

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

22-403

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

October 2, 2018

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the District of Columbia Superior Court Drug Intervention Program and to recognize its commitment to giving drug-addicted defendants in the District a second-chance by providing the treatment needed to beat addiction and stay crime-free.

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia Superior Court Drug Intervention Program (“Drug Court”) was established in 1993 to reduce drug dependence and improve the quality of life for offenders and their families;

WHEREAS, the Drug Court is one of the original drug court programs in the country and now stands as one of the few that serve pretrial defendants on a pre-plea basis;

WHEREAS, the Drug Court’s pre-plea model is beneficial because it can reduce burdens on the court system by diverting cases away from costly and intensive trial proceedings, ensure defendants have access to needed treatment and social services, and that defendants can enter treatment more quickly;

WHEREAS, Drug Court offers eligible defendants with nonviolent misdemeanor and felony charges an opportunity to enroll in a 24-week substance addiction program with the possibility of having their cases dismissed or their sentences reduced;

WHEREAS, participants are supervised by a judge with the support of a drug court coordinator, case managers, substance abuse treatment providers, prosecuting attorneys, defense attorneys, law enforcement officers, and parole and probation officers who work together to provide needed services to participants;

WHEREAS, the Drug Court has become a model program recognized by senior government officials, policy advisers, researchers, and practitioners from around the world;

WHEREAS, the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment and the National Institute of Justice evaluated the Drug Court and found reductions in drug use during pretrial release,

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reductions in arrests during the year after sentencing, and reductions in drug-related social problems for participants; and

WHEREAS, Drug Court graduates often thank program coordinators for giving them the opportunity to save their own lives.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “25th Anniversary of the District of Columbia Superior Court Drug Intervention Program Recognition Resolution of 2018”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors the District of Columbia Superior Court Drug Intervention Program for its dedication to ensuring drug-addicted defendants in the District have access to the resources and services needed to live drug-free.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.