



Intermediate Drug Court

Participant Handbook

Rev. 05/15/2018

Introduction

Our program is based on the belief that addiction is a chronic and potentially fatal disease creating one of the most serious health and legal problems in the United States today. Our program is designed to improve the health of our participants, not only by addressing the immediate symptoms of their addiction but also by orienting participants to a new way of healthier living which can be continued for the rest of their life. We are confident that the Drug Treatment Court will help you learn how to make successful choices free of the influence of Drugs or alcohol.

Our Mission Statement

The mission of the Cobb County Drug Court is to enhance public safety by targeting certain high risk Drug offenders for placement in an intensive program of treatment, judicial supervision, and individual accountability. The goal of the program is to reduce participant recidivism and enable participants to contribute to and function within the community.

Guiding Principles

We believe that if you follow these three guiding principles, you will succeed in this program:

1. **BE HONEST.** This is often the most difficult rule to follow. The Drug Court Team expects you to be honest in all areas of your life; you owe it to *yourself* to be honest in all areas of your life. Do not attempt to falsify records, conceal alcohol/drug use, or tamper with or dilute your urine. Eventually, you will get caught.
2. **SHOW UP.** Be on time for treatment, 12-step meetings, and Drug Court sessions. Show up mentally as well as physically; you will get out of this program what you put into it.
3. **DON'T WHINE!** You must understand that this is not an easy program. Over the next twelve months, you will have a lot of hard work to do, both to fulfill the Drug Court Contract and to address your substance abuse issues. To be fully engaged in your recovery and successfully complete this program, you will have to make sacrifices.

Important Documents

You are bound by your sentence and any exhibits attached to the sentence, any orders that were entered as part of your sentence, the Drug Court Participant Contract, all paperwork you completed as part of your application for Drug Court, this handbook, and any memos or other documents you are given by the Drug Court Team. Keep copies of all of your paperwork for your records.

This handbook belongs to:

The alcohol/drug screen phone is:

(678) 261-5869

or

<https://doi.testday.com>

Cobb County Drug Court

30 Waddell Street

Marietta, GA 30060

Administration Phone: (770) 528-1933

Fax: (770) 528-8588

Treatment Facility

WestCare

515 Roswell St.

Marietta, Ga 30060

(770) 618-9417

Welcome to the Cobb County Drug Court

Welcome to the Cobb County Drug Treatment Court. This Handbook is designed to answer your questions about what is expected of you as a Drug Court participant. In addition to abiding by the program requirements laid out in the admission paperwork and this handbook, you must also follow the instructions and orders given to you by the judge and or any team members.

If you still have questions after reading this handbook, please contact your counselor or Program Coordinator.

Judge's Role

The Drug Treatment Court Judge has knowledge of the impact of substance abuse on the court system, the lives of participants, and the entire community. In the courtroom, the Judge develops a personal, working relationship with each participant while monitoring participant 's progress.

The Judge has many responsibilities beyond Drug Treatment Court; therefore, his time is limited. Direct contact with the Judge and his office is ***prohibited*** beyond the courtroom setting. The Judge is not your case manager, personal attorney, or your legal advisor. The Judge attends non-court settings such as staffing to discuss possible candidates for the program and to determine appropriate, effective sanctions for program violations as well as incentives for continued compliance. Your attorney can schedule direct contact with the Judge through a formal court hearing.

Before your court hearing, the Judge will be given a progress report. The progress report will discuss your drug testing results, attendance, participation and cooperation in the treatment program, employment or other requirements that may have been imposed. The Judge may ask questions about your progress and discuss any problems you may be having. If you are doing well, you may be rewarded with incentives. If your progress reports show that you are not doing well, the judge will discuss this with you and determine future action, which may include a sanction, in order to help you remember your goals in the program.

Drug Court Team Members

In addition to the Judge, other members of the Drug Court Team include the:

Program Coordinator, who acts as the primary contact person in connection with all operations of the Drug Court, is responsible for the admission process for all participants. Attends staffing and Drug Court sessions, maintains participant records, and provides oversight for treatment and probation services;

Court Case Manager: The Court Case Manager attends staffing and court sessions, provides the team with your case progress as outlined in your individual case plan, coordinates services, and recommends appropriate sanctions and incentives.

Drug Court Prosecutor, who attends staffing sessions to evaluate your progress through the Court, to identify potential candidates for the Drug Court, and to recommend appropriate sanctions and incentives. The Drug Court Prosecutor or his representative also attends Drug Court sessions;

Defense Attorney, who attends staffing sessions to evaluate your progress through the Court and to recommend appropriate sanctions and incentives. Once you enter the program, the obligations of your former attorney end, and it is the Drug Court Defense Attorney who speaks on your behalf at Drug Court staffing sessions; however, this person does *not* represent you in the traditional sense;

Treatment Coordinator, who acts as the primary contact person be-

tween treatment and the court, attends staffing and Drug Court sessions, maintains participant records, and provides oversight for treatment and probation services;

Sheriff's designated Drug Court Deputy, who provides accountability for your participation in the program by conducting unannounced field visits to your home and job and by participating in staffing sessions;

Drug Court Probation Officer, provides reports on compliance matters to the Drug Court Coordinator; and attends Drug Court Sessions;

WestCare Treatment Specialist, who attends staffing and Drug Court sessions and offers input on your treatment progress and recommends appropriate sanctions and incentives.

