

New Kid on the Block:

Inheriting a Specialty Court

New Kid on the Block:

Inheriting a Specialty Court

Presenters

Judge Raquel “Rocky” Jones

203rd Judicial District Court

Dallas County, Texas

ATLAS – Mental Health & Substance Abuse

Achieving Total Liberty And Success

Judge Lela Lawrence Mays

283rd Judicial District Court

Dallas County, Texas

STAC – Drug Court & Re-entry Court

Successful Treatment of Addiction through Collaboration

The Boy Band





vevo

New to the Team

Joining an Existing
Specialty Court



Vs.

Starting at a
New School



Remember Your 1st Day at a New School.....

- Where will I sit
- Will anybody talk to me
- What will I wear
- Will I know anyone
- What will people say to me
- What questions will they ask me
- Will I know the answers

Bottom Line....We All Want To....



Where would you sit in the cafeteria?

Cool People Table



New Student





What was your Experience the 1st Day
on a New Specialty Court Team

After Today

First day of school and this kid is like...



First day of School



Let's do this!

Let's do this!

New to the Team



Before the 1st Day

- ❑ Read and Study the program ahead of time
- ❑ If program is grant funded – know requirements for compliance
- ❑ Know what you plan to bring to the table
- ❑ Don't try to fix everything immediately
- ❑ Be open and listen to the previous process
- ❑ Come with your own ideas & life experiences



Know Your Population & Clientele



NCDC

NATIONAL CENTER
FOR DWI COURTS

Top DWI
courts reduce
recidivism by
60%⁴

2+
million
drivers in the US
with 3 or more
DWI convictions³

The estimated cost of
alcohol-impaired crashes
in the US in 2010 was

\$44
billion¹

\$3.19
saved for every \$1
invested in DWI
courts⁶

726
DWI courts in
the US⁵

10,874
alcohol-
impaired-
driving fatalities
in 2017²

13,384

lives lost as a result of
impaired driving in 2021

1/3

of drivers arrested for
impaired driving have a
previous DWI arrest

Allrise
**Impaired
Driving Solutions**

56%

of drivers involved in
serious/fatal crashes tested
positive for at least one drug

23

states projected to have
increase in impaired driving
fatalities in 2022



JUSTICE FOR VETS

15,000
currently served
by veterans
treatment
courts¹

5,700
volunteer
veteran mentors
in VTCs¹

354
VTCs in the
US¹

460,000
Iraq/Afghanistan
veterans suffer
from PTSD or
depression²

345,000
Iraq/Afghanistan
veterans have a
substance use
disorder²

181,500
incarcerated
veterans in
the US³

1 in 5

veterans have symptoms of a
mental health disorder or
cognitive impairment

1 in 6

Iraq and Afghanistan
veterans have a substance
use disorder

All Rise
Justice
for Vets

50%

of veterans living with PTSD
do not receive treatment

181,000

veterans are incarcerated in
U.S. jails or prisons

Founded As



NADCP National Association of
Drug Court Professionals



NADCP

National Association of
Drug Court Professionals

1.5 million
total served by
drug court¹

3,454
drug courts in
the US²

up to
58%
reduction in
recidivism⁴

\$6,000
average savings
per drug court
participant³

150,000
people served
by drug courts
each year¹

DRUG COURTS ARE CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Data provided 2019

+50%

of incarcerated people (1.5m)
have a substance use
disorder

400,000+

people with a mental health
disorder currently behind
bars in the U.S.

