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Judge, State Court

STATE OF GEORGIA

Benjamin Makin
Judge, Magistrate Court

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Athens-Clarke County DUI/Drug Court

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DUI/Drug Court Team
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Will Fleenor, Chief Asst. Solicitor-General
Paige Spivey, Public Defender's Office
Athens-Clarke County Probation Office
Athens-Clarke County Diversion Center
Family Counseling Service, Inc.
Athens-Clarke County Police Department
Western Circuit Bar Association

Mission Statement

The primary mission of the Athens-Clarke County DUI Court is to provide early intervention for repeat alcohol and drug offenders. This includes enhanced community and legal supervision, substance abuse treatment, and continuing community support. The goal is to instill hope and improve the quality of our participants' lives while increasing community and reducing DUI recidivism. Participants are provided with the tools to live free from substance abuse and repeat legal involvement.

DUI/Drug Court Description

The DUI/Drug Court is a post-conviction, abstinence based, substance treatment, and intensive supervision program for offenders with multiple convictions for driving under the influence of alcohol. The program has a capacity of 120 participants. The minimum program length for a participant is 14 months. The Program was implemented in 2001 using a policy manual written collaboratively by founding members of the DUI/Drug Court Team. The DUI/Drug Court Team consists of a state court judge, a magistrate court judge, the Athens-Clarke County Solicitor-General and his chief assistant, a representative from the Athens-Clarke County Public Defender's Office, the DUI/Drug Court Coordinator, a probation officer, a police officer, a case manager, licensed counselors, a supervising treatment coordinator, a representative of the Diversion Center, and a drug and alcohol testing consultant.

Substance abuse treatment for the DUI/Drug Court is provided by licensed counselors from Family Counseling Services of Athens, Inc., a member of the Department of Human Services Registry for the State Multiple Offender Program. The Team is charged with providing a continuum of services including treatment (trauma focused and gender specific), coordination of ancillary services, and the referral of participants to enhanced treatment as needed.



Selected by the NCDC to as an Academy Court in 2008, 2011, 2014 & 2017