

**DUI Treatment Court  
State Court of Athens-Clarke County**

# **PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK**

**DUI Treatment Court Office  
325 Washington Street, Suite 430  
Athens, GA 30601  
Phone: 706-613-3206  
Fax: 762-613-3204**

**[www.accgov.com/DUITreatmentCourt](http://www.accgov.com/DUITreatmentCourt)**

**Revised June 2024**

**DUI Treatment Court**  
**Athens-Clarke County Court Team:**

Charles E. Auslander, III	Chief Judge, State Court
Benjamin Makin	Chief Judge, Magistrate Court
William Fleenor	Chief Solicitor-General
Ethan Makin	Senior Assistant Solicitor-General
John Donnelly	Circuit Public Defender
Paige Spivey	Assistant Public Defender
Nikita Robinson	Program Coordinator
Brandon Andrews	Probation Lieutenant
Daniel Schmidt	Probation Officer
Fern Dillard	Probation Officer
Grace Harten	Case Manager
Cecily Evans	Athens Drug Lab Lieutenant
Caitlyn Gaddy, LCSW	Lead Clinician, Family Counseling
Michael Dwyer, LCSW	Clinician, Family Counseling
Mike Musgrove, LMSW	Clinician, Family Counseling
Cpt. Seth Robinson	University of Georgia Police Dept.

**DUI Treatment Court Partners:**

Western Judicial Circuit Defense Bar  
Family Counseling of Athens, Inc. Treatment Provider  
Athens-Clarke County Diversion Center  
Athens-Clarke County Police Department  
Athens-Clarke County Probation Department  
Clarke County Sheriff's Office



Selected by the NCDC to serve as an Academy Court in 2008, 2011, 2014, 2017, 2020 & 2023

## Table Contents

<b>Introduction to the DUI Treatment Court</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>I. Treatment Phases of the Program</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>II. Appropriate Behavior While in the DUI Court Program</b> .....	<b>6</b>
A. Honesty .....	6
B. In the Courtroom .....	6
C. Counseling at Family Counseling Service (FCS) .....	6
D. Meeting Attendance, Place of Residence and Leave Requests.....	7
E. Inclement Weather .....	8
F. Finances .....	8
G. Medication.....	9
H. Drug Testing .....	11
I. Incentives.....	14
J. Certificates of Eligibility for Ignition Interlock Limited Permit .....	14
K. Driver’s License Reinstatement.....	14
<b>III. Compliance and Violations</b> .....	<b>15</b>
A. Probation .....	15
B. Sanctions.....	15
C. Removal from DUI Treatment Court Program .....	16
D. Absconding.....	16
E. Employment in retail alcohol sales and service industry.....	17
<b>IV. Roles of the Team Members</b> .....	<b>17</b>
A. The Judges.....	17
B. The Solicitor-General.....	17
C. The Defense Attorney or Public Defender.....	17
D. The Coordinator .....	18
E. The Case Manager .....	18
F. The Peer Support Specialist .....	18
G. The Probation Officers.....	18
H. Law Enforcement .....	19
I. Counselors .....	19
J. Drug Testing Lab Manager .....	19

A. Hospitals.....	20
B. Basic Needs.....	20
C. Crisis Lines .....	20
E. Substance Use .....	20
<b>VI. Referrals for Assistance.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>IX. CONTACT INFORMATION.....</b>	<b>22</b>

## **Introduction to the DUI Treatment Court**

### **What is the DUI Treatment Court of Athens Clarke County and when did it begin?**

The DUI Treatment Court was the first DUI Court in the State of Georgia. This Court was originally designed and implemented in February 2001 as part of the State Court of Athens-Clarke County under the direction of Judge Kent Lawrence. In October 2002, the Program's operational components were enhanced as a result of additional funding from the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety. In 2008, the DUI Treatment Court was designated as one of the four "DWI Academy Courts" in the U.S. This status was re-awarded in 2011, again in 2014, and 2017 as well. In 2011 Judge Lawrence retired, and subsequently, Judge Charles E. Auslander, III, was named State Court Judge and Judge over the DUI Court program.

The DUI Treatment Court operates on a TEAM (Together Each Achieves More) concept. The Team is composed of Judge(s), Solicitor-General's Office, Law Enforcement, the Public Defender's Office, a Court Coordinator, Case Management Clerk, Peer Support Specialist, Probation Officers and Licensed Treatment Professionals. All Team members work together to support each participant in addressing and combating the substance use issues that brought a person into the criminal justice system. The Team meets every two weeks in a meeting called Staffing to review the progress of each participant. Also, every two weeks, participants attend a court session called a Status Conference to meet with the Team and receive an update on their progress. The Team follows and complies with all national and state standards and best practices for accountability courts and DUI courts.<sup>1</sup>

### **What is the primary mission of the DUI Treatment Court?**

The primary mission of the Athens-Clarke County DUI Treatment Court is to provide early intervention for individuals with repeat alcohol and drug offenses. This includes enhanced community and legal supervision, substance use treatment, and continuing community support. The DUI Treatment Court strives to promote public safety and save lives while targeting those with substance use disorders in order to improve the quality of their lives and those around them.

### **Is the DUI Treatment Court effective?**

The DUI Treatment Court provides an opportunity for early treatment intervention. A study by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) found that: (1) repeat DUI offenders who graduated from a DUI Court were up to 65% less likely to be rearrested for a new DUI offense; and (2) all DUI Court participants had a recidivism (relapse) rate of only 15% whether or not they graduated or were terminated. Similar offenders who did not attend a DUI Court had a recidivism rate of up to 35%.<sup>2</sup> Through enhanced supervision, counseling, and treatment, the goal of this Court is to improve the quality of each participant's life and reduce repeat offenses to improve community safety. Graduates will have a solid foundation to build upon for a sober, healthy and productive future.

---

<sup>1</sup> The DUI Court complies with: *Georgia Adult DUI/Drug Court Standards* and *Adult DUI/Drug Court Treatment Standards*, promulgated by the Council of Accountability Court Judges (CACJ) of Georgia; the *Adult Drug Court Best Practice Standards, Volume I & II*, published by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP); *Defining Drug Courts: The Key Components*, published by the NADCP; and the *Ten Guiding Principles of DWI Courts*, published by the National Center for DWI Courts (NCDC).

<sup>2</sup> *An Evaluation of the Three Georgia DUI Courts*, U.S. Dept. of Transportation, NHTSA DOT HS 811 450, March 2011.

### **What are the Supervision, Counseling, and Treatment Components?**

Intake, orientation, and a Needs Assessment survey take place at the DUI/Drug Court Office. The participant will meet with a Counselor at Family Counseling Service for a Substance Use Disorder Evaluation/Clinical Evaluation and to determine the level of care needed and into which group the participant will start.

