



MICHIGAN COURTS NEWS RELEASE

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Supreme Court Awards More Than \$11 Million in Grants to Drug and Sobriety Courts Statewide **Courts Strengthen Communities by Reducing Crime and Unemployment Rates**

LANSING, MI, October 11, 2017 – The Michigan Supreme Court announced today that it has awarded more than \$11 million to 89 courts statewide to fund the operation of drug and DWI/sobriety programs. Instead of costly incarceration, these problem-solving courts closely supervise offenders who are required to enroll in treatment programs and be drug tested regularly. Extensive follow-up analysis shows that participants in these courts are far less likely to reoffend.

“The funding from these grant programs is vital to Michigan’s drug and sobriety courts because it enables them to continue doing what they do best: saving lives, saving money, strengthening families, and building stronger communities,” said State Court Administrator Milton L. Mack, Jr.

Key findings in the MSC [Solving Problems, Saving Lives](#) report include:

- Drug/sobriety court graduates were nearly two times less likely to reoffend after two years.
- Unemployment among adult drug court graduates dropped by more than half.
- Ninety percent of juvenile drug court graduates improved their education level upon successfully completing a program.
- Ninety-two percent of sobriety court participants who used an ignition interlock device successfully completed a program.
- Sobriety court graduates with interlock devices were three times less likely to be convicted of another offense after four years.

Click [here](#) for a list of courts that received drug and DWI/sobriety court grants. The process of awarding the grants is highly competitive and funding is limited. As a result, not every court who applied received a grant. Click [here](#) for more information about the grant programs.

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. More information is available [here](#).

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Editor’s Note: Please contact your local courts for more information about specific local program. Contact information is available in the [Trial Court Directory](#).