Participant Responsibilities

Once accepted into Drug Court, you must obey **all** program guidelines. Each Phase and each individual will have specific requirements. The general guidelines are as follows:

- ***Refrain from using alcohol and/or drugs;***
 - ◇ Attend all Court and treatment sessions, and be on time;
 - ◇ Complete all random alcohol and drug screens;
 - ◇ Attend community based self help meetings as assigned;
 - ◇ Obtain a sponsor of the same gender;
 - ◇ Comply with all education and employment requirements;
 - ◇ Bring all assigned treatment materials to every group session;
 - ◇ Complete community service requirements and turn in

documentation to the Drug Court Office weekly by Friday by 5:00pm. **No faxes will be accepted;**

- ◇ To know what your participant fees are at all times and to keep them current;
- ◇ Do not enter any business whose primary function is the sale of alcohol;
- ◇ Do not associate with people who use or possess drugs;
- ◇ Make sure your children under the age of 18 years old are accompanied by a non-Drug Court participant at all times at the courthouse and/or treatment facility;
- ◇ Immediately report any contact you have with any form of law enforcement;
- ◇ Do not possess any weapons while in Drug Court, and do not carry any weapons on your person or in your vehicle at the courthouse, 12-step meetings, or any treatment facility;
- ◇ Inform all medical persons that you come in contact with that you are a participant in the Drug Court Treatment Program;
- ◇ Free expression of your thoughts and feelings is encouraged; however, violence, threats, or intimidation will not be tolerated. Extreme use of profanity is not acceptable;
- ◇ No facial or tongue piercing of any kind in Drug Court office or treatment;
- ◇ No flip flop or "thong" footwear in Drug Court office or treatment.

Courtroom Behavior and Rules

- Attend all scheduled Court appearances on time and immediately be seated in the courtroom;
- Do not talk in the courtroom during Drug Court proceedings;
- Do not bring food or drink into the courtroom, or chairs from the hallway;
- Do not chew gum/candy in the courtroom;
- **When addressing the Judge, answer the judge with a "yes" sir or "no" sir and speak clearly so the Judge and other Team Members can hear your responses to the court. Respect awards will be given for disrespectful behavior such as responding to the judge with a "yeah" for example. Keep your hands out of your pockets;**
- Remain in the courtroom until excused by the Judge. Do not leave the courtroom for **any** reason (including the bathroom);
- Dress appropriately for Court and treatment sessions. Appropriate dress means:
 - ◊ Do not wear shorts (even during summer);
 - ◊ No torn or ripped jeans;
 - ◊ No hats, caps, or bandanas;
 - ◊ No gang attire of any kind;
 - ◊ No phones, pagers or electronic devices in Court or treatment;
 - ◊ No sagging pants that hang below the waist;
 - ◊ No tank tops, T-shirt, muscle shirts, or crop-tops;
 - ◊ All shirts must have a sleeve **(Including females)**. All males shirts must have a collar;

- ◇ No clothing advertising tobacco or alcohol products or attire with obscene words or pictures. anytime while in the program;
- ◇ **Have shirt tails tucked into pants;**
- ◇ No facial or tongue piercing of any kind in court
- ◇ No flip flop or “thong” footwear in the Drug Court office or treatment.

Treatment

Each participant who is accepted into the Intermediate Drug Court program will be required to attend treatment sessions located at the West-Care treatment facility. The treatment component of Drug Court is designed to provide a continuum of care during your recovery, rehabilitation, and reintegration into the community. To aid you in your treatment, each Phase of the Drug Court provides varying degrees of direct supervision and alcohol and drug screening. You will be required to attend treatment groups, family counseling sessions, individual treatment sessions, community based self help meetings, and case management meetings. As you successfully move through the Drug Court program, the intensity of these requirements will lessen and expectations for increased accountability in everyday life will increase.

Group Materials

You are expected to bring your group materials to each group. You are financially responsible for the replacement of any lost materials and will be sanctioned for anything that you do not have in group. Treatment is a vital part of the program and it is difficult to do without the proper materials.

Facility and Group Rules

All Drug Court-related activities and locations are an extension of the Drug Court. Your behavior should reflect this understanding at all times. This includes the treatment facility and parking lot, all other treatment locations, community service sites, special events, and any other function associated with Drug Court activity. Violations of program rules can result in sanctions and/or new criminal charges.

- ◇ No alcohol, drugs, weapons, or pocket knives will be brought to the facility.
- ◇ Groups will begin on time. You must be punctual, as tardiness will result in sanctions. You must attend and participate in the full session to receive credit.
- ◇ Confidentiality is a must. What is said in group stays in group! You can tell anyone what **you** say or do in group, but not what **others** say or do. There will be **significant consequences** to any violation to this rule.
- ◇ Attend a minimum of three (3) community based self help groups per week (with verification).
- ◇ Maintain relationship with permanent community based self help sponsor and meet with him/her face to face at least once weekly (with verification).
- ◇ Sponsor must call the counselor's extension weekly by Tuesday 4 pm.
- ◇ Be respectful and attentive to peers.
- ◇ Free expression of your thoughts and feelings is encouraged; however, violence, threats, or intimidation will not be tolerated.