The Program requires a *minimum* of fourteen (14) months and consists of five treatment groups:

- Intake, extended assessment, Foundations Groups
- Active treatment and early recovery Groups
- Relapse prevention Group
- Recovery management/Integration Group
- Commencement and Aftercare

Treatment will be based on an Individual Treatment Plan that is determined by the level of care needed. The participant will work closely with their counselor to move through the various Treatment Groups that best fit their needs. **Court Phases are separate, and will be based on compliance with requirements from both Supervision, Treatment, and Administrative Staff.**

## Treatment Phases

	<b>Orientation</b> <i>Assessment</i>	<b>Extended Assessment</b> <i>Foundations Groups</i>	<b>Active Treatment</b> <i>Early Recovery Groups</i>	<b>Relapse Prevention</b> <i>Relapse Prevention Group</i>	<b>Sustained Recovery</b> <i>Recovery Management/Integration Group</i>	<b>Aftercare</b>
<b>Requirements Outline*</b>  *Individual treatment plans may determine a need for additional requirements /contact	Substance Use Disorder Evaluation  Group Assignment  Individual Counseling Assignment	Minimum 8 treatment groups  Minimum of 1 Individual counseling session per week	Minimum 12 treatment groups  Minimum of 2 Individual counseling sessions per month  1 Community Support Meeting per week	Minimum 4 treatment groups  Minimum of 2 individual counseling sessions per month  1 Community Support Meeting per week	Minimum 2 treatment groups  Minimum of 1 individual counseling session per month  1 Community Support Meeting per week	Minimum of 1 Treatment group per month  Minimum of 1 individual counseling session per month

## Court Phases

	<b>Orientation</b> <i>Intake</i>	<b>Phase 1</b> <i>Stabilization</i>	<b>Phase 2</b> <i>Planning</i>	<b>Phase 3</b> <i>Action</i>	<b>Phase 4</b> <i>Maintenance</i>	<b>Aftercare</b>
<b>Requirements Outline</b>	Enter Plea  Complete Program + Treatment Orientation  Provide Baseline UDS  Attend Status Conference every other week  Minimum of 2-3 UDS each week	Minimum of 60 days  14 days no violations required to phase up  Status Conference every other week  Minimum of 2-3 UDS each week  Comply with Supervision, Treatment, Admin Staff	Minimum of 90 days  30 days no violations required to phase up  Status Conference every other week  Minimum of 2-3 UDS each week  Comply with Supervision, Treatment, Admin Staff	Minimum of 120 days  60 days no violations required to phase up  Status Conference every other week  Minimum of 2-3 UDS each week  Comply with Supervision, Treatment, Admin Staff	Minimum of 150 days  120 days no violations required to phase up  2nd Status Conference of each month  Minimum of 2-3 UDS each week  Comply with Supervision, Treatment, Admin Staff	Continuing Care  120 days no violations required to graduate  attend Conference as directed  Minimum of 2-3 UDS per month

# **I. Treatment Phases of the Program**

## **Intake and Orientation**

- Substance Use Disorder Evaluation
- ASAM (American Society of Addiction Medicine) Level of Care Clinical Assessment
- Counselor and Treatment Plan/Group assignment

## **Foundations Groups: Includes extended assessment**

Goal: to increase awareness of risks and consequences related to alcohol and/or drug use, knowledge of the program Handbook/program rules and regulations, and to increase knowledge of Substance Use Disorders. Lasts a minimum of 60 days.

- Weekly group with assigned Counselor (minimum 8 groups attended)
- Minimum of 1 individual counseling session per week (minimum of 8 sessions attended)
- Personal Project: Handbook Review
- Review of DUI Treatment Court Handbook and project with Counselor

## **Treatment and Early Recovery Groups**

Goal: to identify reason(s) to change, motivate positive change and behaviors, and develop life skills and coping skills. Treatment groups may include one or more of the following: MRT, Seeking Safety, or Prime Solutions groups. Last a minimum of 90 days; client's Treatment Plan determines length.

- Weekly group with assigned Counselor (minimum 12 groups attended)
- Minimum of 1 community support meeting per week (or as specified by client's Treatment Plan)
- Minimum of 2 individual counseling sessions per month (or as specified by client's Treatment Plan)
- Personal Projects: Managing Emotions and Changes Plan; review completed project with Counselor
- Participant should be active in group discussions and actively engaged in the treatment for phase progression

## **Continued Treatment and Early Recovery Groups:**

Goal: continue to build on motivation for positive change, encourage internal motivation for change, and continue to build coping skills and awareness of relationship with drugs and/or alcohol. Treatment groups may include one or more of the following: MRT, Seeking Safety, or Prime Solutions groups. Lasts a minimum of 120 days; client's Treatment Plan determines length.

- Weekly group(s) with assigned Counselor (minimum of 12 groups attended)
- Minimum of 1 community support meeting per week (or as specified by client's Treatment Plan)
- Minimum of 2 individual counseling sessions per month
- Personal Projects: Genogram and Life Story, review completed projects with Counselor
- Participant should be active in group discussions and actively engaged in the treatment for phase progression

## **Relapse Prevention Groups/Recovery Management/Aftercare Groups**

Goal: continue to build on recovery skills, sustain and maintain recovery, continue to build on positive coping skills and create a plan for long-term sustained recovery. Last a minimum of 150 days to help sustain change and improve recovery skills.; client's Treatment Plan determines length.

- Attend group twice per month with assigned Counselor (minimum of 10 groups attended)
- Minimum of 1 community support meeting per week (or as specified by client's Treatment Plan)
- Personal Projects: Relapse Prevention Plan, Aftercare Plan, and Telling Life Story to another group, review completed projects with Counselor
- Participant should be active in group discussions and actively engaged in the treatment for phase progression



**Commencement from the DUI Court Program & Aftercare:**

Participants who complete the above groups and phases will attend a Commencement Ceremony with their peers. You may invite family and friends to celebrate your recovery and hard work. During the Commencement Ceremony, the DUI Treatment Court team will reflect on your personal journey and progress while in the program. Please feel free to reach out to the DUI Treatment Court team for any help needed even once your probation is over – we will always be glad to help.

Note: If you are still on probation after your Commencement Ceremony, you will continue to be on probation and will continue to do the following in Aftercare Phase until your probation time is finished:

- Minimum of 1 Community Support Meeting per week (or as specified by client’s Treatment Plan)
- Minimum of 1 individual counseling session per month (or as specified by client’s Treatment Plan)
- Minimum of 2 drug screens per month

**Commencement**

In order to reach the “Ready for Commencement” status in the program, a participant must meet all previous phase requirements, including completion of all treatment obligations, remaining current with all DUI Court and probation fees, attending all required appointments with the Probation Officer, and appearing for all call-in drug screens. Participant must also have no drug testing issues for 120 days.

A major goal of the DUI Court Team is to support each participant as he or she progresses through the phases toward commencement from the DUI Court program. Commencement is an important milestone, providing the participant and the DUI Court team an opportunity to reflect on the personal journey each participant has experienced during the program. Participants are encouraged to maintain his or her relationship with the court after completion of probation and aftercare as alumni or mentor to other participants.

**Treatment Services**

Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (CBT) Groups	Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT) Groups	Gender Specific Groups (Men or Women’s)	Prevention Groups
CBT sessions aim to change participants’ negative thoughts and behaviors, developing a more balanced emotional mindset for confronting problems.	MRT sessions help participants develop a positive self-identity while building a sense of moral reasoning surrounding their thoughts and actions.	Participants will meet in groups to address the specific problems and traumas associated with their gender.	Prevention groups focus on helping participants maintain their sobriety by identifying relapse patterns and developing coping strategies.

