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Relaunching Loudoun County's Drug Court

Seven years after dismantling its Drug Court program, Loudoun County has relaunched a specialized program for addicts. "From 2004 to 2012, Loudoun tried operating a drug court, but county supervisors closed the program when they decided they weren't getting their money's worth. Between the restrictive conditions on who could qualify for the program, and a stricter policy for kicking out offenders who fell off the wagon, relatively few people entered the program and fewer successfully completed it. Only people who had violated probation on a non-violent drug offense, not including possession with intent to distribute-could be channeled into drug court.

In a "dramatic turn of events", the General Assembly voted to restore funding for every unfunded judgeship in the Commonwealth. On January 2, 2019, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to set up a new drug court to accommodate up to 25 people for the first year, with an additional \$373,000 in county funds. This also included few new hires, as well as \$500,000 in federal grant money. Many agree, and are optimistic, that there are "more ways into the program, such as a plea deal, and the only major restriction on eligibility is a conviction for a violent felony".

The process itself is quite extensive. First, potential participants are screened for eligibility including assessments for Substance Abuse and Mental Health, as well as Developmental Services. "Basically, the needs assessment will kind of identify the strength and the needs that are necessary in order to support a treatment plan for the individual, as well as develop an individual service plan to meet those strengths and needs," said Department of Mental Health Deputy Director Joseph Razzano.

Loudoun County Community Corrections works with the Commonwealth's Attorney's office, Department of Family Services, the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Loudoun County Sheriff's Office, Leesburg Police Department, Office of the Public Defender, VA Department of Corrections Probation and Parole, and Circuit Court Judges Douglas Fleming and Stephen Sincavage.

See the entire article using the link below:

<https://loudounnow.com/2019/04/03/loudouns-drug-court-launches-anew/>



VCCJA will be accepting nominations for the following offices beginning August 12th through September 16th:

- President-Elect
- Vice President
- Staff Representative
- Treasurer
- Eastern Region Rep.
- Northern Region Rep.

Voting will take place 10/11/2019 – 11/11/2019.

*In order to be nominated for a position or to vote in the election, a person must be a member of VCCJA by 08/15/2019.

Submit nominations to Jennifer Peters, Co-Chair of the Membership/Nominations Committee at the following:

Phone 434-455-3754

Email:

jennifer.peters@lynchburgva.gov



2019 VCCJA Training Conference

Join us at the Hotel Madison, November 20-22, 2019 for the 2019 VCCJA Training Conference.

Pretrial, Probation, and Parole Week 2019

July 21-27, 2019

Video Contest

We want to see how your organization celebrates PPS week! The video can include any of your activities or festivities showing how your organization celebrates, but should not be a general promotional video. Please submit a video in .mov or .mp4 format and no longer than two (2) minutes. All editing must be done before the video is submitted.

Employee Spotlight

If you think someone from your organization has been doing a great job, going above and beyond, and deserves to be recognized for their hard work, give them the spotlight! Please submit: name and title of your nominee, a picture of your nominee, and approximately 200 words describing why you think they deserve to be spotlighted.

Please submit all employee spotlight nominations by July 27, 2019 . Submit all PPS week videos by August 15, 2019. Both can be submitted to Amanda Griffith at agriffith@pulaskicounty.org .

Mecklenburg Piedmont Court Services

From left to right: Shelly Moore, Pretrial and Probation Officer 16 ½ years; Kathy Wilmouth, Probation Officer 20 ½ years; Jackie Townes, Probation Officer 19 years, Program Director 12 years; Penny Chinault, Probation Officer 7 years; Carolyn Armes, Secretary 1 ½ years; Robin Poore, Pretrial Officer 23 years; Jessica Jones, Probation Officer 1 ½ years

Mecklenburg Piedmont Court Services' local probation and pretrial covers Mecklenburg County and is located in the 'big city' of Boydton, Virginia where there are NO stop lights, only a couple of restaurants and stores, and the sidewalks are rolled up at 5 PM. BUT there are some things going on in Mecklenburg County! Located on the Bugg's Island Lake, tourist come from all over the country to enjoy the fishing, camping, and local activities



Follow [tourism@mecklenburgva.com/tourism.aspx](https://www.mecklenburgva.com/tourism.aspx) to see what's going on in our area.

For more information visit: <https://www.vccja.org> .