

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT,
SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA

CASE #: _____

VS.

CHARGES: _____

ST. JOHNS COUNTY ADULT DRUG COURT PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT

Joining the Program

I have been assessed as having a substance use disorder, and I want to join the **St. Johns County Adult Drug Court Program**.

- **Voluntary:** I choose to enter this program on my own free will.
- **Handbook Agreement:** I received the Participant Handbook, which outlines specific requirements of the program. The Participant Handbook is incorporated into this Agreement by reference, and I agree to follow the Participant Handbook rules now and any updated rules I am given later.
- **Moving Forward:** Moving to the next phase or graduating requires approval from the Drug Court team and the Judge.

Legal Requirements & Probation Rules

- **Probation:** When I am accepted into the program, the Judge will place me on **Drug Offender Probation**.
- **Following Rules:** I must follow this contract, the Participant Handbook, and my probation order. If I break these rules, I may face sanctions, changes to my treatment plan (like residential care), or a probation violation.
- **Leaving early:** If I want to leave Drug Court before graduating, I must ask the Judge for permission. If the Judge approves, my case will return to regular court, and I could face a standard sentence, including prison.
- **Termination:** If the team recommends removing me from the program, I have a right to a formal court hearing before a final decision is made.

Privacy, Information Sharing, and Court Communications

- **Confidentiality Rules:** I understand that the confidentiality of my alcohol and drug treatment records is protected under Federal regulations: Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records, 42 CFR Part 2 and the HIPAA privacy Rule, 45 CFR 164.502, 164.512, and 164.514. I further

understand and consent to the Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA) staff having access to the data provided in the Florida Drug Court Case Management System, as required part of the Florida Drug Court compliance, for purposes of providing administrative oversight, program monitoring and evaluation, and data compliance review. OSCA's contracted vendor, Advanced Computer Technologies, also has access to data for purposes of webhosting, support, and data maintenance.

- **Team Communication:** I agree to let Drug Court team members share information about me. This includes my drug test results, group attendance,
- **Team Meetings (Ex Parte):** I allow the Drug Court team to discuss my case in team meetings without me or my lawyer present. They will discuss my treatment, progress, safety, and any rewards or consequences.

Daily Expectations

To stay in the program and reach my goals, I will:

- Show up on time for all court dates, treatment sessions, and meetings.
- Report to my probation officer and coordinator whenever instructed.
- Work toward a job, education, job training, or another approved goal.
- Get approval from the team before changing my home address or leaving St. Johns County.
- Answer all questions from the Drug Court team quickly and honestly.
- Follow all laws, avoid weapons, and stay away from illegal drugs and people who commit crimes.

Remaining Drug-Free & Testing

- **Random Testing:** I will be drug tested often and at random times, including nights, weekends, and holidays.
- **No Alcohol or Unauthorized Drugs:** I will not use, buy, or hold alcohol, illegal drugs, or unapproved substances.
- **Prescriptions:** I must tell my counselor *before* taking any prescribed medicine. In a medical emergency, I may take prescribed medicine, but I must report it on the next workday.
- **Over the Counter & CBD:** I will check with a pharmacist and get approval from my counselor before taking over-the-counter medicines, herbal supplements, or CBD products (which can cause failed drug tests).

Program Phases & Length

Drug Court is divided into four (4) phases. The program takes a minimum of one (1) year to complete. The exact length of time I spend in the program depends on my treatment needs, progress, and compliance with program requirements. To move from one phase to the next, I must meet the requirements for that phase and show steady progress in my recovery and daily life.

Phase 1: Assessment, Orientation and Stabilization (Minimum of 60 Days)

Goal: Learn the Drug Court schedule and expectations, begin living drug-and alcohol-free, and understand your treatment needs.

Requirements:

- Complete orientations with Probation and the Coordinator.
- Complete all treatment intakes and assessments.
- Attend court weekly.
- Attend at least three (3) group therapy sessions per week during the phase.
- Participate in at least two (2) individual therapy sessions during the phase.
- Call the drug test hotline daily and test when ordered.
- Attend Support Group Meetings such as Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Smart Recovery or other team-approved sessions, one (1) a day for at least five (5) days each week.
- Meet with your probation officer
- once (1) a week as instructed.
- Meet with your coordinator once (1) a week as instructed.
- Complete at least 60 total days in Phase 1.
- Accumulate at least 60 **consecutive** (uninterrupted) sobriety days.
- Complete at least 25 community service hours.
- Be current on your treatment fees.
- Turn in a Phase Advancement Petition.

Phase 2: Intensive Outpatient Treatment (Minimum of 120 days) Goal: Build skills for long-term recovery, learn more about addiction and how it affects your life, and maintain short-term sobriety.