Individual counseling sessions	Family or Couples counseling sessions	Community Support Meetings	Foundation Groups	Integration Groups
Participants work in one-on-one sessions with counselors on setting goals for personal growth and development.	Sessions help participants and their families strengthen the relationships between them.	Community Support Meetings offer support for participants that are working towards a path of recovery and sobriety.	Participants will receive drug and alcohol education to increase awareness of risks and consequences related to drug/alcohol use.	Participants work on sustaining change and improving recovery skills.

## **II. Appropriate Behavior While in the DUI Court Program**

### **A. Honesty**

Honesty is a core component and essential to successful participation in the program. Participants are responsible for disclosing any violation of the terms of probation to their Counselor, Probation Officer, and the DUI Court Office. Dishonesty will only delay recovery and hold back progression through the Program. Dishonesty of any form such as lying, tampering with or adulterating drug screens, presenting fraudulent documents, etc. will have significant consequences. Defrauding or lying may lead to termination from the DUI Court.

### **B. In the Courtroom**

Court sessions are held every two weeks. Schedules of DUI Court Status Conference dates are provided on a regular basis and posted on the DUI Court website and Facebook page. Participants will be notified of any schedule or date changes in a timely manner. Changes made in advance will be noted on the monthly calendar and announced at a status conference leading up to the change. Last minute changes will be announced on the drug testing hotline. It is the responsibility of the participant to know the dates of Court sessions and to attend. It is important to arrive prior to the start of the session so that you are not late. If you are ever in doubt about whether or not you should attend a status conference or if you have an issue with transportation or some other emergency that will or may prevent attendance, please reach out to the coordinator, case manager, or emergency phone.

Please dress appropriately to all court sessions. Do not wear tank tops, hats, sunglasses, clothes displaying offensive language or advertising drugs or alcohol in the courtroom. Clothing should cover all undergarments. Please pay attention and do not read or sleep in the courtroom. No food or drinks are allowed in the Courtroom. All phones should be turned off before entering the Courtroom. If there is an emergency issue for which you might be contacted during status conference, please make a staff member aware. Guests are not allowed in a court session unless they have permission from the DUI Treatment Court Team to attend.

### **C. Counseling at Family Counseling Service (FCS)**

**Please do not bring alcohol, drugs, or weapons are to be brought to FCS. Do not drive to FCS if you do not have a valid limited permit or license.**

1. Groups begin on time. Attendance and participation in the whole group session is required to receive credit for group.
2. Confidentiality in group is required since it ensures the opportunity for open discussions and sharing. What is said in group stays in group. Please maintain the confidentiality of everyone in the group.
3. Free expression of thoughts and feelings is encouraged in group; however, violence, threats or intimidation are not allowed. Please be respectful and attentive to peers. Speak one at a time and listen when peers are sharing. Please avoid cross talking or side conversations.
4. If you are sick and unable to attend group, please contact your Probation Officer to be excused. If you are sick and unable to attend an individual counseling meeting, please contact your Counselor. If you are already at Family Counseling and learn of an emergency or feel ill, please let the Counselor know so that they can discuss the situation with you and you can formulate a plan together.

5. Cell phones, laptops, or any electronic devices should be turned off during group and individual appointments. If you have a situation that might require someone to contact you for an emergency during your scheduled group or counseling session, please make the counselor aware of the situation so that a plan can be developed.
6. Visitors are not allowed at group. Before bringing a child or friend to FCS, please ask your Counselor for permission in advance.
7. Smoking is permitted outside only (on the porch). Please put cigarette butts in appropriate receptacles and not on the porch floor or ground.
8. No littering in the parking lot or in the building. Please help us keep the facility clean by putting trash in trash cans, etc.
9. When arriving at FCS for an individual appointment with a Counselor, participants should check-in with the secretary in the main front office. Counselors will come get participants when they are ready. If you have a virtual or phone appointment, your Counselor will call you or send a Zoom link.
10. Please be considerate of other clients and Family Counseling Service staff.

#### **D. Meeting Attendance, Place of Residence and Leave Requests**

A participant is required to attend all meetings as assigned. Special requests to be excused from meetings will be discussed during Staffing and must be approved by the DUI Treatment Court Team. Requests to miss any obligation or to leave the jurisdiction of the Court (Athens-Clarke County area) or stay at a residence other than your primary residence of record must meet the following requirements:

- A. All requests are to be submitted in writing **a minimum of 2 weeks in advance to the DUI Treatment Court Office**. Leave Request Forms are available from counseling, probation, and are also available under the “Forms” section of the DUI Treatment Court website and on the program’s Facebook page post history. The form **must be completed and returned** before the two-week deadline prior to the requested date of leave.
- B. All requests must have verified documentation attached when possible, for example, a note from a doctor, school or work explaining the situation and signed by a person in authority. The documentation must include a phone number where you can be reached.
- C. Factors the team will consider when evaluating a leave request include but are not limited to:
  - 1) Compliance with Treatment;
  - 2) Compliance with Probation;
  - 3) Compliance with Admin Staff;
  - 4) Recent drug and alcohol screen results; and
  - 5) Compliance with financial responsibilities and any payment plans.

If a request is granted, a participant must report to the drug lab for a drug test the day before their leave begins and the day after their leave ends, as well as follow through with any other screening directions. For leave of more than 5 days, additional monitoring devices will be necessary. In the event of a sudden illness and/or death of an immediate family member, contact the coordinator or case manager for possible leave without the leave request paperwork. For the purposes of this manual, “immediate family” includes spouse, children, siblings, parents, and grandparents only. **Note:** If you are not in compliance with payments or with a payment plan, Leave Requests may be denied.

**If a program obligation is missed, call your probation officer at their desk or on the emergency/after-hour cell phone immediately once you realize that you missed the obligation.** This will give you an opportunity to discuss the matter and come up with a plan. **You will need to report to the drug lab immediately if it is still open or by 9 am the following morning to provide a drug screen.** All unexcused absences are subject to sanctions to be determined by the DUI Treatment Court Team.

A participant is required by the DUI Treatment Court to stay at their primary residence on record every night unless permission has been obtained to be away from that residence for an overnight. **Leaving the jurisdiction of the Court (Athens-Clarke County area) for any reason requires prior notice and approval by the Probation Officer.**

A participant is required to be accessible by phone by any member of the DUI Treatment Court Team at all times. Failure to respond to a message in a reasonable period of time (2 hours) may result in sanctions by the Court. If a cell phone is lost or disconnected, and/or the participant is unreachable for any reason, the participant should immediately notify the Probation Officer.

A firm appointment with a counselor must be kept. If a cancellation of the appointment is required, at least 24 hours advance notice must be given. Failure to notify Family Counseling of cancellation of the appointment at least 24 hours in advance may result in a sanction.

## **E. Inclement Weather**

In the case of inclement weather, please check the following for information as to whether the Athens-Clarke County Courthouse or Family Counseling Services are open.

[Athens-Clarke County DUI Court Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/accdcuicourt) - <https://www.facebook.com/accdcuicourt>

**Athens-Clarke County Courthouse**- [www.accgov.com/statecourt](http://www.accgov.com/statecourt)

If the Courthouse is closed, any scheduled status conferences, probation petition hearings, probation appointments, or other matters taking place in the Courthouse will be rescheduled.

