

## DWI Court Goals

- Increase public safety by reducing drunk driving
- Help participants remain clean and sober
- Reduce alcohol and drug related crime
- Reduce expensive incarceration costs

## DWI court services

- One-on-one judicial interaction
- Intensive probation supervision
- Substance abuse treatment, counseling services and support groups
- Alcohol and drug monitoring and testing
- Cognitive skills programming
- Community service
- Victim Impact Panel
- Education and employment assistance

## Funding

The program is funded through a grant from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and other local and state support.

## Cost

Participants are required to pay fees for corrections services, participation, alcohol monitoring, and ignition interlock. Participants also may be required to pay restitution.

## For additional information contact:

Judge Kerry Meyer, Fourth Judicial District  
300 South 6th Street, C-8 Government Center  
Minneapolis, MN 55487  
Phone: 612-596-9255 ~ Fax: 612-596-8730

Dennis Miller  
Problem Solving Court Coordinator  
300 South 6th Street, C-8 Government Center  
Minneapolis, MN 55487  
Phone: 612-348-3874 ~ Fax: 612-596-8730  
Dennis.Miller@courts.state.mn.us

## A Partnership of:

Fourth Judicial District Court  
Hennepin County Community Corrections  
Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health  
Hennepin County Public Defender's Office  
Hennepin County Sheriff's Office  
Minneapolis City Attorney's Office  
Minneapolis Police Department and many suburban police departments  
Minnesota Department of Public Safety  
Minnesotans for Safe Driving  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Park Avenue Center



FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT



MINNESOTA  
JUDICIAL BRANCH

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

## Adult DWI Court



Hennepin County Government Center  
300 South Sixth Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55487

Fourth Judicial District  
serving Hennepin County

[www.mncourts.gov/district/4](http://www.mncourts.gov/district/4)

## What is the Adult DWI Court?

The Fourth Judicial District Adult DWI Court is designed for repeat DWI offenders who are striving to live a sober, crime-free, and satisfying lifestyle.

An eligible defendant who enters a guilty plea or is convicted of DWI has the option of participating in this 18 (or more) month program which is an alternative to traditional criminal probation.

DWI Court participants must make regular appearances before the designated DWI Court judge. The participants are subject to regular “visits” at home or work by law enforcement and probation and are placed on a curfew. The participants receive treatment, are tested for drugs and alcohol, and attend community self-help support and sponsorship meetings. Participants are also required to drive with an interlock device according to MN DPS requirements

DWI Court participants are offered every opportunity to succeed in the program. Successful completion and graduation from the DWI Court results in being discharged early from probation. Conversely, participants who fail to comply with treatment and other program requirements are subject to sanctions, including: STS, increased alcohol monitoring and drug testing, more frequent courtroom appearances, more intensive probation supervision, and periods of incarceration. A participant who fails in DWI Court is sent to jail. DWI Court is a zero tolerance program regarding alcohol use and drunk driving.

Entry into the DWI Court program is voluntary on the part of the defendant. Participants are required to pay a Correctional Service Fee and participant fees, in addition to fees for alcohol monitoring, ignition interlock, and restitution. Fines may also be imposed.

**DWI Court's purpose is to increase public safety, reduce repeat DWI offenses and reduce DWI-related accidents and deaths.**

## Who is eligible for DWI Court?

Participants are evaluated by the DWI Court team on a case-by-case basis. Program entry is strictly voluntary. The general requirements include:

- The participant must be a repeat DWI offender.
- The participant must be a Hennepin County resident and be 18 years of age or over.
- The participant must complete a chemical health assessment and must have a moderate or severe substance use disorder.
- Violent offenders are not eligible for DWI Court.

## Program has four phases

Each phase of the program is designed with specific expectations. Participants receive credit for fulfilling the program requirements one phase at a time. Phase I is the most intensive phase, lasting a minimum of three months. Phase II is a minimum of nine months in length. Phase III is a minimum of six months in length. Phase IV requires less active involvement and lasts for two years.

### Phase one

- Attend judicial reviews every week for a minimum of 13 reviews;
- Meet with probation as directed;
- Attend 3 treatment, aftercare, or community self-help support meetings, or a combination thereof;
- Submit to random alcohol and drug screening;
- Actively seek employment or enroll in school;
- Be available for random home visits;
- Obtain a community self-help support sponsor and meet with sponsor once a week;
- Observe a curfew

### Phase two

- Attend judicial reviews every other week for a minimum of 19 reviews;
- Meet with probation as directed;
- Submit to random alcohol and drug screening;
- Maintain employment and/or education;

- Continue all other program activities, including participation in a cognitive-behavioral group;
- Be available for random home visits;
- Continue community self-help support and sponsorship meetings;
- Observe a curfew
- Complete Study & Action
- Complete Sentence to Serve (STS)
- Attend a Victim Impact Panel

### Phase three

- Attend judicial reviews every four weeks for a minimum of 6 reviews;
- Meet with probation as directed;
- Submit to random alcohol and drug screening;
- Maintain employment and/or education;
- Continue all other program activities;
- Be available for random home visits;
- Continue community self-help support and sponsorship meetings;
- Observe a curfew
- Pay fines and fees by the time of graduation

### Phase four

Participants are placed on administrative probation for two years and subject to less intensive supervision and reporting requirements. Upon completion of Phase 4, the participant is discharged from probation.

## Continuing care

Continuing care services are available upon request.



**MINNESOTA  
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

**FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**