



MICHIGAN COURTS NEWS RELEASE

John Nevin, Communications Director

Ph: 517-373-0129 Twitter: @MISupremeCourt FB: facebook.com/misupremecourt

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Supreme Court Awards More Than \$12 Million to Drug/Sobriety Courts Statewide *Problem-solving courts reduce crime, reduce unemployment among graduates*

LANSING, MI, October 3, 2018 – The Michigan Supreme Court announced today that it has awarded more than \$12 million in grants to 80 courts statewide to fund the operation of drug and sobriety court programs during Fiscal Year 2019. Extensive follow-up analysis shows that in Fiscal Year 2017, adult drug court graduates were more than 3 times less likely to commit another crime after two years and unemployment among adult drug court graduates was reduced by 100 percent.

“I could not be prouder of the proven track record of Michigan’s drug and sobriety courts. They are not only drastically reducing recidivism rates and saving taxpayer dollars, but more importantly, they are saving lives and strengthening our communities,” said Justice Elizabeth T. Clement, MSC liaison to problem-solving courts, at a graduation ceremony at the Oakland County Adult Treatment Court in Pontiac. “Funding these effective and life-changing programs is a huge win for our state.”

Additional drug and sobriety court findings in the FY 2017 MSC report, “[Solving Problems, Saving Lives](#)”:

- Hybrid (drug/sobriety) court graduates were more than 2 times less likely to commit another crime after two years.
- Sobriety court graduates were more than 5 times less likely to commit another crime after two years.
- Family dependency court graduates were more than 2 times less likely to commit another crime after two years.
- Ninety-one percent of sobriety court graduates who used ignition interlock devices successfully completed a program.
- Sobriety court graduates who used an ignition interlock device were 7 times less likely to commit another crime after two years.
- Unemployment was drastically reduced:
 - By more than 75 percent among sobriety court graduates.
 - By more than 60 percent among hybrid (drug/sobriety) court graduates.

Click [here](#) for a list of drug and sobriety treatment courts that received grants and [here](#) for more information about the grant programs. In addition to funding, the Supreme Court provides these courts with operational support and resources, including a newly-updated manual on state certification requirements and educational programming.

Problem-solving courts are nontraditional programs that focus on nonviolent offenders whose underlying medical and social problems have contributed to recurring contacts with the criminal justice system. Performance of problem-solving courts is tracked as part of a broader performance measures initiative to monitor court performance statewide. Data collected is used to identify and share best practices and to target areas that need improvement. Read individual “[success stories](#)” from problem-solving courts.

-MSC-