

JUVENILE DRUG COURT



**A Collaborative Program of the San Diego County Juvenile Court
Funded by
Board of Supervisors**

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Program Overview

Juvenile Drug Court (JDC) is an intervention program for wards of the San Diego County Superior Court who have substance abuse issues. It is a collaborative effort between the Juvenile Court, District Attorney, Public Defender, Probation Department, law enforcement agencies, Family Clinician, and Health and Human Services Agency. The intervention focuses on intensive substance abuse treatment and probation supervision, with frequent court appearances, random drug testing, individual, group and family counseling. The Court awards incentives for compliant behavior and imposes sanctions for negative behavior. Wards who demonstrate sobriety from alcohol and/or illicit drugs, as well as law abiding behavior for a continuous nine month period are eligible to graduate from the program, and may be successfully terminated from wardship.

The Substance Abuse Program

The Process

Drug Court is a continuum of services designed to serve minors with significant substance abuse issues. A minor may be ordered to participate in Drug Court as a result of non-compliant events involving substance abuse. Initially, a Probation Officer (PO) assigned to the Intake & Investigation unit of Juvenile Field Services (JFS), assesses each minor using the Risk and Resiliency Checkup (SDRRC). Based upon the information from this assessment tool, the Probation Officer may recommend to the Court that a minor participate in substance abuse treatment as a condition of probation.

If ordered by the Court, the minor will be required to attend a substance abuse treatment program for up to nine (9) hours a week and submit to random urinalysis (UA) testing. The JRS assigned to the Substance Abuse/Drug Court unit will refer the minor to an appropriate substance abuse program. The substance abuse treatment provider to whom the minor is referred will report the minor's weekly progress and results of all drug tests to the Probation Officer. During this time, the minor's case will remain with the Probation Officer of Record in supervision who will monitor compliance with treatment and other conditions of probation.

Should the Intake and Investigations Probation Officer recommend a more intensive level of supervision, the Court may order that the minor be referred for screening by the Drug

Court Screening Committee to determine the appropriateness of participation in the Drug Court Program. The Drug Court Screening Committee, comprised of a Senior Probation Officer, Deputy Public Defender, Deputy District Attorney, Family Clinician, and the Juvenile Recovery Specialist Supervisor, will review the minor's case using established admittance guidelines and other pertinent information. If accepted and ordered into the Drug Court program, the minor's case will then be transferred to a Probation Officer in the Drug Court unit who will monitor the ward's compliance in the program.

Non-Compliant Events

A minor who was not ordered into Drug Court, but who continues to experience difficulty living a sober lifestyle is referred back to the Juvenile Court for a non-compliant event (NCE). The Probation Officer of Record will file a report with the Court detailing the specific NCE and the action taken to hold the ward accountable for the negative behavior.

The Probation Officer of a ward who is testing positive for drugs and/or alcohol may also calendar a Special Hearing to address the minor's non-compliance. The judge may refer the minor for a Drug Court screening hearing to determine the minor's eligibility and suitability for the Drug Court program.

<i>Juvenile Drug Court Eligibility Guidelines</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	602 wards between the ages of 13 and 17 ½ who have substance abuse treatment conditions of probation (CN035).
<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-violent offender. ¹
<input type="checkbox"/>	No documentation as a gang member (unless screened with the Gang Suppression Unit).
<input type="checkbox"/>	A minor who has had substance abuse issues. ²
<input type="checkbox"/>	Home placement available.
<input type="checkbox"/>	No history of arson (exceptions may be contingent upon a psychological evaluation).
<input type="checkbox"/>	Males w/120-150 available custody days.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Females w/at least 90 available custody days.

¹ A ward with a history of violence may be considered for admittance, however the Court may first order a psychological evaluation to address the issue of violence.

² Substance abuse issues may include, but are not limited to, a positive test and failure to attend/termination from treatment/counseling for non-compliance, failure to attend, or lack of progress.

A Screening Report containing the Drug Court Screening Committee's recommendation will be submitted to the Court and the Drug Court team members for the Drug Court Screening Hearing. The minor and his/her parents/guardians will be required to attend. Upon consultation with the District Attorney, Public Defender, Family Clinician, Juvenile Recovery Specialist (JRS) and Probation Officer, the Judge will determine whether a minor is accepted into the program.

If a minor is accepted into Drug Court, then he/she will be assigned a Drug Court Probation Officer and a JRS to assist the minor in obtaining and maintaining sobriety. A minor who is not accepted will remain with or be assigned to a supervision Probation Officer, and is usually ordered to complete other appropriate interventions. However, should the minor continue to use controlled substances, another referral to Drug Court is possible.

