Repeated missed, diluted or positive (dirty) urine screens/PBT's.
- § Forgery and/or dishonesty

## **GRADUATION**

Graduation comes after successful completion of the program. Minimum requirements for graduation include:

- § 18 months in the program without a slip and/or relapse, late and/or missed PBT or drug test
- § 24 months in the program with a slip and/or relapse
- § At least 90 days of sobriety immediately prior to graduation
- § Paid in full 30 days prior

Graduates are honored at graduation ceremonies with certificates and a gift. They will also be invited to join the Sobriety Court Alumni Group.







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**15th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT SOBRIETY  
COURT AGREEMENT**

PEOPLE OF THE

\_\_ STATE OF MICHIGAN

\_\_ CITY OF ANN ARBOR

CASE NUMBER:

VS

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DEFENDANT

**Whereas**, the purpose of the Sobriety Court is to provide assistance to me in an effort to address my substance abuse problem.

**Whereas**, a great deal of time, effort and money will be expended solely for my benefit.

**Whereas**, the Sobriety Court is a treatment-based non-adversarial process designed to support my sobriety.

**Whereas**, I have been offered and have accepted the opportunity to participate in this program.

**I HEREBY AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:**

- 1) To attend and complete any treatment program, including 12-step meetings, that I am referred to by the Court and to be supervised by persons designated by the Court. I will obey all rules of the treatment program and pay all required fees.
- 2) To submit to urine, breath and other drug testing as ordered by the Court. To cooperate during random home visits by probation/police officers, which may include breath testing and cursory searches of my person and home.
- 3) To appear on time for any and all court dates, treatment meetings or other



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scheduled appointments as ordered by the Court.

- 4) I will be rewarded for having done well in the program, given different levels of the program to achieve and strive for, and other incentives.
- 5) To comply with my probation order, and pay all fines and costs in a timely manner.
- 6) I agree to keep the Court & treatment providers informed of my current address and phone number(s), and employment and to report any change within (2) days.
- 7) I agree not to use or possess alcohol or any mood altering substance while participating in the program. Furthermore, I understand that I must have prior permission from the Sobriety Court Team before consuming medication.
- 8) The Court may impose immediate sanctions for non-compliance with conditions of the program, which may include placement in the county jail or other detention without a hearing.
- 9) I hereby waive the requirement of the filing of an Order to Show Cause or Bench Warrant for probation violation before the Court can impose any immediate sanctions.
- 10) I have discussed this with my attorney and fully understand this waiver and freely and voluntarily agree to the terms contained herein.
- 11) I, \_\_\_\_\_ agree to the terms set by the Sobriety Court, and understand that if I do not follow the Sobriety Court rules, I will be terminated from the program. I have received a copy



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of this document and the 15th Judicial District Sobriety Court Handbook and agree to its terms and conditions. I also understand that full compliance may result in early termination of my probation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Defendant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Defense Attorney Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\* \* \* \* \*



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## **SOBRIETY COURT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

### **STABILIZATION & TREATMENT**

#### **Phase I – Approximately 3 months**

Daily morning PBT's for at least 90 days (unless the Court indicates otherwise).

Weekly random urine screens (up to 3 times per week).

Contact with sobriety court probation agent at least 2 times per month.

Attendance at Sobriety Court review hearings 2 times per month or more if deemed necessary by the judge.

Attendance at a minimum of (7) 12-step meetings per week with verification.

Obtain AA or NA sponsor with verification.

Meet with treatment provider; enroll in treatment as recommended by substance abuse assessment, with verification, no unexcused absences. Treatment may consist of in-patient, outpatient, and transitional housing or any combination thereof as ordered by the judge.

Random home visits by probation/police officer(s).

Begin to make regular payments toward fines and costs.

Maintain at least 90 days of sobriety to move to Phase II.

Compliance with Healthy Living Plan.

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## HEALTHY LIVING PLAN

### Phase II – Approximately 6 -12 months

Random weekly PBT's (unless the Court indicates otherwise).

Random urine screens.

Meet with sobriety court probation agent at least 2 times per month.

Monthly attendance at Sobriety Court review hearing or more often if deemed necessary by the judge.

Continued attendance at 12-step meetings each week with verification; assigned number of meetings may decrease in Phase II at discretion of judge/probation.

Maintain relationship with sponsor with verification.

Compliance with Healthy Living Plan.

Upon completion of treatment, attendance at aftercare as required by sobriety court probation agent.

Random home visits by sobriety court probation and/or police officer(s).

To graduate to Phase III: half of all fines, costs, restitution, police recovery fees must be paid; and payment on probation oversight fees must be current.

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## **GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY**

### **Phase III – Approximately 3 – 6 months**

Random PBT's (unless the Court indicates otherwise).

Random urine screens.

Meet with sobriety court probation agent 2 times per month.

Monthly attendance at Sobriety Court review hearing or more often if deemed necessary by the judge.

Continued participation at 12-step meetings with verification; assigned number of meetings may decrease in Phase III at discretion of judge/probation.

Develop and implement a *Healthy Living Plan*\* with a Sobriety Court Team member.

Fines and costs are paid in full.

Written narrative describing your lifestyle changes.

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