**Family Counseling Services**- If UGA is closed or if the buses are not running due to inclement weather, FCS will be closed as well. Please feel free to reach out to your Counselor at 706-549-7755 if needed.

## **F. Finances**

As a condition of participation in the DUI Court, each person is responsible for the cost of treatment and supervision. Therefore, seeking and maintaining employment is a condition of continued participation. Participants who are employed are less likely to use alcohol and/or other drugs when they are working, and it is known that those who work have a higher degree of self-esteem due to being productive. If a participant has a documented disability that limits or prevents employment, The DUI Court Team will address it on a case-by-case basis.

A one-time orientation fee of \$100.00 is required. This fee includes intake, orientation, a level of care assessment, and a baseline drug screen. Each participant is responsible for payment of \$280.00 a month while in Phases 1-3 (\$235.00 participant fee/\$45.00 supervision fee). The \$235.00 fee covers all Group counseling, individual counseling, check-ins, drug-screens and case management services. Upon completion of Phase 3 and movement into Phase 4, the monthly fee is reduced to \$130.00 a month (\$85.00 participant fee/\$45.00 supervision fee) until

commencement or expiration of probation, whichever comes first. Charges accrue on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month and are charged based upon the phase the person is in on that date.

**Monthly payments are due when you have notified your case manager is the ideal timing during the course of the month. This is personalized based on your pay schedule. Please reach out to your case manager to establish. Payments can be made by certified funds (money order or cashier's check) anytime Monday–Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm in the Probation Office. Payments may also be made online at: [www.acduipay.com](http://www.acduipay.com)**

**If a participant is unable to meet their financial obligations, it is their responsibility to discuss the situation with their case manager to develop a solution.** If a person should, at any time, accrue an overdue amount of \$500.00 or more, they will be placed on a weekly payment plan. Please note that any overdue amounts or failure to make payments as directed by a payment plan may subject a participant to appropriate sanctions by the Court.

**Note:** If you are more than \$500 in arrears on your payments, any Leave Requests may be denied.

## **G. Medication**

A key principle of accountability and recovery is that a participant is responsible for all substances put into or on their body and all environments they place themselves into.

### **Items to Avoid:**

- **Do not internally or externally use products containing alcohol such as cough/cold syrup, hair tonic, perfume, medicinal alcohol, after-shave lotion, mouthwash and flavoring extracts (lemon, vanilla, etc.). It is the participant's responsibility to read the labels on products and avoid the consumption or use of alcohol in any form.**
- **Do not eat items that contain poppy seeds.**
- **Do not use vapes or e-cigarettes of any kind. Vape cartridges are still largely unregulated and may contain substances that could cause drug testing issues.**
- **Do not use CBD products; many are still unregulated and can cause drug testing issues. *If you have a Low THC Oil Registry Card issued by a physician, notify your probation officer immediately.***
- **Do not drink energy drinks. Any "energy" related product should be discussed with the DUI Treatment Court office BEFORE use. This does not include standard coffee products.**
- **Do not consume any medications, supplements, or vitamin products purchases from smoke shops, gas stations, or convenience stores: NO Kratom, Valerian Root, or any other type of "gas station dope"**
- **Do not consume anything that is not FDA regulated.**
- **Do not take energy pills (Stackers, Yellow Jackets, etc.).**
- **Do not consume health or workout products that contain Creatine.**
- **Do not take male enhancement or other libido enhancers. Any prescription medications for these issues have to be approved by your counselor.**
- **Do not consume non-alcoholic beer.**
- **Do not take over-the-counter medication that contains Dextromethorphan, (DM), Pseudoephedrine, or Ephedrine.**

The products lists above are largely unregulated by the FDA and can cause issues with drug screens. If you are ever unsure about something you would like to take or use, please contact any member of the team for assistance.

It is the participant's responsibility to inform all medical providers of their status in the DUI Treatment Court program and advocate for themselves as a person in recovery.

**Approval of Prescription Medication-** All prescription medication must be reviewed and approved by your counselor prior to filing and taking it. Call Family Counseling Services and ask to speak with your counselor. If they are not available at that time, which can happen due to their scheduled appointments, please leave a message for them with your name, your number, and the reason why you are calling. They will be back in touch with you ASAP. If approved, all prescriptions used must be taken only according to the directions given in the drug package insert or by a physician's written note.

**Medical Paperwork-** Please obtain paperwork from all emergency room or doctor visits during which you take medications or are given prescriptions for continuing medications that have already been approved. This paperwork should be turned into the probation office.

**Controlled Substances-** Medications required to treat mental health issues are allowed and encouraged, if needed, for participants' stability in the program. Other controlled substances might also be medically necessary, but in order to take these medications, when entering the program, the participant must sign a release of information with the prescribing physician so that the coordinator can discuss the matter with them. If the prescribing physician communicates that the controlled substance is medically necessary, a participant will be approved to take it, but specialized testing and continued consultation with the prescribing physician will be used to ensure that the medication is used therapeutically and as directed.

**Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medications-** there are some medications that are fine to take for common ailments and colds. A list of these medications is provided below along with some information to help avoid over-the-counter medications that will cause problems with drug screens.

OTC Medications that may be taken to relieve pain:

- Acetylsalicylic acid (Aspirin®, Ecotrin®, Bufferin®)
- Acetaminophen (Tylenol®)
- Ibuprofen (Motrin®, Advil®, Medipren®)
- Naproxen (Aleve®)

There are many other products that contain combinations of the above ingredients, and some of those combinations contain ingredients that you are not allowed to take. You must read the ingredient list of all drugs that you may take to be sure that you are not taking a drug that is not allowed. If in doubt, ask a program team member.

OTC Medications that may be taken to relieve allergy symptoms:

- Cetirizine (Zyrtec®)
- Chlorpheniramine (Chlor-Trimeton®)
- Clemastine (Tavist® )
- Diphenhydramine (Benadryl®)
- Fexofenadine (Allegra®)
- Loratidine (Claritin®)

These drugs are also available in many combinations with other drugs, some of which should not be taken (see list above). You must read the ingredient list of all drugs that you may take to be sure that you are not taking a drug that is not allowed. Misuse or abuse of any drug, that is, taking a drug in higher quantities or more often than listed on the dosing information supplied with the drug, is strictly prohibited. Other OTC medications may be appropriate to take, but to be sure, you should check with a team member to be certain.

## **H. Drug Testing**

It is the hope that each participant will refrain from the use of mood-altering substances and utilize the recovery network they will build during the program to get back on track if a setback occurs during the program or following commencement and the end of probation. While in the program and under sentence, it is the goal of the program to support each participant in achieving and maintaining abstinence from all unapproved substances. Frequent and random drug testing is used to help us do so. Often a person may not be able to stop using drugs and alcohol immediately, and that is okay. Recovery will not occur overnight; however, any use of illegal drugs will result in a programmatic response. Intentional or accidental, planned or spontaneous, participants will be held accountable for everything they put in their body or are otherwise exposed to. This level of accountability is not intended as punishment but serves to encourage the cultivation of a solid foundation in recovery. The ultimate goal of drug testing is to provide accountability and confirmation of the progress towards a lifetime in recovery. Being honest and admitting use prior to the drug screen will be taken into account in the process of addressing the program violation. Conversely, not admitting to, and/or telling untruths about new use after a positive result on a drug screen may result in a more severe response. The team understands and appreciates that entering sobriety is often difficult, but we do ask for honesty about how you may struggle with it. We ask for that honesty so that we can support you in ways that will be helpful to you.