Arise
**Center for
Advancing Justice**

1 in 5

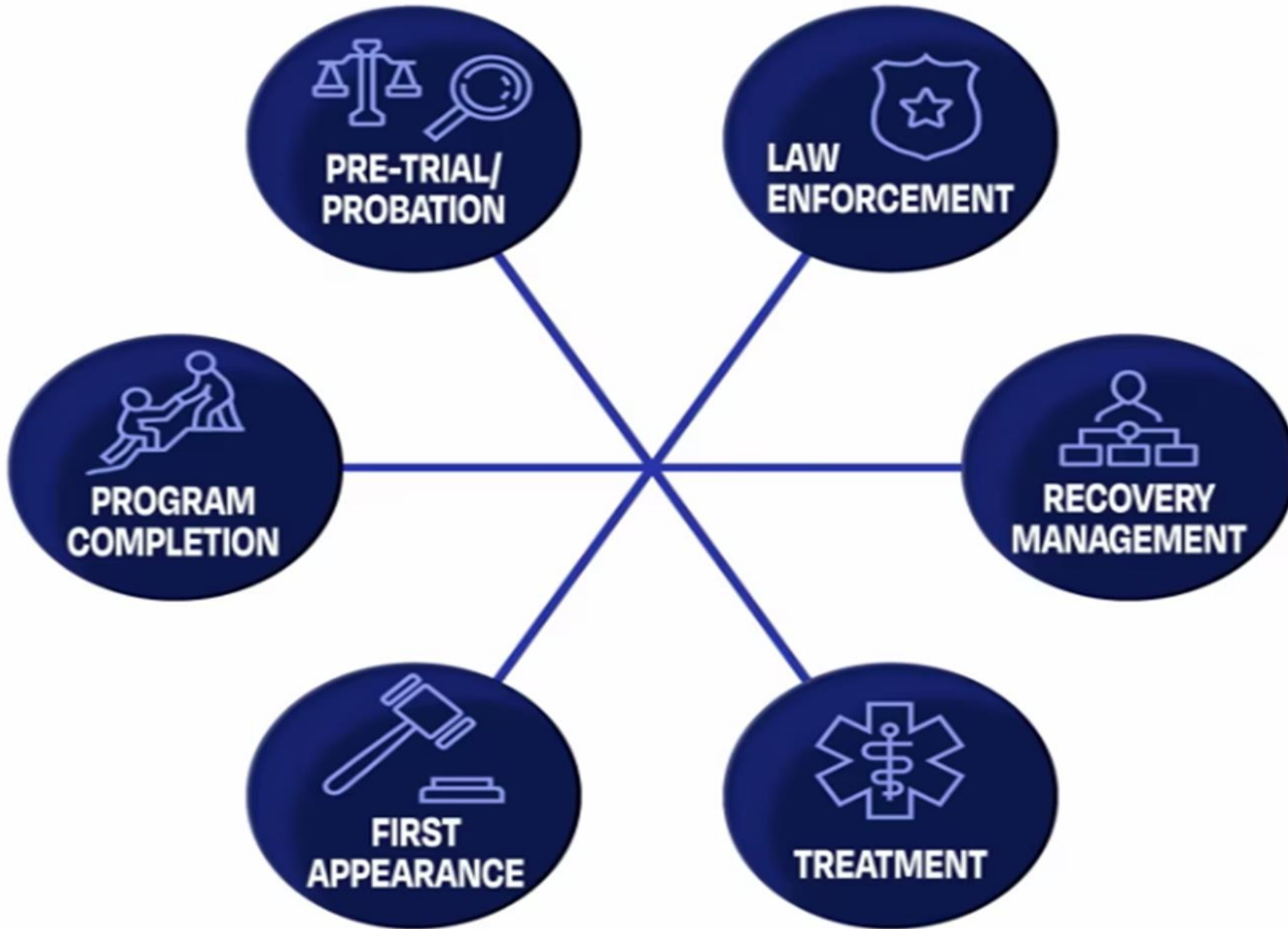
people under community
supervision with a mental
health disorder, twice the
rate of the general
population

98,268

lives lost to fatal overdose in
2021

Founded As

NADCP National Association of
Drug Court Professionals



Drug courts are the *single most successful* criminal justice intervention for seriously addicted offenders. Proven to *save lives, save money, and reduce crime*, these courts:

- ✓ Treat substance use disorders
- ✓ Treat mental health needs
- ✓ Deliver services for lifelong recovery
- ✓ Secure education, employment, and housing
- ✓ Produce tax-paying, productive citizens
- ✓ Break the cycle of addiction in families
- ✓ Reduce re-arrests and re-incarcerations
- ✓ Reduce substance use and overdose
- ✓ Reduce emergency room admissions
- ✓ Reduce foster care placements

¹American University School of Public Affairs Justice Programs Office (2016).

²National Drug Court Resource Center. <https://ndcrc.org/database/> (retrieved March 5, 2019).

³National Institute of Justice (2011). *Multi-site Adult Drug Court Evaluation*.

⁴United States Government Accountability Office Report to Congressional Committees (2011). *Adult Drug Courts: Studies Show Courts Reduce Recidivism, but DOJ Could Enhance Future Performance Measure Revision Efforts*. GAO-12-53.

Mission:



Justice



Treatment



How do you maintain the success of the program ?

What happens if you come to a program that does not have structure or consequences?