Extreme use of profanity is not acceptable.

- ◇ Leave group only in an emergency after notifying a treatment staff member.
- ◇ Dress code: no tank tops, shorts, or dark glasses. No clothing advertising alcohol or drugs is permitted. No flip flops or “thong” shoes allowed. All hats are to be removed once inside the building. Appropriate hygiene is to be maintained.
- ◇ If you exhibit behaviors of harm to yourself or others, confidentiality will not apply, and the proper authorities and next of kin will be notified.
- ◇ Cell phones must be left in the car before entering the treatment facility. **They will be confiscated if they ring or beep.**
- ◇ No visitors allowed at the treatment facility unless attending a scheduled session.
- ◇ Smoking is not permitted on county property
- ◇ Cigarettes need to be left in your car with your cell phones.
- ◇ No littering in parking lot or buildings.
- ◇ Destroying or defacing county property will lead to sanctions and criminal charges.

Phase 1 Requirements:

Phase 1 is 13 weeks

3 groups/week

Curriculum Living in Balance (LIB), Thinking for Good (TFG),
and Drug Education.

1. Stay clean and sober; **Do not drink alcohol or use drugs.**
2. Attend on time and actively participate in all **3** groups each week.
3. Attend monthly court sessions
4. Provide urine samples as required for drug screens. This will occur on a random basis.
5. Provide documentation of a minimum of 32 hours per week of employment and keep regular attendance at work. If you are a full time student (minimum of 12 credits per semester/quarter) you must document continued enrollment and passing grades.
6. Have a minimum of 4 weeks without a sanction.
7. **Must provide proof of GED or High School completion.**
8. Schedule and participate in assessment.
9. Complete a phase up request and submit to your counselor 1 week prior to phasing up.
10. If you do not have your GED, you must take the TABE test before moving to phase 2.

Phase 2 Requirements:

13 weeks

2 groups +1 Individual weekly

Curriculum: Living in Balance (LIB), and Anger Management.

1. Stay clean and sober; Do not drink alcohol or use drugs.
2. Attend on time and actively participate in all 2 groups each week.
3. Attend monthly court sessions
4. Provide urine samples as required for drug screens. This will occur on a random basis.
5. Provide documentation of a minimum of 32 hours per week of

employment and keep regular attendance at work. If you are a full time student (minimum of 12 credits per semester/quarter) you must document continued enrollment and passing grades.

6. Have a minimum of 4 weeks without a sanction.
7. Complete a phase up request and submit to your counselor 1 week prior to phasing up.
8. If you do not have your GED, you must be taking classes to pass 1 section of the GED test before moving to phase 3.

Phase 3 Requirements:

13 weeks

2 groups + 1 individual weekly

Curriculum: Living in

Balance (LIB), and Seeking Safety

1. Stay clean and sober; Do not drink alcohol or use drugs.
2. Attend on time and actively participate in all 2 groups each week.
3. Attend monthly court sessions
4. Provide urine samples as required for drug screens. This will occur on a random basis.
5. Provide documentation of a minimum of 32 hours per week of employment and keep regular attendance at work. If you are a full time student (minimum of 12 credits per semester/quarter) you must document continued enrollment and passing grades.
6. Have a minimum of 4 weeks without a sanction.
7. If you do not have your GED, you must successfully complete 2 parts of the GED before moving to phase 4.

Phase 4 Requirements:

13 Weeks

1 group + 1 individual weekly

Curriculum: Staying Quit.

1. Stay clean and sober; Do not drink alcohol or use drugs.
2. Attend on time and actively participate in all group each week.
3. Attend monthly court sessions
4. Provide urine samples as required for drug screens. This will occur on a random basis.
5. Provide documentation of a minimum of 32 hours per week of employment and keep regular attendance at work. If you are a full time student (minimum of 12 credits per semester/quarter) you must document continued enrollment and passing grades.
6. Have a minimum of 4 weeks without a sanction.
7. Must complete 1 section of the GED (3rd section overall) if you do not have your GED before graduating.

Phase Up Requests

When an intermediate participant is ready to phase up, they must pay their fees to \$0 and present the receipt to drug court staff. Drug court staff will verify the participant is at \$0 and initial the receipt. The participant will then take the receipt to their counselor and the counselor will then sign off on a phase up request. The participant will return the request to court staff and it will be forwarded to Judge Kell for approval. Once the request has been approved, an email will be sent to treatment stating the participant can phase up. Participants cannot phase up until treatment receives notification from the court.

Graduation and Terminations Criteria

One month before completion of Phase IV, the participant will complete an application for graduation and turn it into the Program Coordinator for it to be reviewed and approved by the Drug Treatment Court Team. An exit interview will be scheduled and the participant will go before the entire Drug Treatment Court Team for their approval of graduation.