A participant may be asked to submit a sample at any time by any member of the DUI Treatment Court Team. You should be prepared to submit the specimen at the time of the request to whomever asks, be it a Counselor, a Probation Officer, or the Coordinator. Failure to appear for a drug test, refusal to provide a sample for a test, or to submit to a random test will be a program violation resulting in a violation hearing. Tampering with or attempting to adulterate or “fix” a drug screen will result in a violation and may be grounds for termination from the program.

Call-in system for Urine Drug Screen (UDS): All Participants are required to participate in the DUI Treatment Court random testing hotline, which utilizes a color system. Participants must have access to a phone capable of mandatory, daily calls to this hotline. A color assignment and written instructions are provided by administrative staff during program orientation and the hotline number can be found at the back of this handbook. Appearance for random UDS is mandatory. Failure to appear for a random test by the time specified is a violation and will be addressed via a violation hearing. If a random drug screen is missed and no prior permission had been obtained, a participant is required to report to their Probation Officer by 9 a.m. the following business day to provide a sample. Immediately upon realizing that a test has been missed, a participant should contact their probation office via their desk number (during business hours) or the emergency cell number after hours or if they were not reachable at their desk number.

Participants must provide a testable sample, one that is not “dilute” or “tampered with.” “Dilute” urine tests are classified as those tests having a urine creatinine level of less than 20 mg/dL

(Creatinine is the substance in urine resulting from muscle breakdown). A sample with a Creatinine level of 400 mg/dL or more will be considered abnormal with a “high creatinine level.” In a diluted urine sample, it is possible that drugs may still be present in the urine but be below the cut-off level of the drug assay. A “tampered” sample is one where the urine is in a condition that is not testable due to intentional interference or other chemical reaction. Presenting a sample that is either dilute or tampered with is a sanctionable offense. A banned substance, Creatine, often found in workout or health supplements can have an adverse effect on creatinine levels. If a participant has high creatinine levels this can also be a sanctionable offense. Any attempt to provide urine that belongs to someone else is a serious offense that may result in significant sanctions or dismissal from the program.

### Drug Lab Testing Hours

Monday – Friday	8:00 am – 5:30 pm
Saturday & Sunday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm

### How can participants take control to avoid dilute screens?

- Call in and test early in the morning when your color is called- urine is most concentrated first thing in the morning, so dilution is less likely to occur if the participant tests early. Once testing is completed for the day, a participant may resume their desired level of fluid consumption.
- Work on developing a healthier diet. Consume protein rich foods on a regular basis to elevate creatinine levels. Increased food consumption shortly before providing a sample will not boost creatinine levels. A diet that is too low in protein can cause lowered levels to show in urine testing.

DOs	DO NOTs
Chicken/Poultry	Caffeine
Fish	Energy Drinks ( <i>banned</i> )
Legumes	Excessive amounts of soda
Green, leafy vegetables	Chamomile & other herbal teas
Milk and dairy products	Fasting/skipping meals
Exercise	Over-the-counter diet pills ( <i>banned</i> ), “water” pills

- Taking iron supplements can also be a good idea, as lowered iron levels will also decrease urinary creatinine levels. Eat balanced meals on a regular basis.
- If possible, exercise regularly to increase lean muscle mass.
- If concerned, request urinary tract infection testing from a physician. Urinary tract infections lower creatinine levels by causing the bladder to become inflamed, blocking proper urine output. When meeting with a physician share any medications being taken.

Upon the request for a drug screen, a participant should follow these rules at the drug lab:



- A participant indicates either a denial or admission to alcohol and/or drug use on a chain of custody form provided by the lab. **Honesty is a crucial component for recovery and participation in the DUI Treatment Court. The Court may favorably consider self-disclosure-of-use as a mitigating circumstance when handling violations.**
- Disclose any prescription and over-the-counter medications that have been taken within the last 48 hours.
- The only people allowed in the testing area at the time of administration of the test are the participant and the individual overseeing the collection of the sample.
- A sample is to be submitted within one (1) hour of request. Failure to produce a sample will result in a petition for revocation.
- Purses, coats, bags, etc. are not allowed in the testing area.
- Shirtsleeves should be rolled up to the elbow and removal of any additional clothing item may be made to ensure the validity of a specimen.
- The test cup must be filled to a minimum 1/3 level to be adequate for testing.
- **Collection of urine sample will be observed for accountability purposes.** In the event a drug screen cannot be observed, a temperature strip will be used to ensure sample integrity. If a urine sample does not provide an acceptable reading on the temperature strip, the participant will be required to provide a valid sample before leaving the collection site.
- Use of an artificial device or substance of any type to alter the test will result in significant sanctions which may include termination from the program.
- Drug Testing Lab staff are an extension of the DUI Treatment Court Team; they will treat you with respect and dignity and should be met with the same treatment in return.
- **Failure to comply with any of the above rules or refusing to provide a urine sample is considered a sanctionable offense.**

At the time of testing, a participant may request to provide an additional sample to be tested by an independent lab for the participant's own use. If a participant requests testing of an additional sample, the test collector will collect the additional sample to be sent to an independent lab. The participant must pay a non-refundable fee of \$45.00 within 1 business day in order for the additional sample to be sent to the independent lab. If this amount is not paid as required, the additional sample will not be sent to the independent lab.

If a participant provides a sample that tests positive or dilute, a participant may request the sample to be sent to an independent lab for a confirmation test. Requests for confirmation must be made to the DUI Treatment Court team in a timely fashion following the receipt of notification about a positive or dilute test. A payment of \$45.00 for the confirmation test must be made at the time of the request. If the payment is not made, the sample will not be sent for a confirmation test. If the independent lab does not confirm the positive or dilute result, the \$45.00 payment will be credited to the participant's account towards participant fees.

The EtG (Ethyl Glucuronide) Test can detect the ingestion of alcohol for a considerable time period after consumption. This technology is used to monitor participants' compliance. **Any test with an EtG level 500 ng/mL or above will be considered a "positive" drug screen for the purpose of violation hearings and any resulting sanctions.** Any value between 0 and 500 ng/mL is consistent with the conclusion that alcohol was present in the participant, and could result in increased testing or use of other testing methods. While a participant may not be found in violation with an EtG level below 500 ng/ml, the program does closely examine values of 300 and above; these levels can impact treatment plans. Positive, Dilute, or No-Show/Missed tests will delay eligibility for phase progression or commencement. Elevated EtG levels may delay eligibility when considered in conjunction with other measures of a participant's progress.

## **I. Incentives**

The Athens DUI Treatment Court Team recognizes compliance and good behavior as a critical factor to support recovery. Participants are provided incentives and receive rewards for active participation, consistent attendance, and compliance with Program conditions.