Progressive Sanctions

Failure to report for orientation

- 1st Violation – verbal warning
- 2nd Violation – returned to original court – discharge from program

Failure to call the UA line/Failure to Provide UA

- 1st Violation – verbal warning (court UA)
- 2nd Violation –additional NA meetings
- 3rd Violation – community service
- 4th Violation – days in jail
- 5th Violation – discharge from program

Progressive Sanctions

Failure to report to Court Sessions

- 1st Violation – verbal warning
- 2nd Violation – community service
- 3rd Violation – days in jail
- 4th Violation – revocation

Failed Drug Test

- 1st Violation – admonishment & additional NA meetings
- 2nd Violation – community service & drug patch
- 3rd Violation – days in jail
- 4th Violation – in patient treatment
- Continued Violations – revocation

Practical Tips

- Create/Review Program Guidelines – Do's & Don'ts
- What will be your maximum number of clients
- Meet with probation officers to determine requirements for success
- Develop Graduated sanctions
- What are the rewards – certificates, milestones, graduation, etc.
- What is the ultimate goal of your program
- If possible-visit facilities and review curriculum offered to clients
- What is your threshold of tolerance – **NON-NEGOTIABLES**
- Accept & Meet the clients where they are in life – Be Relatable

Lastly.....



I don't think inside
the box. I don't think
outside the box
either. I don't even
know where the box
is.

~ me

“
*Instead of thinking
outside the box, get rid of
the box.*
”

Architect of Specialty Court.....Then



Then.....

- You inherit or take over a new program

Or

- You are asked to cover a Specialty Court temporarily

Or

- You realize there's a need to restructure and start over

Before getting started...



...of the Program

Review & Gather Your Documents:

- Intake Packets
- Policy & Procedures for Staff
- Handouts/Brochures for clients
 - Do all paperwork, documents and handouts match?
- Waivers
 - Waivers to collaborate with outside agencies
 - Waivers to discuss with progress with family members

Review Client Documents:

- Any Assessments
- Family History
- Criminal History
- Drug History
- Treatment History

Observe & Ask Questions

- After court session, discuss with team what you observed
- Is the team diverse in race, gender and cultural experience
- Why things were done in a certain way
- The history behind certain decisions and actions
- Discuss best practices
- What can be done to enhance the program

Look for the Following:

- Who has come through the program?
- Who was successful and who was not...and why not?
- Who is currently in the program?
- What are their risk levels?
- How are they separated in treatment:
 - Gender
 - Age
 - Education level (help for those with learning difficulties)
- What are the drugs of choice?
- What is the drug history?

Working with the Clients:

- Who has come through the program?
- Requirements of the participants
- Test for the correct drugs
 - Run a “nurses panel” or K2 test, when necessary
- Consider testing on.....
 - Birthdays, weddings, travel, weekends, the Superbowl, World Cup, World Series, etc.
- What’s important to the participant?
- Utilize alumni for support and to inform the team of community events or concerns that may arise

Look at Vendors/Providers:

- Who are the vendors / treatment providers?
- How many are affiliated with the program?
- What services do they provide?
- Are outcomes shared with the team?
- How is the information disseminated to the team?
- Visit the facility or observe a session
 - What is the curriculum?
 - What is the population? – restricted to drug court, criminal justice, education level
 - Are progress reports and violations provided immediately, weekly or monthly?
- Does a representative attend staffing?

Is it time for a change ?



Does the program need to be tweaked?

Does it follow best practices?

Is the program up to date?

Are the rules evenly & consistently followed ?

How is program working as related to outcomes?

Training

- In-house
- Local or Online
- Arrange for team to attend TASC trainings – Stipends
- Bring in NADCP trainers and material
- Provide updates by email when necessary
- Newsletters from TASC, NADCP and other publications
- Self-Care :
 - Take care of your Team
 - Take care of your Self

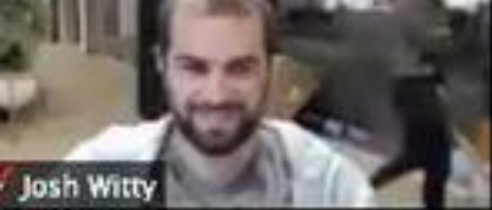
The Virtual World



Microsoft Teams

Online Court Meetings

- Keep your eyes on your clients at every court session –
Zoom or in-person
- Pay attention to body language at each court session –
Practice makes perfect....or pretty close
- Require certain participants to appear in person