When participants successfully meet all Drug Treatment Court obligations, formal graduation ceremonies are conducted. Successful completion of the Drug Treatment Court Program consists of the following conditions:

- Pay all program fees
- Completion of all treatment requirements
- Write a letter to arresting officer
- Be crime free
- 6 months of sobriety and negative drug screens
- Full time employment or student
- Report for and pass his/her last drug test 30 minutes before actual graduation ceremonies begin

Graduation recognizes the participant's accomplishments. The Drug Treatment Court Team, all Drug Treatment Court interveners, and even the arresting officers are invited to the graduation. This ceremony is an excellent example of what cooperation between criminal justice agencies can achieve. Graduates may be presented with a certificate of achievement and a token of congratulations. Post graduation activities include an alumni association, and aftercare plans.

A participant who successfully completes the Drug Treatment Court Program will have his or her case *nolle prosequi*, or *fulfill a portion of their suspended sentence which avoids serving jail time*. Within 30 days of completion, the participant will be mailed their dismissal/ *nolle prosequi* or be contacted by the District Attorney's office to complete their case.

While graduates no longer need to appear in court, they will be encouraged to be involved with aftercare, and occasionally update the Judge and Drug Treatment Court Team of their success in the community.

Alcohol and Drug Testing

You will be alcohol and drug tested randomly throughout every phase of Drug Court. Methods of testing will include portable alcohol detection devices (such as a Breathalyzer) and urine analysis. When giving a urine sample, you will be observed by someone of the same gender to ensure freedom from errors or tampering.

- If you have a positive test in any phase, the Judge, based on recommendations from the Drug Court Team, will apply immediate sanctions, including, but not limited to, jail time to help you refrain from alcohol or drug use.
- All diluted samples with a creatinine of 19 ng or below will be counted as a positive. Dilute drug screens cannot be contested
- If you miss a test, it will count as a positive (dirty) test.
- If you are late for a drug screen, you will be tested but will receive a sanction for a missed screen.
- At the close of each time (except Sundays), no more chain of custody forms will be given out for ANY REASON after that time, you must produce within 2 minutes of entering the room, you will only have 2 attempts, and all screening will stop 25 minutes after the closing time.
- Failure to submit a specimen within 25 minutes of testing closing time will count as a positive test.
- You must call in to the alcohol drug testing line each day to see if you are scheduled for a screen. The phone number for drug testing is 678-261-5869. The website is [HTTPS://doi.testday.com](https://doi.testday.com). Document any confirmation number given.
- Each day's information will be available from 5a.m. to 4 p.m.

- All holidays will follow a Sunday testing schedule.

If for any reason you cannot access the alcohol/drug testing line or testing location, it is your responsibility to report to the treatment center during scheduled alcohol/drug testing hours.

Unless you are told to report elsewhere, alcohol/drug testing will be conducted at the treatment center.

Drug testing hours are as follows:

Monday.....Test at drug lab 9:00-11:30 am or 1:00-4:30 pm

Tuesday-Friday 5:00—5:30pm

Saturday. 8:15 am—9:15 am

Sunday 8:45 a.m. (at work release)

YOU CAN NOT REPORT ANYTIME AFTER THIS TIME. IF YOU SIGN IN AFTER THIS TIME AND THEY STILL LET YOU TEST, IT WILL NOT COUNT.

If you are required to appear for a test on a Sunday, you will report to the Cobb Sheriff’s Office Work Release Center located at 1825 County Services Parkway, Marietta, Georgia 30080. Directions to this facility can be found in the back of this handbook.

You must be punctual and be prepared to submit a specimen during the specified time. **Tampering with or diluting a alcohol/drug screen can be grounds for termination from the Drug Court program.**

- Only one participant is allowed in the testing area at a time. A staff

member must accompany you at all times during alcohol/drug testing.

- You must make sure that both your name and date are on the specimen bottle.
- You must indicate an admission or denial of alcohol/drug use when arriving at the treatment facility before a specimen is obtained.

Honesty is a crucial component for recovery and for participation in the Drug Court program. Admitting that you have used drugs and/or alcohol will be considered by the Court when sanctions are imposed.

- You will not be allowed to leave the testing area or to drink excessive fluids until a specimen is rendered.
- You may not carry purses, coats, bags, etc. into the testing area.
- Shirt sleeves should be rolled up to the elbow, and you may be asked to remove additional clothing to ensure the validity of a specimen. You should lift your shirt to waist level and pants/underwear should be pulled to the knees before the specimen is obtained.
- The urine in the bottle must be at or above the temperature strip to be adequate for testing. If the sample is positive and the amount of urine provided is not at or above the temperature strip, the participant will not be able to contest the results.
- You must make sure that the specimen bottle is closed properly. If a sample is not sealed properly then it is not testable and will be counted as a positive.

Dilute Drug Screens

Dilute drug screens occur when an individual drinks too much fluid / liquid of any kind in a short period of time, usually in an effort to flush

their system of alcohol and drugs.

We encourage everyone to drink at least six 8 ounce glasses of water each day to maintain a healthy body system. Your body will maintain homeostasis, an equilibrium, in which you take in fluids and excrete waste fluids in the urine according to your body's needs. This occurs normally in the absence of kidney disease.

Creatinine is a by-product of protein metabolism; any unused creatinine is dissolved in the urine as a waste product. It is easily measured in relationship to the amount of fluid in which it is dissolved. For drug screening purposes, there is no other reason to measure creatinine other than to be able to tell whether or not a person is trying to dilute their urine. The more fluid in urine, the less creatinine can be measured. The less fluid in urine, the more creatinine can be measured. The normal level of creatinine in urine ranges from 60 mg/dl to 300 mg/dl. A dilute urine sample means that the creatinine level is equal to or below 19mg/dl. The creatinine levels can change daily, but most people will have a "normal" value range for themselves most of the time.