Incentives are given for being a good example to others in recovery by using support network in a time of need and/or making voluntary contributions to the recovery community, adhering to program rules/going without violation, addressing health needs/concerns, phasing up, completion of DUI/Risk Reduction School, ignition interlock installation, clinical evaluation completion, attending Victim Impact Panel, and license reinstatement. Rewards for participation can include, but are not limited to credit for community service hours, online attendance for status conference, going first/leaving early at status conference, being excused from status conference, leave requests gift certificates, goods provided by sponsors, leaving status conference early and individual recognition by a Judge and other Team members. Community service credit is given in accordance with the following guidelines as documentation is provided:

- Phase Movement = Phase 1 (40 hours), Phase 2 (50 hours), Phase 3 (70 hours) and Phase 4 (80 hours)
- Additional opportunities for CSW: Completion of Alcohol Risk Reduction/DUI School = 40 hours, Victim Impact Panel = 20 hours, Clinical Evaluation (only after completion of DUI School) = 30 hours, and Full License Reinstatement = 50 hours.

## **J. Certificates of Eligibility for Ignition Interlock Limited Permit**

If a DUI Treatment Court participant's license is suspended as a result of a 2<sup>nd</sup> conviction for DUI in a 5 year period, a participant may be eligible based upon the determination of the Department of Driver's Services for limited permit with an approved ignition interlock device after 4 months if the appropriate certificates are issued by the judge and treatment. In order to qualify for the issuance of the authorizing certificates after 4 months, the participant must meet the following criteria:

1. Completed Phase 1;
2. From the date of orientation, completed 120 days with no positive drug/alcohol screens;
3. Current with community support meetings
4. Current with all payments or current with a payment plan; and
5. Does not have any pending charges in other cases that are traffic-related.

A participant should contact the Coordinator to see if they are eligible for a certificate of eligibility. After receiving a certificate of eligibility for the Ignition Interlock, a participant should contact their Counselor for a Treatment Enrollment Certificate, if needed.

## **K. Driver's License Reinstatement**

Once a participant is a candidate for license reinstatement, the DUI Court Team will provide all necessary assistance to help them meet the requirements as set forth by the Georgia Department of Driver's Services. A participant may:

1. Request that the Court Coordinator obtain a copy of their driving history. The Coordinator will review the history and provide a written statement about the status of the license and how to obtain reinstatement.
2. Any participant completing DUI School should give a copy of this certificate to their Counselor (required to phase up from phase 3 to phase 4).
3. All DUI Court fees must be current or a payment plan that has been approved must be in place.

4. If needed, Counselors will provide a Treatment Completion Certificate to participants in compliance with their Treatment Plan. Requests should be made two weeks in advance. Treatment Completion Certificate issuance is based on:
  - a. progression to Phase 4
  - b. no use of alcohol/drugs in violation of DUI Court rules, including having no Dilute or no-show/missed tests, for a minimum of 90 days prior to issuance
  - c. compliance with current Treatment Plan
  - d. no sanctions within the last 60 days
  - e. receipt of driving history letter from the Coordinator

### **III. Compliance and Violations**

#### **A. Probation**

If a participant is on probation in another county, they must disclose their Probation Officer's name and contact information as well as the charges that resulted in that probation sentence. The Athens DUI Court will keep in touch with the other Probation Officer throughout the person's participation in the Athens DUI Court.

Participation in the Athens DUI Court is a condition of a probationary sentence. If conditions of a sentence or any conditions of the DUI Court Agreement (or any rules outlined in the Handbook) are violated, a petition for revocation will be submitted resulting in the participant appearing before a Judge for the probation violation allegations. A participant has the right to admit or deny the violation. If they admit, the Court will act on the petition for revocation at that time. If they deny, a hearing will be scheduled on a future Court date. The DUI Drug Court Team will make a recommendation to the Court regarding sanctions (see below). In determining the recommendation, the DUI Court Team may take into consideration whether the participant took responsibility by admitting the violation. The Court is not bound by this recommendation and can increase/decrease the sanction or designate an entirely different sanction. The Judge does not participate or have any input into the recommendation to be made by the Team at the hearing. The Judge considers each case separately and always will provide the participant an opportunity to be heard.

Depending on the nature of the allegation, a petition for revocation of probation may or may not be accompanied by a warrant for arrest. The determination for whether an arrest warrant is issued is based on the seriousness of the violation, community safety, prior history of sanctions and appropriateness based upon participant's compliance. The issuance of a probation warrant is in the sole discretion of the Court.

#### **B. Sanctions**

All conditions of the DUI Treatment Court Participant Agreement that are signed on the day of orientation and all rules in this handbook are conditions of a probationary sentence. Failure to comply with those conditions may subject a person to probation petition. The Judge will impose appropriate sanctions if there are violations of the DUI Court guidelines. Sanctions can include but are not limited to: verbal or written reprimands from the Judge, letters of apology, weekly schedule provided to supervising officer, stay late at status conference, present lesson learned at group or status conference, ineligibility for virtual option at status conference/leave requests or use of any other incentive for 30 days, increased supervision, curfew implementation, alcohol monitor, increased testing schedule, daily contact with probation or case manager by phone/email, community service, bench duty, loss of driving privileges, daily reporting to the probation office, daily testing, electronic surveillance, home detention, flash jail sanction (1-5 days), and placement at diversion/work release center. The goal in administering sanctions is to

encourage compliance and accountability with the conditions of the Program and to assist a participant in progressing to their recovery.

**Mitigation of Sanction:** Honesty is a core component of the DUI Treatment Court. The team should favorably consider self-disclosure of use as a mitigating factor when sanctions are imposed. The Team may also consider the extent to which a participant has taken ownership of their choices and initiated action on their own to respond to their choice and to prevent the behavior from re-occurring.

**Advocacy:** participants are encouraged to be an advocate for their own needs when facing violation hearings. The team cares about your input as the possible recipient of a sanction to be determined by the Judge and wish to empower you to be a meaningful contributor to the outcome in this often stressful process rather than an outside party awaiting an outcome. The team welcomes collaboration and believes it is an opportunity to learn from one another and gain a deeper understanding of the situation. If you feel you would like support doing this or would like to learn more about advocacy, please reach out to the Peer Support Specialist on the team.

**Treatment Response to Violation:** When a person has a violation, the participant's counselor will consider whether any revisions to the treatment plan are needed. Counselors may increase or alter a participant's accountability, structure, and/or counseling by submitting a Revised Treatment Plan. This plan will typically be presented to the participant at the time of their violation hearing. A Revised Treatment Plan may include additional drug/alcohol screens, an increase in individual counseling, increased community support meetings, and/or residing at a recovery residence or being referred to a higher level of treatment.

## **C. Removal from DUI Treatment Court Program**

The program is committed to providing each participant an opportunity to achieve and maintain a sober and drug free lifestyle in an environment conducive to achieving this goal. **The DUI Treatment Court wants each participant to succeed, and considers removal from the program only as a last resort.** The goal is to help a participant help themselves. Continued participation in the Program depends on compliance with the guidelines and regulations. Nevertheless, not everyone who enters the DUI Treatment Court will be committed to maintaining sobriety and compliance with Program conditions. The Team may determine that removal of a participant for non-compliance is the most appropriate action for the success of all other participants. Serious violations or continuous violations will subject a participant to being terminated from the Program.