Josh Witty



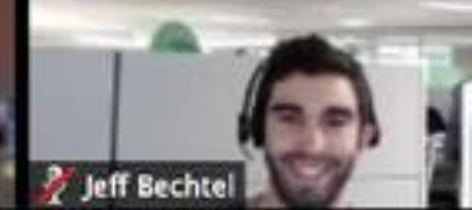
Elizabeth Swan



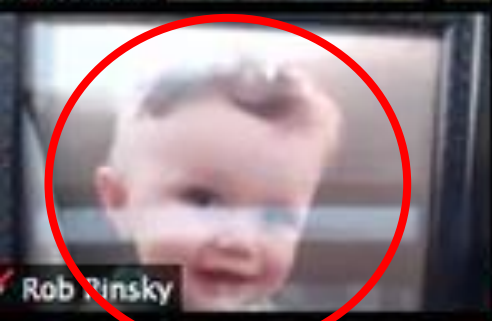
Lynna Hu



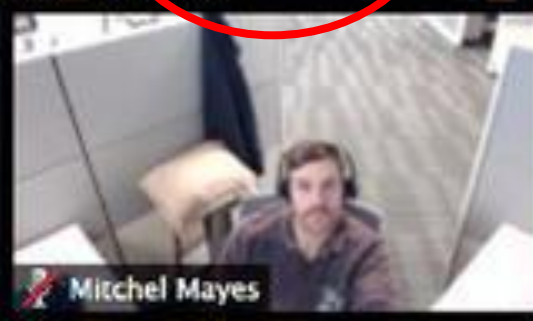
John Mensik



Jeff Bechtel



Rob Pinsky



Mitchel Mayes



Angeline Hüynh



Tamara Pitts



Zhenghang Gu



Shari Clare



Winston Twu



James Desmond-Denve...



Rozette Pasahol



Huey Le - Zoom CSM



Jenny Eggimann



Subriah Esharc



Heather Jarrett



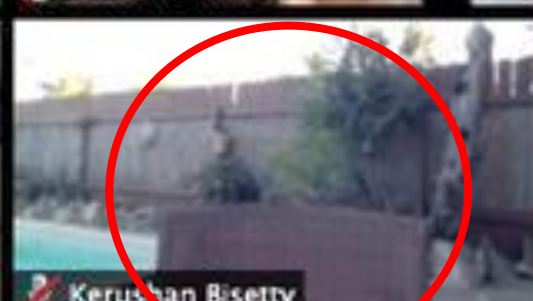
Justin Henry



Matt Caballero



George Bassil



Kerushan Bisetty



John Poie



Brian McIntyre



Farah Farajlas

In Conclusion...

The NEW Kid at school

Going to a new school can be a hard transition for some kids to make. You are in a new building with classmates and teachers that you've never met before. Getting adjusted can take time, and you may have moments of sadness when you miss your old school, teachers, and friends. Read below for tips on how to cope with being *the new kid*!

1. Give yourself time to feel comfortable in the new school. It can take a while to get adjusted to any new situation. Just remember that over time, everything will begin to feel familiar for you. If it would help, see if you are able to visit your school before the first day so that you feel more comfortable when the school year begins.
2. Introduce yourself to others! It can be easy to shut down and remain quiet on your first day. Instead, be approachable and open to conversation with the other students. Try to have positive interactions with everyone that you meet. Talk to your classmates, and find out which ones may have the same interests as you. These classmates could end up being your good friends!
3. Ask for help if you need it. There might be a classmate that would be willing to show you around and help you get to the places you need to go. Having a guide will help you feel less lost and more comfortable on your first day! If there are any questions you have of a teacher or any adult in the school, be sure to ask.
4. Be involved! Getting involved will help you feel like you are a part of the school. It will also help you meet new people who are interested in the same things as you. See if you would be able to join a club or play a sport. What activities would you be interested in joining?
5. Instead of thinking about everything that you miss about your old school, try to focus on the positives of your new situation. Keep reminding yourself that you can make some great friends at your new school and create new memories!
6. Make sure the kids at the new school are getting to know the *real* you. Don't try to act differently to fit in a certain group or impress others. Be yourself, and make friends with the kids that accept you for who you are.



© 2019 Mylemarks LLC. All Rights Reserved.

For more resources, visit www.mylemarks.com Graphic by Pignit: <http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Pignit> Clip Art

Most Programs Are Already A Success



IF IT AIN'T BROKE DON'T FIX IT.

FALSE.

IMPROVEMENT IS ALWAYS POSSIBLE.

memegenerator.com

ANY QUESTIONS ?????



A young woman with reddish-brown hair is singing into a microphone. She is wearing a light blue denim jacket over a yellow and blue striped shirt. Her right hand is raised, palm facing forward. In the background, a man in a black and white checkered vest is visible, and another person in a blue shirt is partially seen on the left. The scene is set against a dark background.

vevo

Thank You



Judge Raquel “Rocky” Jones
203rd Judicial District Court
133 N. Riverfront Blvd.
Dallas, Texas 75207
Rocky.jones@dallascounty.org

Judge Lela Lawrence Mays
283rd Judicial District Court
133 N. Riverfront Blvd.
Dallas, Texas 75207
Lela.mays@dallascounty.org

The image features a series of concentric circles in shades of red and black, creating a hypnotic, tunnel-like effect. The circles are centered and expand outwards from a dark blue/black center. Overlaid on this pattern is the text "That's all Folks!" in a white, elegant cursive font. The text is positioned diagonally across the middle of the image, starting from the left side and ending towards the right. The overall aesthetic is reminiscent of classic animation end screens.

That's all Folks!