

## **Norman County**

### **DWI Court Team Members**

Honorable Eric Schieferdecker  
DWI Court Judge

Arielle Sundberg, DWI Court Probation Agent  
Phone: 218.368.5003

Gretchen Handy, Defense Counsel  
Phone: 701-780-1286

Melora Bergee DWI Court Coordinator  
Phone: 218.684.7029

The Norman County DWI Court program is a collaborative effort of the following departments:

Norman County Attorney's Office, Norman County Sheriff's Department, Ada City Police Department, River View Recovery Center, Norman County Department of Human Services, North Western Mental Health Center, and Tri County Community Corrections.

## **Mission Statement**

**It is the mission of the Norman County DWI Court to provide public safety for citizens of Norman County through enhanced supervision, treatment and education, thereby helping to reduce the recidivism rates of DWI offenders.**



### **Funding**

Norman County DWI Court is funded by a grant through the Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety.



## **Norman County**

Ninth Judicial District

## **Norman County DWI Court**



**16 3rd Ave E.  
Ada MN 56510  
Tel: 218-784-5458**



# Norman County DWI Court

## Overview

### What is a DWI Court?

A DWI Court is a special court dedicated to changing the behavior of the alcohol dependent offender, arrested for Driving While Impaired (DWI). The goal of DWI Court is to protect public safety by using the Drug Court model to address alcoholism as a root cause of impaired driving. Alcohol impaired drivers with serious alcohol abuse issues are the primary target population of the DWI Court.

## Outline of DWI Court

NCDC is a five-phase program for adults.

By working together, we seek to provide a variety of programs and consistent supervision to support and help participants maintain an alcohol-free life.

NCDC involves:

- frequent court appearances
- random alcohol/drug testing
- group counseling.

Awards are given for positive behaviors and sanctions for negative behaviors.

A minimum of 18 months of continuous sobriety are required for completing the program.

Participants who are not willing to follow the program:

- may be placed in jail
- put on electric home monitoring
- moved back to a previous phase
- be terminated from the program.

*"Repeat DWI offenders graduating from DWI Courts were up to 65% less likely to be re-arrested for a new DWI offense."* - National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

### Who is eligible?

Eligible individuals are evaluated by the DWI Court Staff on a case-by-case bases. Entry is strictly voluntary.

General requirements include:

- ◆ Repeat DWI Offender.
- ◆ Individuals who are 18 years of age or older and are a Norman County resident.
- ◆ Diagnosed as having a moderate or severe substance use disorder upon completion of a chemical health assessment.
- ◆ Violent offenders are not eligible for DWI Court.

*"DWI courts have emerged as a critical solution to hardcore drunk driving due to their success at reducing recidivism and saving valuable criminal justice resources."* - National Center for DWI Courts—Vol. 5 Issue 1.

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16 3rd Ave E.  
Ada MN 56510  
Phone: 218-784-5458  
Fax: 218-784-3110

Court is held on Wednesdays at 12 PM in the Norman County Courthouse. We welcome visitors. If you are interested in visiting please contact Melora Bergee, DWI Coordinator at 218.684.7029. or [Melora.bergee@courts.state.mn.us](mailto:Melora.bergee@courts.state.mn.us)