Phases of Drug Court

Drug Court is a 9-month program divided into three phases. A participant must successfully complete each phase before transitioning to the next phase. Each phase has a key concept or focus. During any of the three phases, a participant may be required to participate in individual or family counseling, in addition to substance abuse treatment.

Phase I (0 – 90 clean and sober days)

Key Concept – *Recovery and Responsibility to Self*

- ✓ Weekly Drug Court attendance.
- ✓ Drug treatment consisting of up to 9 hours per week.
- ✓ Random drug testing at least two times per week.
- ✓ Mandatory school attendance.
- ✓ Weekly contact with assigned PO and JRS.
- ✓ Remain law abiding.
- ✓ Compliance at home.

If a minor relapses in Phase I, all sober days are lost and he/she will revert to the first day of Phase I.

Phase II (91 – 180 clean and sober days)

Key Concept – *Maintenance of Recovery and Responsibility to Others*

- ✓ Bi-weekly Drug Court attendance.
- ✓ Community service hours (if assigned).
- ✓ All other components of Phase I.

A relapse in Phase II will result in a loss of all sober days and a return to day one of Phase I.

Participants completing Phase II are eligible to apply for promotion to Phase III.

Phase III (181 – 270 clean and sober days)

Key Concept – *Maintenance of Recovery and Responsibility to Self and Others. Reinforce a Clean and Sober, Legal Lifestyle. Provide services to improve the youths' ability to become productive members of the community.*

- ✓ Monthly Drug Court attendance.
- ✓ Weekly to Bi-weekly contact with the PO and JRS.¹
- ✓ Completion of an aftercare treatment program as directed.
- ✓ Random drug testing at least one time per week.
- ✓ Completion of any outstanding conditions of probation (e.g. fine and restitution payments, classes, community service, etc.).
- ✓ Continued school program and compliance at home.
- ✓ Mandatory appearance at a Drug Court Review Hearing upon completion of 270 days of sobriety.

If a participant relapses in Phase III, he/she will lose all sober days and is returned to Phase I. Upon successful completion of Phase I (90 days sobriety), the minor is returned to Phase III. If a second relapse occurs in Phase III, the minor will return to Phase I and lose all sober days. The participant must then progress through each phase of the program to graduate (exceptions may be made for 18-year-olds who will be evaluated individually).

¹ The Court may order more frequent contact with the DPO and/or JRS during Phase III, based on the minor's progress and degree of compliance.

Application for Phase III includes the following:

- ✓ Participant will be given a written application at approximately 165 clean and sober days.
- ✓ Participant is required to contact the Phase III JRS to schedule an interview and assessment.
- ✓ The Drug Court team members, including the minor's Probation Officer and Juvenile Recovery Specialist, will evaluate the completed application and assessment.
- ✓ The team will recommend the participant's acceptance or non-acceptance into Phase III. Should a participant not be accepted into Phase III, the team will note specific reasons for the denial and make recommendations for improvement.

Graduation Ceremony

A minor who achieves 270 days of sobriety is eligible for graduation and consideration for successful termination of probation. A ceremony acknowledging individual achievement will be held in the courtroom. An annual graduation ceremony honoring all graduates of JDC will be held at a non-court location. The minor's family will be invited to attend as well as treatment providers and County administration officials.

Parental Involvement

The JDC recognizes the importance of parental and/or legal guardian involvement in the Drug Court program. Parents and legal guardians are strongly encouraged to attend all JDC hearings and share information regarding their child's progress and behavior. Parents and guardians of minors ordered to participate in the JDC may be required to take a parenting class or participate in a counseling program. Parents and guardians will be required to attend an orientation meeting upon

acceptance of their child in the JDC, and to report all non-compliant events to the Probation Officer. Some treatment providers may also require that parents attend an orientation session.

Drug Court Rules

A ward must follow all Drug Court rules in order to graduate. These rules are in addition to the terms and conditions of their probation. Honest communication with all Drug Court Team Members is expected of each participant. Failure to comply with Drug Court rules will result in graduated sanctions.

1. SOBRIETY, TREATMENT, TESTING AND ABSTINENCE:

Participants must not use alcohol or illegal drugs. They must remain sober, in substance abuse treatment, and submit to drug testing. Participants must have nine months (270 days) of sobriety to graduate from Drug Court.