Following are a few examples of non-compliance that could result in removal:

- Threats of, or violence towards, peers, Counselors or other program team members
- Committing new criminal offenses
- Altering or tampering drug screens
- An accumulation of violations and continuance of non-compliance with Program guidelines
- An inability or unwillingness to meaningfully engage in treatment
- An inability or unwillingness to be honest about program violations
- Victimizing other participants in the program

## **D. Absconding**

If a participant absconds (quits; runs away; flees; or stops reporting as required) for any reason, the participant will be subject to serious sanctions. Instead of avoiding the program when a problem arises, we ask participants to bring it to the attention of a member of the DUI Treatment Court Team. We will work with you in an attempt to find a solution. Absconding only complicates

the situation and may lead to removal from the Program and the possible revocation of the balance of probation.

### **E. Employment in retail alcohol sales and service industry**

Program participants shall not enter nor frequent bars or any other business whose primary purpose in sales is alcoholic beverages; however, employment in restaurants and bars may be permitted, provided the participant maintains sobriety and program compliance. Failure to maintain sobriety and program compliance will result in the Court considering whether the participant can continue to work at the site.

## **IV. Roles of the Team Members**

### **A. The Judges**

The DUI Treatment Court Judges are aware of the significant impact of substance use disorders on the Court system, the lives of participants and their families, victims of criminal behavior, and the entire community. The Judges are committed to the overall concept of DUI Treatment Court and program goals; they work as the Team leaders to encourage participant success. One of the roles of the Judges is to work with the Team in developing protocols and procedures for participant success. During Status Conferences in the Courtroom, the Judge will personally address and interact with participants while monitoring their progress and accountability with program requirements.

The Judge has many other daily responsibilities which require judicial attention. Direct contact with the Judge or his office staff is not permitted. **The Judge cannot give legal advice. Information from the participant or a family member or friend must go through a Counselor, Probation Officer or the Coordinator.** The Judge attends non-Court meetings with other Team members not only to review and evaluate participant progress, but also to evaluate appropriate alternatives. In addition, the Judge is an advocate for the Program by creating community interest and identifying community resources of value to participants to enable them to achieve their goal of improving the quality of their life.

### **B. The Solicitor-General**

The Solicitor-General's Office determines each person's legal eligibility for the DUI Treatment Court, and without their cooperation, consent and agreement a person is not afforded the opportunity to participate in the program. This office, along with the person involved and their attorney, must agree that DUI Treatment Court is a suitable component for any negotiated plea agreement accepted as a part of the sentence imposed by the Judge. Someone from the Solicitor-General's office attends Team sessions (Staffing) to monitor participant progress and to recommend appropriate sanctions, incentives and rewards for participants. **During participation in this Program, it is not appropriate to seek advice or legal counsel from the Solicitor-General's office.** In the event of a probation revocation hearing, the Solicitor-General's office will advocate the State's position which may be adverse to the participant's position. The Solicitor-General will make recommendations to the Court regarding any sanctions that may be imposed and/or to the person's continued participation in the Program.

### **C. The Defense Attorney or Public Defender**

The role of the Defense Attorney or Public Defender is to evaluate the participant's legal situation and protect their legal rights and to ensure that the program meets all due process requirements. Additionally, the Defense Attorney or Public Defender should provide advice to assist in determining legal options, treatment options, program conditions and potential sentencing outcomes. When a person agrees, at the time of their sentencing, to enter the DUI Treatment Court, they have the right to legal counsel and to assist with such. If, for any reason, a person is brought before the Court for violating the terms of the DUI Treatment Court Agreement or Court Sentence, they will be informed of the right to legal counsel and a hearing. Like the Solicitor-General, the Defense Attorney or Public Defender also contributes by informing clients, peers, colleagues and other members of the legal community about the multiple benefits attributable to DUI Treatment Court.

#### **D. The Coordinator**

The DUI Treatment Court Coordinator, referred to in this document as the Coordinator, is the administrator of the program who manages the day to day operations, and along with the Solicitor-General's office reviews each case to determine eligibility. The Coordinator also facilitates the communication and contact between all members of the DUI Court Team. The Coordinator will meet with a participant when necessary involving any aspect of their DUI Court participation. The Coordinator is also the contact regarding any fine and/or fee issues and will monitor the financial obligation to the Court. Acting as the administrator of weekly Team meetings (Staffings) with the Counselors and with the rest of the Team is another important aspect of this role. The Coordinator also keeps the Judges informed on the most updated information regarding each participant. In addition, the Coordinator's role is to inform, update and educate the public about the DUI Treatment Court.

#### **E. The Case Manager**

The Case Manager works closely with the court coordinator to manage the day to day operations of the program. The Case Manager is responsible for ensuring that participants move through the program in an effective and efficient manner. The Case Manager is a key contact involved in participant interaction and assists in monitoring compliance with all program rules. The case manager connects participants to ancillary services such as employment, educational/vocational, medical, transportation, and housing resources. The Case Manager assists with the collection and organization of information regarding the participants. Additional job duties can include, but are not limited to, managing payment plans, assisting with the placement of participants into third-party treatment providers (AOD or medical), and gathering any and all participant information.

#### **F. The Peer Support Specialist**

The Peer Support Specialist assists the DUI Treatment Court in developing a deeper understanding of the process of pursuing a life in recovery and provides support to participants as a person in recovery who has successfully completed a treatment court program. Additionally, a Peer Support Specialist shares community recovery resources with participants and the team, helps participants build recovery skills, seeks out and maintains relationships with recovery-focused and/or friendly support agencies in the area, provides mentorship, and assists in the continuing education of the team, the public, and policymakers with the goal of providing holistic support to individuals who are in treatment court programs, seeking sobriety, and hoping to obtain the tools to build a life in recovery.

#### **G. The Probation Officers**

The Probation Officer's primary responsibility is supervising and monitoring a participant's accountability in DUI Treatment Court. Each participant is required to meet with the Probation

Officer a minimum of once a month. If needed, the Probation Officer can at any time increase the frequency of monthly meetings. As a condition of participation in the program, the Probation Officer has the authority to visit a participant anytime, day or night, at home, at school or at work. During these visits that person may be subject to drug and alcohol screens. The probation officer attends Staffing to inform the Judges and other Team members of the person's progress in the Program.

## **H. Law Enforcement**

The DUI Court would not be possible without the support of law enforcement. Local law enforcement accepts the concept of Accountability Courts as being the best alternative to reducing repeat DUI and drug offenses by addressing the underlying issues that lead to them. Appropriate supervision and monitored compliance with program conditions are essential to continued law enforcement support. Law enforcement may be utilized to provide surveillance to ensure participant accountability with Program conditions. A designated law enforcement officer attends Staffing.

## **I. Counselors**

A Counselor meets with each participant after their orientation to complete a clinical assessment of the participant to develop an individualized and comprehensive Treatment Plan. The participant is also assigned a group day and time and a Counselor at this time. The Counselor will review any medications, health issues, or concerns with the participant and help them to understand the requirements of the program. The assigned Counselor is responsible for recommending Treatment Plan modifications as needed. Each Counselor reports necessary information to the DUI Court Team during staffing to keep everyone on the team informed of each client's progress in the program (participation in group, attitude, up to date on Community Support Meetings, etc.)

