



RENO MUNICIPAL COURT

1 SOUTH SIERRA STREET RENO, NV 89501

(775) 334-2290 | RENOMUNICIPALCOURT.COM



DUI FRESH START THERAPEUTIC COURT

CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION

The Honorable Gene Drakulich presides over the DUI (Driving Under the Influence) Fresh Start Therapeutic Court in Department 1. The eligibility criterion for this court is:



First offense DUI offenders with a BAC > 0.18*



Second offense DUI offenders



Multiple DUI convictions outside a seven year offense date window**

Referrals to the specialty court are made by judges, prosecutors, legal defenders, alternative sentencing or probation officers. Immediately upon identification as a potential specialty court case, a presentence screening is conducted and a substance abuse evaluation is completed. The presentence screening includes collection of information regarding history of treatment and trauma, and a Risk and Needs Triage. The judge reserves the right to make exceptions, but the specialty court team assesses the referral in light of their criminal history, current support system, as well as any history of treatment.

** Blood/Breath Alcohol Concentration. Nevada State Law requires any person with a BAC of 0.18 or more undergo a substance abuse evaluation.*

*** Nevada State Law mandates a more severe penalty for a DUI conviction within 7 years. A third DUI conviction within 7 years is a felony.*



DRUG & CO-OCCURRING DISORDER SPECIALTY COURTS

CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION

The Honorable Dorothy Nash Holmes presides over four separate specialty court dockets for offenders meeting the following criteria.

ADULT DRUG COURT

The following individuals are considered for placement into this program:

1. First offense DUI offenders with a BAC > 0.18 or an extensive substance abuse history.
2. Second offense DUI offenders.
3. Individuals who have multiple DUI convictions even though outside a seven year offense date window.
4. Defendants who have been convicted of misdemeanor offense(s) that are the direct result of the defendant's substance abuse or addiction.
5. Domestic violence offenders with alcohol or drug abuse issues.
6. All other offenders deemed appropriate by the Judge and Court Team.

CO-OCCURRING DISORDER COURT

The criteria listed above and the following will be considered for placement into this program:

1. A history of mental illness, mental health treatment, medication or a referral for treatment or medication.
2. Individuals whose substance abuse and mental health is related to their involvement in the criminal justice system.

YOUNG ADULT RECOVERY COURT

The criteria listed above for either the Adult Drug Court or COD Court and the participant is age 18-26.

HOMELESS COURT

This program is designed for the homeless defendant who is a chronic alcoholic and frequent user of the emergency rooms, jails and courts.

These programs provide early intervention and services as a meaningful alternative to incarceration for the participant who can function in the community with support. It is our goal to improve the quality of life and reduce recidivism for the participants. Those who graduate will have a solid foundation on which to build a productive and meaningful life.



THE COURT TEAM

It is important to understand that decisions in the Specialty Court Program are made by the Judge after discussion with the Court Team. The Court Team consists of the Judge, City Attorney (prosecutor), Legal Defender, Clinical Director, Treatment Provider, Alternative Sentencing Marshal (ASU) and Case Manager. Each team member has a different role within the team. Our Court Teams adhere to the proven components for the most successful specialty courts listed on the opposite page.

FREQUENT ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT DOES RENO MUNICIPAL COURT DO?

The Reno Municipal Court is a high-volume, limited jurisdiction court of record which adjudicates criminal misdemeanor (e.g., domestic violence, DUI, drug possession, and possession of paraphernalia and petty theft) and traffic violations committed by adults within the City of Reno proper. Reno Municipal Court's jurisdiction includes the downtown core which incorporates the business district, the majority of casinos and other adult venues in the city, as well as the area surrounding the University of Nevada, Reno. With a population of over 235,000, Reno is the largest city in Northern Nevada.

The Court is located in Reno, however, primarily serves the broader community of Washoe County which is projected to have a population of 475,000 in 2019 (Nevada State Demographer). The Court handles cases from Reno Police Department; Nevada Highway Patrol; University of Nevada, Reno; Washoe County School District; Reno Tahoe Airport Authority; Reno Sparks Indian Colony Police Department; Nevada Gaming Control Board; Nevada Capitol Police; Nevada Transportation Authority; and, the Union Pacific Railroad.

WHAT IS A DRUG COURT?

A drug court is a specialized court that is considered a problem-solving court. These "specialty courts" operate under a treatment model in which the criminal case is diverted from traditional case processing and the offender is provided an opportunity to find restoration in recovery and become a productive citizen. The most common specialized courts are drug courts, but several other types of programs apply similar approaches to address violent and repeat offending, and returns to incarceration.



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HIGH INTENSITY SERVICES AND SUPERVISION SPECIALTY COURT

CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION

The Honorable Tammy Riggs presides over the HISS Program in Department 4. Potential participants are identified by offense; frequency of nuisance crimes; living circumstances and mental illness.



1 Must be charged with one of the following offenses:

- Urinating in Public
- Trespassing
- Pedestrian Infractions
- Defrauding an Innkeeper
- Open Container
- Soliciting Business or Money
- Sitting or Lying on Sidewalk
- Camping in Park After Hours
- Dumping (disposal of rubbish)



2 Frequency of offenses:

Potential clients have had arrests for these same offenses 4 or more times in the past year.