Eating extra protein, exercising, and running have no significant effect on the creatinine level measured in urine due to the body's built-in equalizer, homeostasis. The only thing that affects a dilute sample is the amount of fluid taken in within a short period of time prior to providing the urine sample. If you are seeing results that show you are getting close to a dilute sample, try to stop drinking any fluids 2-4 hours prior to providing the sample. Then resume your normal fluid intake. You should not "hold" your urine for a long time before giving a sample. This is not good for your bladder and will not have a significant effect on urine dilution. Try to

avoid more than 1-2 cups of tea per day since tea is a diuretic. In other words, it causes your body to make extra urine and may throw off your normal body balance if taken in excessive amounts. This can lead to a dilute urine sample. Avoid products that claim to "beat a drug test". These usually are nothing but a diuretic in disguise.

If you have a medically diagnosed kidney disease, you will need to bring proper documentation from your physician that states specifically why you might test with dilute urine specimens. This should be done prior to admission into the program and may be a reason to exclude you from participation in the program.

If you have any questions or concerns, please discuss them with the court, your counselor, program manager and your physician.

Recent advances in the science of alcohol detection in urine have greatly increased the ability to detect even trace amounts of alcohol consumption. In addition, these tests are capable of detecting alcohol ingestion for significantly longer periods of time after a drinking episode. Because these tests are sensitive, in rare circumstances, exposure to non-beverage alcohol sources can result in detectable levels of alcohol. In order to preserve the integrity of the Drug Court testing program, it has become necessary for us to restrict and/or advise Drug Court participants regarding the use of certain alcohol-containing products.

It is **YOUR** responsibility to limit your exposure to the products and substances detailed below that contain ethyl alcohol. It is **YOUR** responsibility to read product labels, to know what is contained in the products you use and consumed and to stop and inspect these products.

BEFORE you use them. ***Use of the products detailed below in***

violation of this contract will NOT be allowed as an excuse for a positive test result. When in doubt do not consume Cough syrups and other liquid medications: Drug Court participants have always been prohibited from using alcohol containing cough/cold syrups, such as Nyquil®. Other cough syrup brands and numerous other liquid medications, rely upon ethyl alcohol as a solvent. Drug Court participants are required to read product labels carefully to determine if they contain ethyl alcohol (ethanol). All prescription and over-the-counter medications should be reviewed with your case manager before use. Information on the composition of prescription medications should be available upon request from your pharmacist. Non-alcohol containing cough and cold remedies are readily available at most pharmacies and major retail stores.

Non-Alcoholic Beer and Wine: Although legally considered non-alcoholic, NA beers (e.g. O'Douls®, Sharps®) do contain a residual amount of alcohol that may result in a positive test result for alcohol, if consumed. Drug Court participants are ***not*** permitted to ingest NA beer or NA wine.

Food and Other Ingestible Products: There are numerous other consumable products that contain ethyl alcohol that could result in a positive test for alcohol. Flavoring extracts, such as vanilla or almond extract, and liquid herbal extracts (such as Ginko Biloba), could result in a positive screen for alcohol or its breakdown products. Communion wine, food cooked with wine, and flambé dishes (alcohol poured over a food and ignited such as cherries jubilee, baked Alaska) must be avoided. Read carefully the labels on any liquid herbal or homeopathic remedy and do not ingest without approval from your case manager.

Mouthwash and Breath Strips: Most mouthwashes (Listermint[®], Cepacol[®], etc) and other breath cleansing products contain ethyl alcohol. The use of mouthwashes containing ethyl alcohol can produce a positive test result. Drug Court participants are required to read product labels and educate themselves as to whether a mouthwash product contains ethyl alcohol. Use of ethyl alcohol-containing mouthwashes and breath strips by Drug Court participants is not permitted. Non-alcohol mouthwashes are readily available and are an acceptable alternative. If you have questions about a particular product, bring it in to discuss with your case manager.

Hand Sanitizers: Hand sanitizers (e.g. Purell[®], Germex[®], etc.) and other antiseptic gels and foams used to disinfect hands contain up to 70% ethyl alcohol. Excessive, unnecessary or repeated use of these products could result in a positive urine test. Hand washing with soap and water are just as effective for killing germs.

Hygiene Products: Aftershave and colognes, hair sprays and mousse, astringents, insecticides (bug sprays such as Off[®]) and some body washes contain ethyl alcohol. While it is unlikely that limited use of these products would result in a positive test for alcohol (or its breakdown products) excessive, unnecessary or repeated use of these products could affect test results. Participants must use such products sparingly to avoid reaching detection levels. Just as the court requires Drug Court participants to regulate their fluid intake to avoid dilute urine samples, it is likewise incumbent upon each participant to limit their use of topically applied (on the skin) products containing ethyl alcohol.