2. CLEAN AND SOBER DAY COUNT:

A. "Day 1" is the first day after acceptance into the JDC program or the first day after relapse (dirty test, refusal to test, diluted or adulterated specimen, or possession of alcohol or drugs, including any unauthorized prescription drug).

B. A participant may transition to Phase 2 provided:

(1) he/she has remained sober for 90 consecutive days with no relapses, AND

(2) the team agrees that the participant should move to Phase 2 considering his/her overall Drug Court performance.

C. A participant may not get credit for sober days accumulated prior to a relapse.

3. RELAPSE:

Possession of drugs, including unauthorized prescription drugs or alcohol, equates to a relapse. Relapse includes failing to provide a urinalysis, or submitting an adulterated or diluted specimen for self or another person. Any offending participant's "clean and sober" day count will revert to "0."

Phase III participants:

If the participant has one relapse while in Phase III, the participant's clean and sober day count reverts to "0" and the participant returns to Phase I. Upon successful completion of Phase I, the participant is returned to Phase III. If the participant has a second relapse, his/her clean and sober day count again reverts to "0", and the participant returns to Phase I.

4. DRUG COURT ATTENDANCE:

Participants must attend Drug Court, fully participate and remain for the entire Drug Court Session unless excused early by the Court. Unexcused failure to appear in Drug Court will result in issuance of a bench warrant and sanctions. Participants who need to be excused from Court shall call the Probation Officer on or before their court hearing. The participant must request permission to be excused from court and provide a reason for the request.

5. TREATMENT AND COUNSELING:

Participants must attend and fully participate in substance abuse treatment and counseling. Any unexcused absences at treatment or counseling will be sanctioned as follows:

A. UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:

Appropriate sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Verbal warning in open court;

- 2) Home Supervision/ESP or community service. The participant must bring proof of completion of community service as directed to his/her Drug Court hearing.
- 3) One day in Juvenile Hall for each treatment or counseling session missed. Juvenile Hall time may be done during the weekend or school holidays.

B. TARDINESS:

Appropriate sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Verbal warning in open court.
- 2) One hour of community service for each hour, or portion thereof that the participant is tardy. The participant must bring proof of completion of community service as directed to his/her Drug Court hearing.

6. SCHOOL:

Participants must attend school, participate fully and pass all their classes. They may not receive any negative marks in citizenship.

A. UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:

Any unexcused absences may be sanctioned as follows:

- 1) One day in Juvenile Hall for each day missed. Time may be served on weekends and/or school holidays.
- 2) Home Supervision/ESP, community service, or a written essay. The participant must bring proof of completion of the community service or essay as directed to his/her Drug Court hearing.

B. TARDINESS

Appropriate sanctions may include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Verbal warning in open court.
- 2) One hour of community service for each hour, or portion thereof that the participant is tardy. The participant must bring proof of completion of community service as directed to his/her Drug Court hearing.

7. ILLNESS:

Participants missing Drug Court, school or treatment due to illness must bring a letter verifying their illness to their next Drug Court hearing. The letter must be signed and certified by a doctor or the person with whom the participant is placed. Additionally, the participant and/or a parent must contact the participant's school, treatment program, and Probation Officer the day of the absence.

8. PROBATION VIOLATIONS:

Participants detained in Juvenile Hall for probation violations will be brought before a Drug Court judge for a detention hearing.

9. BEHAVIOR:

Drug Court participants are required to behave appropriately in all circumstances.

A. HOME:

Participants must follow the rules and regulations of the person(s) with whom they are placed. The person(s) has a duty to inform the Court of any rule or probation violation.

B. DRUG COURT:

Participants must be respectful and attentive towards the Court, other team members and all other participants. They may not chew gum in Court, use inappropriate language, or slouch in their chairs.

C. SCHOOL:

Drug Court participants may not receive any negative marks in citizenship.

- D.** Drug Court participants are expected to abide by the rules and requirements of their assigned treatment program.

10. DRESS AND GROOMING:

Any participant appearing at Drug Court must be dressed in appropriate courtroom attire. Drug Court participants may not wear gang attire or any apparel indicating drugs or alcohol. Participants' clothing may not contain any inappropriate logos or alterations. Participants may not expose their midriff, cleavage or underwear.

- A.** HATS may not be worn.

- B.** SHOES must be worn.

- C.** PANTS must be full-length, may not be cut-off, and must be worn at the waist.

- D.** DRESSES AND SKIRTS must be appropriate.

The Drug Court Team will counsel non-compliant participants. Continued non-compliance will result in sanctions.