Requirements:

- Attend Court once every two (2) weeks.
- Attend at least three (3) group therapy sessions per week.
- Participate in at least one (1) individual therapy session per month.
- Call the drug test hotline daily and test when ordered.
- Attend Support Group Meetings such as Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Smart Recovery or other team-approved sessions, one (1) a day for at least five (5) days each week.
- Meet with your probation officer once every two (2) weeks as instructed.
- Meet with your coordinator once every (2) weeks as instructed.
- Complete at least 120 total days in Phase 2.
- Accumulate at least 90 **consecutive** sobriety days.
- Complete at least 25 community service hours.
- Be current on your treatment fees.
- Obtain/maintain lawful employment of no less than 20 hours per week and/or enroll in/attend school.
- Turn in a Phase Advancement Petition.

Phase 3: Skill Building and Adjustment (Minimum of 120 Days)

Goal: Become more independent by relying on community support instead of the structure of Drug Court. Build job skills, manage daily responsibilities, and continue strengthening your recovery.

Requirements:

- Attend Court once 1 every three (3) weeks.
- Attend at least two (2) group therapy sessions per week.
- Participate in at least one (1) individual therapy session per month.
- Call the drug test hotline daily and test when ordered.
- Attend Support Group Meetings such as Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Smart Recovery or other team-approved sessions, one (1) a day for at least three (3) days each week.
- Meet with your probation officer once (1) a month as instructed.
- Meet with your coordinator once (1) a month as instructed.
- Complete at least 120 total days in Phase 3.
- Accumulate at least 120 **consecutive** sobriety days.
- Complete at least 25 community service hours.
- Be current on your treatment fees.
- Maintain lawful employment of no less than 20 hours per week and/or attend school.
- Turn in a Phase Advancement Petition.

Phase 4: Continuing Care (Minimum of 60 Days)

Goal: Prepare to live a drug-free and law-abiding life without the support and structure of Drug Court. Build the confidence and skills to maintain your recovery on your own.

Requirements:

- Attend Court once (1) every month.
- Attend at least four (4) group therapy sessions per week.
- Participate in at least two (2) individual therapy sessions per month.
- Call the drug test hotline daily and test when ordered.
- Attend Support Group Meetings such as Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Smart Recovery or other team-approved sessions, one (1) a day for at least three (3) days each week.
- Meet with your probation officer once (1) a month as instructed by your probation officer.
- Meet with your coordinator once (1) a month as instructed.
- Complete at least 60 total days in Phase 4.
- Accumulate at least 180 **consecutive** sobriety days.
- Complete at least 25 community service hours.
- Be current on your treatment fees.
- Maintain lawful employment of no less than 20 hours per week and/or attend school.
- Complete Graduation Autobiography and vision/poster board.

Incentives, Sanctions, and Treatment Changes

Drug Court uses incentives, sanctions, and therapeutic adjustments to help me stay engaged in recovery and make progress towards my goals.

- **Incentives (Rewards):** I will receive rewards when I follow the rules and make progress. Examples: certificates, candy, gift cards, awarded community services hours, etc.

- **Sanctions (Consequences):** I will receive court consequences if I break program rules or act dishonestly. Examples: essays, added community service hours, jail days, etc.
- **Therapeutic Adjustments:** If I struggle with my addiction, the Judge may change my treatment plan (such as adding sessions or residential care) to help me recover.

Unsuccessful Termination

I may be removed from Drug Court if I:

- Repeatedly refuse to participate in treatment or follow rules.
- Commit a serious new crime or pose a risk to public safety.
- Unexcused missing or absconding for **30 days or more**.
- Fail to make progress after reasonable treatment efforts.

Fees and Money

- **Costs:** I am responsible for paying court costs, fines, and a **\$10 weekly treatment fee** to EPIC Behavioral Healthcare.
- **Positive Tests:** If I test positive for unauthorized drugs, I must pay **\$20** for the confirmation lab test.
- **Inability to Pay:** I will **not** be punished or kicked out of Drug Court simply because I genuinely cannot afford fees. However, fees remain my responsibility unless the Judge officially waives them in court.

Participant Rights

While in Drug Court, I have the right to:

- Be treated with dignity and respect.
- Receive treatment suited to my personal needs.
- Ask questions and speak to my defense attorney about my legal rights.
- Have a court hearing before being removed from the program.
- Request reasonable accommodation for a disability.

Signatures

By signing below, I confirm that I have read (or had read to me) and understand this agreement. I agree to follow all rules in this contract and the Participant Handbook.

Participant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Defense Counsel Signature: _____

Date: _____