Solvents and Lacquers. Many solvents, lacquers and surface preparation products used in industry, construction, and the home, contain ethyl alcohol. Both excessive inhalation of vapors, and topical exposure to such products, can potentially cause a positive test result for alcohol. As with the products noted above, Drug Court participants must educate themselves as to the ingredients in the products they are using. There are alternatives to nearly any item containing ethyl alcohol. Frequency of use and duration of exposure to such products should be kept to a minimum. A positive test result will not be excused by reference to use of an alcohol-based solvent.

If you are in employment where contact with such products cannot be avoided, *you need to discuss this with your Case Manager.* Do not wait for a positive test result to do so.

Contesting Positive Results

If a participant wishes to contest a positive result, he/she must pay \$50 before the specimen will be sent to the lab. Dilute drug screens cannot be contested. The specimen will be sent to Redwood and tested at level of detection. If the result is confirmed positive, the sanction will be doubled. If the result is not confirmed, the participant will get a refund of the \$50 drug screen fee.

Remember! When in doubt, don't use, consume or apply.

MEDICATION GUIDELINES

It is likely that most chemically dependent people will need medications, both prescription and over-the-counter, at some point in their recovery process. When this becomes necessary, any medication should only be taken as prescribed by their primary care physician in conjunction with their addiction specialist. If you have concerns about medications and over-the-counter products that are not listed in the guide, please consult your group therapist.

Please follow these guidelines:

1. Obtain a copy of "letter to my doctor". Report all medications to your therapist at orientation and during the program when prescribed.
2. **NO Drug OF ANY KIND IS TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THE TREATMENT STAFF.**
3. In case of an emergency, when treatment staff can not be reached (for example over night or on a weekend), medications given by an emergency professional may be taken, but within 24 hours, you must notify the treatment staff or court staff of the situation and medication taken. Bring proof of medical treatment and a copy of any prescription given or the actual bottle of medication to your treatment therapist on the next calendar day.
4. Take a copy of the "letter to my doctor" indicating you are unable to take mood altering medications on a routine basis to all of your physicians. Have them sign the form and return a copy to treatment. **This is important each time you see a new doctor and even**

in emergency cases so obtain several copies for use during the program.

5. Do not take herbal supplements and teas, diet aids, muscle building substances, power drinks, etc. while enrolled in the program. **These sometimes contain chemicals that will cause a positive test on a drug screen for certain individuals. Anyone taking these substances who tests positive will be sanctioned accordingly.**
6. Many foods, sauces, desserts, and soups contain alcohol or sugar alcohol. Some over-the-counter products, cold/allergy and cough medications, also contain alcohol and/or pseudo-ephedrine products and detromethorphan (DM). **All of these products are prohibited and may result in a positive drug test. Anyone taking these products who tests positive will be sanctioned accordingly.**
7. Most antibiotic medications may be taken without resulting in a positive drug screen. **LEVAQUIN**, a strong antibiotic medication, may cause a positive test result for some individuals and is, therefore, **NOT APPROVED** to take. Ask your doctor to prescribe an alternative medication.
8. Most antidepressant medications may be taken without resulting in a positive drug screen. **WELLBUTRIN**, a common antidepressant medication, may cause a positive test result for some individuals and is, therefore, **NOT APPROVED** to take. Ask your doctor to prescribe an alternative medication.
9. **MOST PRESCRIPTION PAIN MEDICATIONS ARE NOT APPROVED FOR ROUTINE USE.** Ask your doctor about using

NSAIDs, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. Motrin 800 mg is suggested for moderate to severe pain. All NSAIDs may cause gastro-intestinal problems and should be taken only with approval from your doctor.

10. Use of **SUBOXONE**, for pain management, **IS NOT APPROVED**.

11. Use of **Soma** **IS NOT APPROVED**.

12. Routine use of **ULTRAM**, for pain management, **IS NOT APPROVED**.

12. Short-term use of **CAMPRAL**, for cravings, is approved.

13. **ZANTAC**, commonly used for stomach problems, may cause a positive drug test for some individuals and is, therefore, **NOT APPROVED**. Ask your doctor to prescribe an alternative medication.

14. Most beauty products, sprays, lotions, hand sanitizers, mouth washes, sore throat sprays, and tinctures contain alcohol or sugar alcohol. Use only alcohol-free products during the program.

Anyone using these products who tests positive on a drug screen will be sanctioned accordingly.

15. Numbing injections given at a dental office are approved. Please remember that these are guidelines to follow during the program. If you or your doctor have questions at any time, make sure you ask **BEFORE** using a product or taking medications

**These are Safe Medications to Take but MUST
STILL BE APPROVED BEFORE TAKING**

Pain/Headaches

Ansaid (flurbiprofen) misoprostol)	Arthrotec (diclofenac/
Cataflam (diclofenac)	Celebrex (celecoxib)
Clinoril (sulindac)	Daypro (oxaprozin)
Dolobid (diflunisal)	Feldene (piroxicam)
Indocin/Indocin LA (indomethacin)	Lodine (etodolac)
Mobic (meloxicam)	Motrin (ibuprofen)
Naprosyn/Anaprox/Naprelan (naproxen)	Orudis/Oruvail

