

## **SPECIALTY COURT SERVICES**

The mission of Specialty Court Services (SCS) is to oversee the operation of its three treatment based programs; Adult Drug Treatment Court, Mental Health Court and Veterans Court; as well as its one probation compliance program; Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program.

In doing so, we are to ensure that eligible defendants, for any of our programs, are identified at the earliest point in the judicial process and referred for alternative programming to address any underlying substance abuse and/or mental health issues which have led to their criminogenic behavior.

Each program has its own target population as its focus; however, the goals of the programs are similar:

- Reduce drug and alcohol use during program participation
- Retain participants in substance abuse and mental health treatment
- Reduce drug and alcohol related crimes in the jurisdiction and
- Alleviate jail or detention overcrowding by engaging participants in evidence based, effective treatment

SCS achieves these goals through intense judicial supervision and case management, as well as, with the assistance of community partners who provide participants with intensive out-patient and/or in-patient services and who teach them valuable life skills in order to maintain their sobriety and manage their mental health so that they can be productive members of their community.

Specialty Court Services also serves as the liaison between the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO); which governs all of the SCS programs, and the Court.

### **Specialty Court Services Manager:**

Yvonne Barnett Greene, Room 610 (313) 224-0211

## **VETERANS TREATMENT COURT**

The Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) program is designated for justice involved Veterans whose criminogenic behavior is linked to their military service and who have underlying issues; such as mental health and substance abuse. Candidates must have a discharge other than dishonorable to be eligible for VTC. VTC provides a sentencing alternative to non-violent prison-bound felony offenders. The court staff, the Veterans Administration and community service partners work together to address the various needs of participants. Successful program completion may result in the dismissal or reduction of the original charge, a reduced sentence, no jail or prison time, or a combination of the above.

**Program Coordinator:** John Marra, Room 610 (313) 224-6316

**Supervising Judge(s):**

Judge Deborah A. Thomas, Courtroom 302

Judge Ulysses W. Boykin, Courtroom 603

## **SWIFT AND SURE SANCTIONS PROBATION PROGRAM**

The Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program (SSSPP) is an intensive probation compliance program modeled after Hawaii's Opportunity Probation with Enforcement (HOPE) program. SSSPP is designed to provide an immediate response to non-compliance. Any proven violation will result in a swift and certain response from the court. SSSPP works closely with the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) to provide supervision of all probationers. Probationers are required to undergo frequent, scheduled and random drug screenings while under supervision. They are also subjected to face-to-face monitoring by the court and MDOC to ensure probation compliance. Although the program's main goal is to increase compliance, it also strives to address other needs of the probationer to help them to be successful and productive citizens once off probation.

**Program Coordinator:** John Marra, Room 610      (313) 224-6316

**Supervising Judge:**  
Judge Shannon Walker, Courtroom 703

## **ADULT DRUG TREATMENT COURT**

The Third Circuit's Adult Drug Treatment Court (ADTC) Program is a comprehensive alternative sentencing program which targets:

- Non-violent felony offenders who are addicted to illegal drugs and/or alcohol.
- Habitual offenders with no history of violence, weapons, sex offenses or arson.

The program involves intensive judicial supervision; on-site frequent and random drug testing; and graduated incentives and sanctions, which are combined with community resources to assist in the achievement of a better life for participants and the community. Participants appear before Supervising ADTC Judges at regular status hearings while undergoing appropriate substance abuse treatment. Referrals are obtained from a variety of sources including Judges, the prosecutor's office, defense attorneys and probation agents. Mandatory exclusions are prior assaultive felony convictions, including weapons offenses, aggravated assault, sex offenders, and arsonists.

**Program Coordinator:** LaShan Bradley, Room 610 (313) 224-0998

### **Supervising Judge(s):**

Presiding Judge, Prentis Edwards, Jr.,  
Courtroom 602  
Judge Qiana D. Lillard, Courtroom 502  
Judge Bridget M. Hathaway, Courtroom 401

## **MENTAL HEALTH COURT**

Third Circuit's Mental Health Court Program began in 2009. It is a 24 month program that provides a problem solving approach for Wayne County Jail inmates who are seriously and persistently mentally ill who also have a non-violent history, and have committed a non-violent offense. Persons out on bond or low-level assault cases are also considered. The majority of cases have co-occurring substance abuse disorders as well. The goals of the program are; to reduce drug and alcohol use during program participation; reduce recidivism; and to help defendant's improve their quality of life.

Defendants are given an opportunity to voluntarily participate through conditional release in community treatment and court approved service plans. This serves as an alternative to a jail sentence.

Through intense judicial supervision, appropriate, effective medication, and a wide range of services tailored to the participant, defendants gain the balance needed to sustain their mental health and significantly reduce their criminal activity. Defendants also find a satisfying measure of achievement and independence while developing strategies to manage their mental illness.

**Program Coordinator:** Kristina Morgan, Room 610                      (313) 224-2269

**Supervising Judge(s):**

Judge Mariam Bazzi, Courtroom 803

Judge Regina Thomas, Courtroom 701