Testing Guidelines

Drug testing is the focal point of the JDC program. Participants shall be required to submit to urinalysis testing and other approved testing method(s). Testing may be conducted by a Probation Officer, Volunteer in Probation, Reserve Deputy Probation Officer, Student Worker, Juvenile Recovery Specialist, or law enforcement officer (police, sheriff, etc.). Treatment providers also test participants.

The Probation Department shall be responsible for reporting testing information in the Weekly Progress Report. All persons testing a participant are required to inform the Probation Officer or Juvenile Recovery Specialist of the date and result of a test or failure to test. If a minor is arrested and taken into custody (Juvenile Hall), the minor should be tested or arrangements made with the Probation Officer to obtain a urine specimen.

A JDC participant will be tested in accordance with the following minimum guidelines:

<i>Minimum Testing Guidelines</i>	
Phase I & II	Random testing at least twice a week.
Phase III	Random testing at least once a week.

Incentives and Sanctions

In addition to intensive supervision, JDC utilizes a combination of incentives and graduated sanctions to assist a participant achieve sobriety. To encourage wards to work towards and maintain sobriety, the Court upon the recommendation of Drug Team Members, awards incentives. Sanctions are imposed for non-compliance during a minor's participation in the program.

Common incentives awarded to participants are:

<i>Incentives</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Praise by the Court
<input type="checkbox"/>	Phase Promotion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sobriety Tokens
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sober Day Certificate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Movie Passes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sporting Event Tickets
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gift Certificates
<input type="checkbox"/>	Certificate of Graduation

The following table serves as a guide for sanctions, which JDC Team Members may recommend to the Court.

Sanction Guidelines for Non-Compliant Events (NCE)

TYPE OF NCE	1ST NCE	2nd NCE	3rd NCE	NOTES
RELAPSE missed or positive drug test, refusal to test, possession of drugs, including unauthorized prescription drugs and use of alcohol	5 days in JH; 3 days if participant admits to relapse episode	5 – 10 days in JH; 21-day placement in a detoxification facility or other comparable program.	Screened for residential treatment or Breaking Cycles commitment. Suspended from the Drug Court Program.	“Clean and sober” day count reverts to “0.” All days will be lost.
UNEXCUSED ABSENCE from school	Day for day in JH; served on weekends or school holidays	Day for day in JH; served on weekends, holidays plus appropriate sanctions.	Same as 2 nd NCE	Sickness must be validated with letter from doctor or person with whom minor is placed.
UNEXCUSED ABSENCE from treatment or counseling	Verbal warning in open court; Home Supervision; community service; Day for day in JH served on weekends or school holidays.	Appropriate sanctions	Same as 2 nd NCE	Sickness must be validated with letter from doctor or person with whom minor is placed. Proof of community service to be provided at the next session.
UNEXCUSED ABSENCE from Drug Court	Issue Bench warrant & hold warrant until next hearing	Appropriate sanctions	Same as 2 nd NCE	
TARDINESS school, Drug Court or treatment or counseling	Verbal warning in open court; community service – hour for hour (or part thereof)	Appropriate sanctions	Same as 2 nd NCE	Proof of community service to be provided at next court session
MISBEHAVIOR at home, including curfew violation	Community service	1-3 days in JH	3-5 days in JH	Proof of community service to be provided at next court session
MISBEHAVIOR in court	Verbal warning in open court	Community Service	1-3 days in JH	Proof of community service to be provided at next court session
DRESS inappropriate dress	Counseling by Drug Court Team	Appropriate sanctions	Same as 2 nd NCE	

The Drug Court Team

The core group that oversees a ward's participation in the Drug Court Program is referred to as the ***Drug Court Team***. Members of the team consist of the following: Judge, Deputy District Attorney, Public Defender, Probation Officer, Juvenile Recovery Specialist, Family Clinician, and law enforcement officers.

The Drug Court Team members meet prior to the Drug Court Hearing to review each minor's progress. The Probation Department prepares a Weekly Progress Report for this hearing. Attention is given to the minor's specific treatment program, urinalysis results, and school progress. Input from the ward's parents/guardians is also reviewed to determine compliance at home. A team consensus regarding the minor's progress is reached at this meeting, which the judge will consider prior to the court being called to order, and upon receiving testimony from the minor.