Pain/Headaches

Ansaid (flurbiprofen) misoprostol)	Arthrotec (diclofenac/
Cataflam (diclofenac)	Celebrex (celecoxib)
Clinoril (sulindac)	Daypro (oxaprozin)
Dolobid (diflunisal)	Feldene (piroxicam)
Indocin/Indocin LA (indomethacin)	Lodine (etodolac)
Mobic (meloxicam)	Motrin (ibuprofen)
Naprosyn/Anaprox/Naprelan (naproxen)	Orudis/Oruvail (ketoprofen)
Ponstel (mefanamic acid)	Relafen (nabumetone)
Tolectin/Tolectin DS (tolmetin)	Toradol (ketorolac)
Voltaren (diclofenac)	

Migraine

Amerge (naratriptan)
Frova (frovatriptan)
Maxalt (rizatriptan)

Axert (almotriptan)
Imitrex (sumatriptan)
Relpax (eletriptan)

Pain Medications

Actron
Advil
Advil Migraine
Aleve Arthritis
Anacin
Anacin-3
Bayer Aspirin
BC Headache Powder
Doan's Backache
Ecotrin
Excedrin Migraine
HeadOn
Orudis KT
Tylenol Arthritis Pain
Tylenol Go Tabs
Tylenol Rapid Release
Rimantadine
Valtrex (valacyclovir)

ActivOn
Advil LiquiGels
Aleve
Aleve Liquid Gels
Anacin Aspirin Free
Aspirin
BC Arthritis Strength
Bufferin

Excedrin
Excedrin Tension Headache
Motrin IB
Tylenol 8 Hour
Tylenol Extra Strength
Tylenol Menstrual Relief
Tylenol Regular Strength
Tamiflu (oseltamivir)
Zovirax (acyclovir)

Allergy - Over the Counter

Claritin (loratadine)

Tavist-1 (clemastine fumarate)

Alavert (loratadine)

Zyrtec (cetirizine)

Allergy - Prescription Only

Allegra (fexofedadine)

Beconase/Beconase AQ

Vancenase/Vancenase AQ (beclomethasone)

Clarinox (desloratadine)

Flonase (fluticasone)

Nasacort/Nasacort AQ (triamcinolone)

Nasarel (flunisolide)

Nasonex (mometasone)

Rhinocort (budesonide)

Oral Care/Mouthwash

Mouthwash/Dental Care

Crest Pro Health Mouthwash

Gly-Oxide

Oral-B Alcohol Free Mouthwash

Peridex (chlorhexadine)

PerioGard (chlorhexadine)

Stomach Problems/Nausea/Dizziness

Diarrhea/Upset Stomach/Heartburn/Constipation

Alka Seltzer

Beano

Colace

Correctol

Daisorb

Donnagel

Dulcolax

Ex-Lax

Fiber Con

Gas-X

Imodium AD

Lactinex

Mylanta

Pepcid AC

Pepto-Bismol

Prilosec OTC

Tagamet HB

Zomig (zolmitriptan)

Nausea/Vertigo

Emetrol

Pepto-Bismol

Imodium Advanced

MaaloxMylanta

Mylanta Gas

Pepcid Complete

Phazyme

Rolaids

TUMS

Nauzene

Sedatives/Anxiety Agents

Warm Milk

L-Tryptophan

Melatonin

Anorexiant, Stimulants and Weight Control

Alli (orlistat)

Slim Fast Optima

Slim Mint Gum

Slender Now

Slim Fast Powder/

Shakes

Xenical (orlistat)

Do NOT take Medications containing Phenylephrine,

Pseudoephedrine, or Dextromethorphan (DM)

Pseudoephedrine Allergies/Cough/Cold/Flu

The medications listed below may contain Phenylephrine, Pseudoephedrine or Dextromethorphan (DM). If the medications contain the above ingredients, DO NOT take them. Otherwise, they are safe to take.

Example: You may take mucinex but not mucinex D or DM. If it contains one of the above ingredients, DO NOT take.

Cough & Cold

Airborne

Cepacol Sore Throat Spray

Chloraseptic Lozenges

Cold Eze Zinc Lozenges

Halls Cough Drops

N'ICE

Ayr Nasal Spray (saline mist)

Robitussin Chest Congestion (alcohol free)

Robitussin Honey Cough Drops

Sucrets Defense

Cepacol Sore Throat

Lozenges

Chloraseptic Daily Defense

Chloraseptic Spray

Fisherman's Friend Cough
Drops

Mucinex

Ocean Nasal Spray
(saline mist)

Ricola Cough Drops

Robitussin Cough Drops

Sucrets Cough Drops

TheraFlu Chest Congestion

Tylenol Chest Congestion (alcohol free)

Vicks 44 Sore Throat
Lozenges

Vicks 44 Sore Throat Spray

Vicks Casero

Vicks Cough Drops

Vicks VapoRub

Zicam

Antivirals

Amantadine

Famvir (famciclovir)

Schedule

The Drug Court Team meets for staffing every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in order to prepare for Court that afternoon. Drug Court convenes at 2:30 p.m. and lasts for approximately 1 1/2 hours. You should plan to arrive no later than 2:15 p.m. Please keep in mind that Drug Court sessions are open to the public, but staffing is not.

Group treatment schedules vary depending on what phase you are in .

Drug Court will convene at 2:30 p.m. on graduation days.