3 Living Circumstance:

Chronically homeless as defined by Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.



4 Mental Illness:

Personality Disorders: Antisocial, Borderline, Narcissistic, and Histrionic Personality Disorders; Attachment Disorder

THE FOLLOWING FACTORS WILL RULE-OUT PARTICIPATION:

- Charge of DUI or Domestic Battery
- Instant Offense is a crime of violence
- Felony conviction for a crime of violence in the past two years
- Mood Disorder, i.e., Major Depression, Bipolar Disorder, Shizoffective Disorder, Schizophrenia, Psychotic Disorder unless declined by 2nd Judicial Mental Health Court, or ineligible for or rejected by RMC's Co-Occurring Disorder Court then determination will be made on a case-by-case basis; or, condition becomes known after entry to program

GOALS WHILE IN THE PROGRAM:

Abstinence: Longer periods of abstinence from substance use for participants

Crime: Decreased criminal justice involvement; no arrests for new offenses

Housing: Remain housed; fewer homeless mentally ill living on the streets

Access: Increased access to services-treatment, case management and workforce development

Cost Effectiveness: Increased services provided for less than current jail, ER and first responders cost

DEFINING DRUG COURTS: THE TEN KEY COMPONENTS

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DRUG COURT PROFESSIONALS - JANUARY 1997

Key Component #1: Drug courts integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice system case processing

Key Component #2: Using a nonadversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights

Key Component #3: Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in the drug court program

Key Component #4: Drug courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitation services

Key Component #5: Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing

Key Component #6: A coordinated strategy governs drug court responses to participants' compliance

Key Component #7: Ongoing judicial interaction with each drug court participant is essential

Key Component #8: Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness

Key Component #9: Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective drug court planning, implementation, and operations

Key Component #10: Forging partnerships among drug courts, public agencies, and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances drug court effectiveness reduce recidivism for the participants. Those who graduate will have a solid foundation on which to build a productive and meaningful life.

FREQUENT ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF THE SPECIALTY COURTS?

The goal of the Reno Municipal Court Specialty Court Programs is to reduce recidivism through accountability and rehabilitation. When these concepts are effectively applied, public safety increases exponentially because most offenders will respond positively to the appropriate supervision and treatment. Integrating treatment with criminal case processing is the most cost-effective and strategically sound approach to reduction of recidivism. Public safety is optimized when law enforcement, the judicial system, social services and community-based entities collaborate as integrated components focusing resources with the common mission of long-term crime prevention through recidivism reduction.

HOW MANY SPECIALTY COURTS ARE IN RENO MUNICIPAL COURT?

Reno Municipal Court has seven programs operating within the courts' four judicial departments. Each program addresses the needs of distinct populations within the criminal justice system as outlined in the following pages. Each program has a "specialty court team" that is led by a judge and includes attorneys, treatment professionals and court staff. More information on the court team is on the final page of this handout.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

You can find additional information on Reno Municipal Court, including how to access online services at: www.RenoMunicipalCourt.com

Additional information on drug courts can be found at www.NADCP.org





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COURTS ASSISTING MILITARY OFFENDERS

★ RENO MUNICIPAL COURT ★ VETERANS TREATMENT COURT

The Honorable Shelly O'Neill presides over the Veterans Treatment in Department 2. The eligibility criterion for this court is:

- Veteran or current member of U.S. military
- Charged with misdemeanor criminal offense
 - If charged with misdemeanor criminal case in another NV jurisdiction, case must be transferred pursuant to SB29 and participant must reside in Washoe County throughout court proceedings
- Diagnosed with Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and/or Mental Health Disorder which appears to be related to military service (NRS 176A.280(1)(a)(1))
- Risk and Needs score is: High Risk, High Need; High Risk, Low Need
- Client must agree to participate in the program for not less than 12 months and follow up surveys or focus groups for an additional year
- Client is not actively engaged as a confidential informant
- Client is not charged with a crime of violence or has one or more convictions for a crime of violence as defined by 42 USC 3797u-2

The CAMO-RNO expands the service model by addressing the unique needs of member of the armed services and their families. Supported by a strong interdisciplinary team, veterans' court works to link veteran offenders with the programs, benefits and services they have earned.

RENO MUNICIPAL COURT VETERANS COURT PARTNERSHIP

- Health Care for Homeless Veterans
- Bristlecone Family Resources
- Volunteers of America - Veterans Dorm Beds
- Veterans Justice Outreach Program
- Veterans Outreach Center
- West Care - Home Front
- Vitality Unlimited Veterans Housing
- Operation Employ
- Ridge House Veteran's Services
- Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services
- National Alliance on Mental Illness
- Nevada Department of Veteran Affairs
 - Linkage of earned eligible benefits
 - Medical & Dental
 - Mental Health Counseling
 - Housing, Education & Employment Assistance

- Court Legal Representatives
 - City of Reno City Attorney's Office
 - City of Reno Legal Defender's Office

- Law Enforcement
 - Reno Municipal Court - Alternative Sentencing Unit
 - Washoe County Sheriff's Office
 - Reno Police Department

CONTACT

Michelle Masi
Judicial Assistant
MasiM@Reno.Gov
(775) 334-2297

Veterans Justice Outreach
VJO Coordinator
(775) 324-6600