Judge

Superior Court Judge or Referee: The Judge or designated JDC referee shall have the final authority for deciding whether a minor is accepted into Drug Court. The Judge or referee will perform these duties:

- Preside over all Drug Sessions and or Drug Court Screening Hearings.
- Review all Drug Court related reports prepared by the Probation Department or submitted by other members of the Drug Court Team.
- Conduct the team meeting prior to each Drug Court Session.
- Impose sanctions and or incentives when appropriate.

The Court Clerk assigned to each Drug Court generates the court orders, which are maintained in the court file and interfaced with the Probation Department's case management system.

District Attorney

Deputy District Attorney: A Deputy District Attorney will be assigned to the JDC. The Deputy District Attorney actively participates in a non-adversarial role with the primary objective of advancing and balancing the Drug Court participant's rehabilitative needs with that of public safety. The Deputy District Attorney will perform the following functions:

- Appears at all Drug Court hearings, which include Detention, Special, and Probation Violation Hearings.
- Reviews cases ordered for screening with specific attention to the minor's delinquent history.
- Determines if a new petition will be filed should a JDC participant be arrested on a new offense.
- Reviews Weekly Progress Reports and offer recommendations to the team regarding each minor.

Public Defender

Deputy Public Defender: A Deputy Public Defender will be assigned to the JDC. The Deputy Public Defender shall counsel JDC participants in regards to their legal and constitutional rights. The Deputy Public Defender, as a non-adversarial team member, shall be responsible for representing his/her client's position in Court. The Deputy Public Defender will perform the following functions:

- Serves as the attorney for a JDC participant throughout his/her participation in the program (excluding any suspension period).
- Appears at all Drug Court hearings, which include Detention, Special, and Probation Violation Hearings.
- Reviews cases ordered for screening with particular attention to the minor's needs and suitability for Drug Court.

- Reviews all Drug Court admission papers with the minor and his/her family.
- Reviews Weekly Progress Reports and offers recommendations to the team regarding each minor.

Probation Department

Substance Abuse Program Manager: The manager provides quality assurance and contract compliance on behalf of the Probation Department in a collaborative manner with Alcohol and Drug Services of the Health and Human Services Agency. The manager will accomplish such by performing the following main duties:

- Collaborate regularly with the Supervising Probation Officer who is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Substance Abuse/Drug Court Unit.
- Provide treatment consultation to the JRS and DPO as needed or requested.
- Provide case screenings and assessment to the Juvenile Drug, Truancy, and Adult courts at the requests of Judges and Probation Officers.
- Serve as the Department's liaison with the Adolescent Treatment Provider Network including Sober Living Facilities (Detox).
- Monitor current trends in adult and juvenile treatment models.
- Represent the Probation Department on county committees and task forces.
- Provide current and research based "best practices" guidelines for use by the Juvenile Drug Court program.

Supervising Probation Officer: The Supervising Probation Officer (SPO) is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the unit. The supervisor will oversee the Drug Court Unit by performing the following duties:

- Supervision of unit staff which includes the Probation Officers, Juvenile Recovery Specialist, Probation Aide, Records Clerk and other support staff.
- Screen, review, and approve reports submitted to the Court.

- Conduct progress review meetings with the DPO and JRS team, which include case file audits.
- Facilitates substance abuse specific training for staff.
- Act as the liaison with the Superior Court, District Attorney and Public Defender Offices, law enforcement agencies and the Probation Department.
- Consult with the Substance Abuse Manager and the JRS Supervisor regarding treatment providers, and pertinent unit matters.
- Conduct grant monitoring and periodic budget review.

Senior Probation Officer: The Senior Probation Officer (SRPO) is the senior officer of the unit. The SRPO will serve in an administrative role and is responsible for the unit in the absence of the unit supervisor, in addition to having caseload responsibilities. Duties performed by the SRPO are:

- Assume responsibility for carrying out all administrative and day-to-day operations in the absence of the SPO.
- Review cases ordered for screening and serve as the Court Officer at all Drug Court Screening Hearings.
- Serve on a rotating basis as the unit's Duty Officer.
- Monitor the Management Information System (MIS) Evaluation Program.
- Provide MIS Evaluation generated reports for grant compliance or program audits.
- Oversee the performance of the Reserve Deputy Probation Officers (RDPO), Volunteers in Probation (VIP), and Student Workers assigned to the unit.
- Conduct individual and unit training sessions.

- Perform caseload duties and responsibilities required of the DPO.
- Prepare Court reports including review of Weekly Progress Reports submitted by the JRS and/or Probation Officer.

