



Superior Court of California  
County of Orange

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**The North Justice Center DUI Court Program  
Marks its First Anniversary with the Graduation of 4 Participants**

**Fullerton, CA** – The Superior Court of California, County of Orange and its collaborative partners will celebrate the first anniversary of the Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Court at the North Justice Center with a graduation ceremony for four participants who have successfully completed the program. The ceremony will be held Friday, February 22 at 11:00 a.m. at the North Justice Center Jury Assembly Room, 1275 N. Berkeley Ave., Fullerton, California.

“This program is working to reduce recidivism and keep the public safe, while helping the offender to rehabilitate and break the pattern of alcohol and drug abuse,” said Superior Court Judge Douglas Hatchimonji, Supervising Judge of the North Justice Center in Fullerton. “There are only a handful of DUI Court programs nationwide and Orange County Superior Court now is able to offer the program at three of its justice centers: the Central Justice Center in Santa Ana, the Harbor Justice Center in Newport Beach, the North Justice Center in Fullerton.”

Funded by a \$927,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety for a two-year pilot program, the North Justice Center DUI Court program is modeled after the successful Drug Court program which requires offenders to undergo substance abuse treatment in combination with education, judicial monitoring, formal probation and frequent alcohol / drug testing. The program is designed for offenders who have received their second or third arrest for Driving Under the Influence of alcohol or drugs and are ready to admit their crime and address their addiction.

Agencies that are working collaboratively with the Orange County Superior Court to administer the program include Orange County Probation, Orange County Health Care Agency’s Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services, Office of the District Attorney, Office of the Public Defender, Orange County Sheriff’s Department, California Highway Patrol, the police departments of the cities of Anaheim, Brea, Buena Park, Fullerton, La Habra, La Palma and Placentia, and the non-profit organization Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD).

The DUI Court program at the North and Harbor Justice Centers is being evaluated by researchers at California State University, Long Beach. For more information about DUI Court contact any of the following agencies:

Orange County Superior Court, Media and Community Relations Office (714) 834-7623  
Orange County Probation, Anaheim Office (714) 937-4500  
Health Care Agency, Anaheim Office (714) 517-6140  
Public Defender, Fullerton Office (714) 626-3700

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