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2 Chairman Phil Mendelson

  
Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

  
Councilmember Charles Allen

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12 A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION  
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17 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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21 To celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the District of Columbia Superior Court Drug Intervention  
22 Program (“Drug Court”) and to recognize the Drug Court for its commitment to giving  
23 drug-addicted defendants in the District a second-chance by providing the treatment  
24 needed to beat addiction and stay crime-free.  
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26 WHEREAS, the Drug Court was established in 1993 to reduce drug dependence and  
27 improve the quality of life for offenders and their families;  
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29 WHEREAS, the Drug Court is one of the original drug court programs in the country and  
30 now stands as one of the few that serve pretrial defendants on a pre-plea basis;  
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32 WHEREAS, the Drug Court’s pre-plea model is beneficial because it can reduce burdens  
33 on the court system by diverting cases away from costly and intensive trial proceedings, ensure  
34 defendants have access to needed treatment and social services, and that defendants can enter  
35 treatment more quickly;  
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37 WHEREAS, Drug Court offers eligible defendants with nonviolent misdemeanor and  
38 felony charges an opportunity to enroll in a 24-week substance addiction program with the  
39 possibility of having their cases dismissed or their sentence reduced;  
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41 WHEREAS, participants are supervised by a judge with the support of a drug court  
42 coordinator, case managers, substance abuse treatment providers, prosecuting attorneys, defense  
43 attorneys, law enforcement officers, and parole and probation officers who work together to  
44 provide needed services to participants;  
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46 WHEREAS, the Drug Court has become a model program recognized by senior  
47 government officials, policy advisers, researchers, and practitioners from around the world;  
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49 WHEREAS, the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment and the National Institute of  
50 Justice evaluated the Drug Court and found reductions in drug use during pretrial release,  
51 reductions in arrests during the year after sentencing, and reductions in drug-related social  
52 problems for participants;  
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54 WHEREAS, Drug Court graduates often thank program coordinators for giving them the  
55 opportunity to save their own life;  
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57 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, This  
58 resolution may be cited as the “25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the District of Columbia Superior Court Drug  
59 Intervention Program Recognition Resolution of 2018.”  
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61 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors the District of  
62 Columbia Superior Court Drug Intervention Program for its dedication to ensuring drug-addicted  
63 defendants in the District have access to the resources and services needed to live drug-free.  
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65 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in  
66 the District of Columbia Register.