Deputy Probation Officer: The Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) assigned to JDC will in most cases become the PO of Record while a ward is in the Drug Court program. The DPO is the case manager and will perform the following tasks:

- Conduct an initial meeting (within 5 working days) with the minor and his/her family upon acceptance into the Drug Court Program.
- Conduct home visits to monitor compliance with Conditions of Probation.
- Maintain the case file on each ward assigned and document information in the Probation Case Management System (PCMS).
- Prepare court reports including the Weekly Progress Report.
- Perform Court Officer duty on assigned Drug Court Hearing day.
- Serve on a rotating basis as the unit's Duty Officer.
- Participate in progress reviews with the unit supervisor and the JRS.
- Monitor participant's school attendance and progress.
- Collaborate with Drug Court law enforcement officers.
- Collaborate with the JRS on a regular basis for case planning and to monitor the minor's compliance.
- Conduct random drug testing of participants in conjunction with the JRS.
- Request arrest warrants and/or arrest wards for probation violations.
- Complete a monthly caseload statistical report.

Juvenile Recovery Specialist Supervisor: The Juvenile Recovery Specialist Supervisor (JRSS) is the first line supervisor for the JRS. The JRSS maintains regular contact with the Teen Recovery Centers or other treatment providers/facilities. The JRSS will perform the following functions:

- Supervision of JRS and contract support staff.
- Review cases ordered for screening and provide treatment input at all Drug Court Screening Hearings.
- Train newly assigned contract staff.
- Conduct random drug testing.
- Assume responsibility for assigning and/or performing JRS caseload duties in the absence of a JRS.
- Monitor drug testing of Drug Court minors for proper protocol, randomness, and frequency of testing.

Juvenile Recovery Specialist: The Juvenile Recovery Specialist (JRS) monitors the minor's treatment. The JRS maintains regular contact with a participant's Teen Recovery Center or other treatment providers/facilities. The JRS will perform the following tasks:

- Refer minors to treatment providers/facilities.
- Maintain contact with minors and treatment providers.
- Conduct random drug testing and report all drug testing results to the Probation Officer and the Drug Court team.
- Maintain a case file on each Drug Court participant and document participant contacts and drug testing in the Probation Case Management System (PCMS).
- Provide updates at JDC Team Meetings and Hearings.
- Participate in progress reviews with the unit supervisor and the DPO.
- Serve on a rotating basis as the unit's duty JRS and the Court duty JRS.

Family Clinician

Family Clinician: As an integral part of the JDC team, the Family Clinician provides expertise in behavioral and mental health matters, and performs the following duties:

- Provides counseling for the minor and/or his parents.
- Collaborates regularly with the Probation Officer and other team members.
- Conducts individual/group counseling sessions to JDC wards in custody, when requested by the Court.
- Reviews cases ordered for screening with particular attention to the needs of minors with co-occurring disorders.
- Appears at all weekly Drug Court hearings.
- Provides updated information to the JDC on the minor's progress.

Law Enforcement Officers

Law Enforcement Officers: Law enforcement agencies, which include police officers and sheriff's deputies, provide additional supervision support. Law enforcement personnel affiliated with the JDC will perform the following duties:

- Attend Drug Court sessions.
- Provide information regarding field contacts or other pertinent information at Team Meetings.
- Conduct random house and curfew checks.
- Conduct 4th waiver searches.
- Arrest JDC participants who are on the "hot sheet" or have active warrants.
- Maintain records of all JDC participants.

Drug Court Steering Committee

The Drug Court Steering Committee is a Superior Court committee comprised of representatives from all agencies involved in the JDC. The committee functions as a policy group. Each agency representative can refer JDC related items for discussion and resolution. Meetings are held quarterly and are chaired by the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court, or a JDC Judge assigned by the Presiding Judge. The Drug Court Steering Committee may also form JDC sub-committees, as the Operations or the Drug Testing sub-committees, to study and make recommendations to the Steering committee on specific policy or procedural issues of the JDC program.

Glossary of Terms

Adjudication Hearing: A hearing held to determine whether the allegations of a petition are true. This is much the same as a trial in adult court.

Admission: The voluntary acknowledgment by a minor of the existence or truth of certain facts.

Age of Majority: The age (normally 18) at which a person becomes an adult, as defined by state law, and acquires both the rights and responsibilities of an adult.

Aggravating Factors: Any circumstance that potentially increases the seriousness of a crime.

Alleged Ward: A term used to describe a minor appearing before the Juvenile Court under Welfare and Institution Code (WIC) 601 or 602 petition who has not been previously adjudged a person under the Juvenile Court's authority and care.