**Honesty and Confidentiality:** In order for the Counselors to really help you in your exploration of your relationship with substance use, it's important that you be open and honest to the best of your ability. **YOUR COUNSELOR IS HERE TO HELP!** All use of any substances or any "incidental exposure" to alcohol or other prohibited substances should be reported to your counselor and "admitted" on your Urine Drug Screen Form. Be ensured that your counselor will work hard to protect your confidential information while at the same time, trying to keep the Team informed about the appropriate clinical level of care and treatment plan needs.

## **J. Drug Testing Lab Manager**

The Lab Manager oversees the Athens Drug Lab that provides testing services to participants. The Lab Manager ensures that testing protocols, equipment, and technology are up-to-date and comply with best practices to properly monitor participants. The Lab Manager answers questions from the DUI Treatment Court Team concerning drug testing and the effects of drugs and other medications on testing results and on the participants. This person may sometimes work with an outside confirmation lab in order to provide feedback on drug testing.

## **V. Community Resources**

Athens-Clarke County is very fortunate to have a strong recovery community. The following is a list of some resources available in our community. For current telephone numbers, emails or addresses consult the telephone book or internet. See the peer support specialist, your counselor, or the coordinator for complete listings or if you have needs or questions about services that you do not see listed below.

## **A. Hospitals**

Piedmont Athens Regional Medical Center	706.475.7000
St. Mary's Hospital	706.389.3000
Landmark Hospital of Athens	706.425.1500

## **B. Basic Needs**

Consumer Credit Counseling	706.613.1847
DFCS	706.227.7000
Athens Housing Authority	706.425.5300
Salvation Army	706.543.5350
United Way	706.543.5254

## **C. Crisis Lines**

National Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Crisis System	9.8.8. (starts 7/16/22)
The Cottage (Sexual Assault Center)	706.546.1133
Project Safe (Domestic Violence)	706.549.0922
GA Council on Child Abuse	800.546.9713
National Suicide Prevention Hotline	800-273-8255

## **E. Substance Use**

Athens Area Alcoholic Anonymous <a href="http://www.athensaa.org/">http://www.athensaa.org/</a>	706.389.4164
Narcotics Anonymous Northeast Georgia <a href="https://negana.org/">https://negana.org/</a>	1.888.982.2614
Georgia Area Cocaine Anonymous <a href="https://georgiaca.org/">https://georgiaca.org/</a>	404.255.7787
SAMHSA National Helpline <a href="https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/national-helpline">https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/national-helpline</a>	1.800.662.4357

## **VI. Referrals for Assistance**

### **Employment and Housing Support**

Make an appointment with the Case Manager for assistance with employment and housing/homelessness support, questions or concerns.

### **Healthcare Support**

Clarke County Health Department – 345 North Harris St. –  
706.389.6921 <https://publichealthathens.com/wp/clinics/health-departments/clarke-county/>

Athens Nurses Clinic – 240 North Ave. – 706.613.6976  
<http://athesnursesclinic.org/wp/>

Athens Neighborhood Health Center – 675 College Ave. – 706.546.5526  
<https://www.anhc.clinic/>



Piedmont Care Clinic – 1270 Prince Ave. – 706-475-7055  
[https://doctors.piedmont.org/search?department=Piedmont+Athens+Regional+Community+Care+Clinic&utm\\_source=directoryli](https://doctors.piedmont.org/search?department=Piedmont+Athens+Regional+Community+Care+Clinic&utm_source=directoryli)

Mercy Health Center – 700 Oglethorpe Ave. – 706-425-9445  
<https://www.mercyhealthcenter.net/>

MedLink Colbert – 11 Charlie Morris Rd. – 706-521-3113  
<https://medlinkga.org/location/colbert/>

### **Household Utilities and Food Support**

Beech Haven Church – 2390 W Broad St. – 706.548.2246  
<http://www.beechhaven.org/>

Ebenezer Baptist Church – 205 N Chase St. – 706.543.9644  
<https://ebcw.org/site/>

Salvation Army – 484 Hawthorn Ave. – 706.543.5350  
<http://www.salvationarmy.org/>

St. Joseph Charity – 958 Epps Bridge Parkway. – 706.548.6332  
<http://stjosephathens.org/st-joseph-charities>

Sparrows Nest Church – 745 Prince Ave. – 706.549.6332  
<http://sparrowsnestmission.org/>

Timothy Baptist – 380 Timothy Rd. – 706.549.1435  
<http://www.timothybaptist.org/>

Cornerstone Church Athens – 4680 Lexington Rd – 706.549.0000  
<https://www.cornerstoneathens.cc/>

Frist Baptist Church – 355 Pulaski St. – 706.548.1359  
<https://firstbaptistathens.org/>

Downtown Ministries – 165 Pulaski St. – 706.559.4426  
<https://downtownministries.org/>

People Living in Recovery – 240 North Ave. – 706.850.8855  
<https://www.peoplelivinginrecovery.com/>

**This is a list of some of the ancillary social services available in Athens-Clarke County. For more information call the United Way or Community Connection at 211 – the clearing house for programs and services in Northeast Georgia.]**

## **IX. CONTACT INFORMATION**

<p><b>DUI Treatment Court Office:</b>          Phone: 706-613-3206      Fax: 706-810-2282          Address: DUI Treatment Court                    Athens-Clarke County                    325 E. Washington St., Suite 430                    Athens, GA 30601</p> <p>Coordinator's Direct Line: 762-400-6875            Work Cell:          Case Manager's Direct Line: 762-400-6874            Work Cell: 470-739-0955</p> <p><b>Testing Hotline:</b> 762-400-8378          (set at 4am daily; if the date on the hotline is wrong, you cannot get through, or you have a question about the message, contact a member of the team immediately)</p>	<p><b>Probation Office:</b>          Lt. Andrews: 762-400-6612          Ofc. Howard: 762-400-6619          Ofc. Schmidt: 762-400-6631          Fax: 706-613-3707          Address: 110 Bray Street                    Athens, GA 30601</p> <p><b>After Hours/Emergency Cell (staffed by Probation):</b>          706-207-9273</p> <p><b>Drug Lab:</b>          Office: 762-613-6606          Same location as Probation Office</p>
<p><b>Family Counseling Services:</b>          Phone: 706-549-7755          Fax: 706-549-0428          Mailing Address: 1435 Oglethorpe Avenue            Athens, GA 30606</p>	<p><b>Public Defenders Office:</b>          Phone: 706-369-6440          Mailing Address:                    Western Circuit Public Defender                    440 College Ave., Suite 220                    Athens, GA 30601</p>

I READ OR LISTENED TO THE READING OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS MANUAL. I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY ALL THE CONDITIONS SET FORTH TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY. I UNDERSTAND THAT I WILL GET OUT OF THIS EXPERIENCE WHAT I PUT INTO IT. I COMMIT TO ASKING QUESTIONS WHEN AND IF I DO NOT UNDERSTAND SOMETHING. I COMMIT TO ASKING FOR SUPPORT IF AND WHEN I NEED SUPPORT.

---

Name (Printed)

---

Signature

---

Date