



OFFICE OF THE STATE'S ATTORNEY  
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAMS  
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To: Hon. Lawrence Fox  
RAP Drug Court

From: Mark Kammerer  
Director, Treatment Programs  
Narcotics Prosecutions Bureau

Re: Impact of RAP on Subsequent Criminal Activity

January 19, 2009

Since we have now completed the one and three year reviews of all RAP graduates who have been out of the Program for those periods of time (11/07 and 11/05 respectively), I would like to highlight some of what I consider the most significant data. The one year reviews include the results from the 503 participants who graduated in the 10/99 through 11/07 classes. Among those individuals, comparing their criminal activity in the year prior to entering the Program versus the year following completion:

- felony arrests decreased by 92%
- total arrests decreased by 83%
- 87% had no felony arrest
- felony convictions decreased by 87%
- total convictions decreased by 81%
- 91% had no felony conviction
- 93% had no felony drug crime conviction

The three year reviews include the results from the 410 participants who graduated in the 10/99 through 11/05 classes. Reviewing them in the same manner, pre- and post-participation in RAP:

- felony arrests decreased by 84%

- total arrests decreased by 73%
- 77% had no felony arrest
- felony convictions decreased by 85%
- total convictions decreased by 78%
- 79% had no felony conviction
- 85% had no felony drug crime conviction

We will continue to perform these on-going reviews and report the results, annually.

CC: Mercedes Luque-Rosales, Chief, Narcotics Prosecutions Bureau

Hon. Paul P. Biebel, Jr., Presiding Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County, Criminal Division

Susan Stanger, RAP Coordinator, Adult Probation Department

Tim Bush, Asst. Chief, Adult Probation Department



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## STATE'S ATTORNEY'S DRUG SCHOOL

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- DIVERTED APPROXIMATELY 4,000 NON-VIOLENT, DRUG CASES INVOLVING SMALL AMOUNTS OF NARCOTICS OUT OF THE COOK COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM ANNUALLY FROM 2001 - 2008, AN INCREASE OF 225% SINCE 1996; OVER 90% OF REGISTERED DEFENDANTS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING THE CURRICULUM, RESULTING IN A DISMISSAL OF CHARGES
- DISPOSED OF CASES AT A COST OF \$197 PER OFFENDER VS. THE ESTIMATED COST OF PROSECUTION OF OVER \$750 (CONSIDERING THE COST/INVOLVEMENT OF THE OFFICES OF THE COOK COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY, PUBLIC DEFENDER, SHERIFF, CLERK, JUDICIARY AND MUNICIPAL POLICE DEPARTMENTS), RESULTING IN AN ANNUAL COST REDUCTION TO COOK COUNTY OF OVER \$2 MILLION/YEAR, NOT INCLUDING POSSIBLE INCARCERATION COSTS OF \$23,000 PER PRISONER PER YEAR OR ANNUAL PROBATION COSTS OVER \$1000
- SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED THE LIKELIHOOD OF A DRUG RE-ARREST (11% FOR SUCCESSFUL PARTICIPANTS, 48% FOR UNSUCCESSFUL PARTICIPANTS DURING THE YEAR FOLLOWING THE OFFER/ACCEPTANCE OF DRUG SCHOOL) WITH 83% OF GRADUATES HAVING NO DRUG RE-ARREST DURING THE THREE YEARS FOLLOWING COMPLETION
- ALLOWS SUCCESSFUL PARTICIPANTS TO COMPLETELY AVOID A TRIAL WITH NO POSSIBILITY FOR CONVICTION; ALLOWS FOR APPLICATION FOR EXPUNGEMENT OF THE ARREST
- CLASSES HELD AT 4 SITES; 2 IN CHICAGO, 2 IN THE SUBURBS, 2 SERIES IN SPANISH
- PROVIDES TEN HOURS OF EDUCATIONAL CLASSES ADDRESSING THE MYRIAD NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF DRUGS TO OFFENDERS WITH AGE SPECIFIC CURRICULA FOR YOUNG ADULTS, ADULTS, AND WOMEN; WITH REFERRAL FOR ADDITIONAL TREATMENT, WHEN APPROPRIATE

### RECENT ENHANCEMENTS

- MAINTAINED ON-SITE REGISTRATION AT EACH CITY BRANCH COURT AND EACH SUBURBAN DISTRICT COURT, DECREASING UNSUCCESSFUL REGISTRATIONS BY 95% SINCE 2000
- BEGAN POLICY OF ALLOWING RE-ADMISSION, AFTER 3 YEARS, WITH NO NEW ARREST
- ADJUSTED THE CURRICULUM TO REFLECT CURRENT TRENDS IN DRUG USE/ABUSE  
03/09



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To: Mental Health Court Personnel  
February 17, 2009

From: Mark Kammerer  
Coordinator, Mental Health Court, Narcotics Prosecutions Bureau

Re: Impact of Mental Health Court on Subsequent Criminal Activity by Graduates

In order to gauge the impact that the two current, Criminal Division, Cook County Felony Mental Health Courts have on subsequent criminal activity by their graduates, this unit of the State's Attorney's Office semi-annually performs an exhaustive review of the criminal activity of successful Mental Health Court graduates, currently one year and, eventually, three years post-graduation (the latter to begin in 5/09). We utilize every identifier to which we have access, including IR, SID, and FBI numbers, in addition to RAP sheets, police records, known aliases, and even birth dates. We compare the criminal activity of the graduates for the same two periods prior to entering Mental Health Court and post-graduation to determine what effect, if any, the Program had on such illegal activity. In that way, we are truly comparing "apples with apples", since it is the same time frames and same methods of review with the same individuals. Since a primary purpose of Mental Health Court is to reduce the likelihood, through treatment and judicial supervision, that its graduates will re-offend and thus re-enter the criminal justice, this appears to be a highly significant factor to assess.

For the one year review, the graduating classes from 5/06 through 12/07 are included. Among those twenty-one individuals, **for the one year after graduation versus the one year prior to entering the Program:**

- **felony arrests decreased by 97%**
- **total arrests decreased by 85%**
- **97% had no felony arrest**
- **95% had no drug crime arrest**
- **felony convictions decreased by 100%**
- **total convictions decreased by 81%**
- **100% had no felony conviction**
- **95% had no drug crime conviction**
- **average days in custody decreased by 98% (93/graduate versus 1.7/graduate)**
- **average in custody costs decreased by 98% (\$11,936/graduate versus \$215/graduate; or a total of \$250,647 versus \$4,515)**

When there are graduating classes who are three years post-graduation, similar characteristics will be reviewed.

CC: Anita Alvarez, States Attorney, Cook County  
Hon. Paul P. Biebel, Jr. Presiding Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County, Criminal Division