Arraignment: The judicial act of informing an individual of the charges, which have been alleged to have been committed. In Juvenile Court, a minor is arraigned at either the detention or readiness hearing.

Arrest: To take a person suspected of a crime into custody.

Assault: Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on the person of another.

Attempt: An effort to commit a crime that goes beyond preparation, but does not result in the actual commission of a crime.

Battery: Any intentional physical contact inflicted on one person by another.

Bench Warrant: A warrant issued by a judge to bring a person before the court for a hearing.

Calendar: The list of cases to be heard by a judge on a given day.

California Youth Authority (CYA): A state program where minors and youthful adult offenders are confined. CYA operates reception centers, institutions and forestry camps for males and females. Following release from one of these settings, a person is placed on parole and supervised by Parole Officers.

CYA Diagnostic: A local commitment to the Youth Authority where a minor undergoes an evaluation to determine his/her rehabilitative needs and potential. A written report will be prepared by the CYA with a recommendation for the judge.

Commitment: Placement in a custodial setting by the Court.

Community Based Organization (CBO): Temporary residential settings that offer a variety of services geared towards delinquency prevention, counseling and crisis intervention.

Community Care Facility: Refers to a group home where minors reside as a temporary detention alternative.

Community Service Work: This is unpaid work performed by an individual, which is completed with a non-profit organization.

Confidentiality: Refers to the restriction of access to information about a minor under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court.

Conspiracy: An agreement between two or more persons to plan and commit a crime.

Co-Occurring Disorder: A condition wherein a person is actively experiencing both mental health and substance abuse problems.

Courtesy Supervision: Supervision of a minor who is residing in a different county than where he/she was declared a ward.

Court Status: In Juvenile, refers to the legal standing of a minor before the court. A minor's court status is either that of an alleged ward or ward.

Crime: An act or omission to act that violates a law.

Delinquent: A minor who is "guilty" of an offense that would have been a crime if committed by an adult.

Detention: The restriction of freedom while one is awaiting the judicial process or execution of a court order.

Detention Hearing: A hearing held to determine the legality and necessity of detaining a minor in a juvenile facility or out of custody pending resolution of a case.

Dismissal: An order of the Juvenile Court made when the evidence to sustain a petition is insufficient, or after a period of wardship has been successfully completed.

Dismissal in the furtherance of Justice: Dismissal of a case or an allegation at the request of the District Attorney's Office, often as part of a plea bargain.

Dismissal with Harvey Waiver: Dismissal of a case or portion of a case, which still holds a minor responsible for restitution.

Dismissal with Prejudice: A final disposition of a petition, which bars any other action on the same allegations(s).

Dismissal without Prejudice: A dismissal of a petition, which allows for a charge(s) to be filed at a later date.

Disposition Hearing: A hearing to determine what action will be taken regarding a true finding(s) in a Juvenile Court matter. Commonly referred to as a "sentencing hearing" in Adult Court.

District Attorney: The attorney who represents the people of a state and who is responsible for prosecuting a case.

Diversion: Actions taken by law enforcement (police agencies) or the Probation Department to prevent involvement in the Juvenile Court System. A minor will be required to successfully complete a specialized program.

Duty Officer: In probation, refers to the officer who responds to questions or concerns in the absence of a probation officer who is unavailable.

Emancipation: A legal term that relieves a parent of control and responsibility of his/her child.

Exparte: A request made to a judge for action or an order, which does not require a hearing or the appearance of interested parties.

Felony: A crime that can result in commitment to state prison for a year or more.

Finding: The determination of a fact by a Court.

Forensics: The division of community mental health who provides psychological and psychiatric services.

Fit: A determination by a Juvenile Court Judge or Referee that a minor is appropriate to be dealt with under Juvenile Law.

General Supervision: A non-ward who is placed under the supervision of the Probation Department for a period not to exceed six months. Referred to as WIC 725(a).

Graffiti: Any unauthorized marking on real or personal property.

Group Home: A licensed facility, which houses minors in the community.

Guardian: An adult who has legally been given the right to care and make decisions for a minor.

Home Supervision: An alternative program of detention. Home Supervision allows for detention at a minor's home or a court approved home placement. A minor placed on home supervision will be monitored by a Probation Officer to ensure rules set up by the court are followed.

Individualized Education Plan: An assessment completed by the public school system for educationally challenged minors. An IEP identifies psychological and physical disabilities, educational needs and a plan of corrective action.

