

Prior law provided relative to drug divisions of district courts. Prior law further provided for drug division probation for certain offenders.

Prior law provided that in order to be eligible for the drug division probation program, the defendant must satisfy each of the following criteria:

- (1) The defendant cannot have any prior felony convictions for any offenses defined as a crime of violence.
- (2) The crime before the court cannot be a crime of violence.
- (3) Other criminal proceedings alleging commission of a crime of violence cannot be pending against the defendant.

New law removes the prohibition against defendants having a prior felony conviction for any crime of violence and prohibits program eligibility for defendants with prior felony convictions for any offense defined as a homicide.

New law removes the prohibition against a defendant whose crime before the court was a crime of violence, including domestic violence and prohibits program eligibility for defendants whose crime before the court is a crime of violence or an offense of domestic abuse battery which is punishable by imprisonment at hard labor.

Prior law required each drug division to develop a method to evaluate its effectiveness and that these evaluations be compiled annually for transmittal to the judicial administrator of the Supreme Court. New law retains this provision and requires that the evaluation include information on recidivism reduction on program participants.

Effective August 1, 2014.

(Amends R.S. 13:5304(B)(10) and (K))