Informal Supervision: A delinquency intervention program monitored by the Probation Officer. A minor placed on informal probation by the Probation Department or the Juvenile Court will be monitored for six months. Referred to as WIC 654 or 654.2.

Infraction: A relatively minor offense.

Intercounty Transfer: Per Welfare & Institution Code 750, a minor's case may be transferred to a minor's legal residence (which is usually where the parent/guardian resides).

Interstate Compact: An agreement between states, which allows minors to reside and be supervised in a state different from where an offense was committed.

Juvenile Court: The court that hears matters regarding delinquent, dependent or neglected children.

Juvenile Detention Order: An order sought by the Probation Officer to detain a ward who has violated their wardship by failing to comply with conditions of probation.

Juvenile Hall: A locked facility, which detains minors awaiting court proceedings or placement in a specialized program.

Juvenile Recovery Specialist (JRS): A contracted person who is knowledgeable in alcohol/drug services and treatment, substance abuse theory and its application to adolescents.

Juvenile Drug Court Team (JDCT): Members of the team consist of Drug Court Judge, District Attorney, Public Defender, Family Clinician, law enforcement officer and Probation Officer.

Medical Authorization Form: A form which is signed by a parent or a judge which grants the probation officer permission to act on the behalf of a minor for medical information and treatment.

Minor: A person under the age of 18.

Miranda Warnings: Refers to rights that a person must be told when arrested or taken into custody by a law enforcement officer. These include the right to remain silent and to contact an attorney of choice or have one provided by the court, if one is unable to pay for a lawyer.

Misdemeanor: A criminal offense less serious than a felony. The law allows a maximum of one year in a custodial setting.

Mitigating Factors: A circumstance or factor, which may lessen the seriousness of an offense.

Moniker: The nickname or street name of a person. Monikers are commonly associated with gangs and taggers.

Motive: The reason for committing a crime.

Non-Compliant Event (NCE): A NCE results in a minor testing positive for drugs, failing to test, or failing to attend treatment or counseling.

Nunc Pro Tunc: Refers to a court order, which is adjusted retroactively to a prior hearing date.

Parental Responsibility Laws: Laws enacted by the state which hold parents responsible for the acts of their children.

Parole: A conditional release from a state institution granted by the Department of Corrections/Youth Authority after a person has served part or all of a sentence. A parole officer supervises persons released from such institutions.

Penal Code: Refers to the laws that govern criminal behavior.

Petition: A formal written request to declare a minor a ward of the Juvenile Court. A petition will list the allegations or charges that the minor faces.

Probation: A specified period of time set up by the Court in which a person is supervised by a probation officer to ensure the court's orders are followed.

Probation Officer: An officer of the court who prepares reports for the court and supervises persons placed on (formal) probation.

Public Defender: A lawyer who is appointed by the court to represent a person who cannot afford a private attorney.

Reasonable Efforts: A term that applies to the placement of a minor outside the family home. Reasonable efforts are those services activities that have been utilized to prevent or eliminate the need for out of home placement.

Readiness Hearing: The first hearing for a minor out of custody, at which time, the minor will formally be advised of the allegations as stated on a petition.

Restitution: The amount of money, which may be ordered by the Court to pay a victim for their damages or loss.

San Diego Risk and Resiliency Checkup (SDRRC): A scoring instrument used to assess a minor's deficiencies, or needs, and his/her strengths.

Social Study: A report written for a judge by the Probation Officer who provides information regarding the offense and the minor's background.

School Attendance Review Board: Commonly referred to as SARB, the School Attendance Review identifies and works with a minor, his/her parents and probation officers to improve attendance.

Stipulation: An agreement between parties or their attorney.

Tagger: A person who defaces property by marking with instruments such as markers or paint.

Teen Recovery Center (TRC): An outpatient treatment program designed to assist minors with substance abuse issues.

Termination: Refers to the legal closing of the court's jurisdiction of a minor.

True Finding: A determination by a judge that an allegation or crime is true beyond a reasonable doubt.

Truant: A student who has failed to attend school without permission.

Violation of Probation: A failure of a ward to follow specific requirements or conditions of probation ordered by a judge.

Ward: A minor who, as the result of a petition filed and sustained by the Juvenile Court, is declared to be under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile court.

Waive: To give up a right.

Welfare & Institution Code (WIC): The section of law, which deals with minors and institutions.

Work Projects: A program for juveniles and adults supervised by the Probation Department. A judge may order a minor to this program in order to perform work on public grounds and in public facilities.