PHASE	COURT SCHEDULE
1	MONTHLY
2	MONTHLY
3	MONTHLY
4	MONTHLY

Everyone is expected to be in court on time, no excuses.

Each participant will be required to attend court sessions as follows:

Attendance

As a participant in Drug Court, you are required to attend all assigned Drug Court sessions and all assigned treatment sessions (group, individual, and/or family). Failure to attend as required will result in progressive sanctions including, but not limited to, a warrant being issued for your arrest.

There are 4 phases to the program with varying degrees of supervision and drug screening. A group schedule is as follows:

Phase	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1		6:00—7:00p	6:00—7:00p	6:00—7:00p		
2		6:00-7:00p	6:00-7:00p			
3		5:00-6:00p	5:00-6:00p			
4				5:00-6:00p		

Each participant will be required to complete a 1 week pre-treatment (orientation) group before beginning phase 1.

Phase 1 (minimum of 13 weeks) Phase 2 (minimum of 13 weeks)
Phase 3 (minimum of 13 weeks) Phase 4 (minimum of 13 weeks)

Each participant will be required to attend at least 3 12 step or community self help meetings, in addition to the treatment sessions.

Special requests to be excused from Drug Court sessions and/or treatment sessions must be approved in advance by the Drug Court Judge and Team.

The following procedure must be followed:

1. All requests are to be submitted in writing (in person, not via fax) by Wednesday to your counselor. **It is your responsibility to submit the request in time to have it considered at the next regular staffing session.**

2. Doctors appointments are not a valid reason to miss any of your sessions.

3. You must be present in court for your request to be approved.

Only ***legitimate*** excuses will be considered. Birthdays, anniversaries, vacations, and concerts are not considered legitimate reasons for missing Court or treatment. In the event of a sudden life threatening illness and/or death in the immediate family, you may proceed as needed.

("Immediate family" includes your spouse, children, siblings, parents, and grandparents **only**.) Contact a Drug Court Team member by phone the next business day, and obtain proof of relationship, medical records, or an obituary to be submitted upon your return to the program.

No leave requests will be granted until you are in Phase 3 of the program.

Residency

You are required to maintain residency in Cobb County during the duration of your time in Drug Court. **Before moving** to a different address within the county, you must complete a change of residence request form and get approval for such change from the Drug Court Team.

Sober Living

From time to time, participants will live in a sober living facility. Participants will be allowed to live in the same sober living facility as another accountability court participant if that facility is accredited.

Curfew

While you are in Drug Court, you will be placed under a curfew. Unless you are specifically told otherwise by the Judge, **your curfew is midnight to 5:00 a.m.** During the hours of your curfew, you will be expected to be at your primary residence. Violating curfew will result in sanctions. Requests to be out after curfew, whether for work or other purposes, must be approved by the Drug Court Team.

Ancillary Services

Often times, participants are in need of services not offered by the drug court program. When participants need additional services, referrals will be made to outside agencies to assist participants. The drug court program partners with Cobb Works and they provide assistance with educational and employment assistance. Services provided through Cobb Works include assistance with the TABE test and all sections of the GED as well as job training, resume assistance and interviewing skills. The coordinator or case manager will make a referral to Cobb Works when those

services are requested. Cobb Works will then contact the participant to set up the initial appointment. Participants in need of MAT (medically assisted treatment) will be referred to the treatment coordinator. She will then assist the participant in finding a doctor or program best suited for their situation. If a participant is in need of mental health counseling or an outside evaluation is needed, the participant can speak with their counselor who will assist them with that referral. The Case Manager will also assist participants with housing, transportation and medical and dental referrals.

Employment

You are required to maintain approved employment or be enrolled in school full-time throughout the Drug Court program.

Only jobs with reportable income will be approved. That means that your employer must take taxes out on you and "cash only" jobs will **NOT** be approved.

If you are in business for yourself, you must turn in copies of quarterly paid taxes for proof.

No participant will be allowed to work at a vape or head shop while in the program.

Failure to have and maintain a job will result in sanctions. If you enter the program without a job, you will be given 2 weeks to look for employment before ordered to "daily report". During this time, you must

provide the Drug Court Office with sufficient proof that you are *actively* searching for a job. Daily reporting consist of the following:

1. Tuesday and Wednesday, you will do 8 hours of community service.
2. Thursday and Friday, be at the Drug Court office at 8:30 a.m.;
3. **BE ON TIME.** You will be given 1 hour of community service for every minute you are late past 8:30 a.m.
4. **Be dressed and ready for interviews;**
5. Obtain a Job Seeking Form and make 8 contacts daily;
6. Your form must be completely filled out and returned to the Drug Court office the next day or by 5 pm.
5. Once you secure employment, you must still complete 8 hours of community service daily until you **BEGIN EMPLOYMENT.**

Work or school verification must be turned in to the Case Manager **every month in court.** If you do not turn it in on this day, then you are ordered to start daily reporting the following morning, **NO EXCEPTIONS** until proof of employment and/or school is verified.

Everyday that you do not daily report, you will be ordered to complete **8 hours** of community service for non-compliance. Employment verification can be a current paystub or a letter from your employer on their letter head. For school a letter on the school's letter head or a current copy of your school schedule. No participant will be allowed to work at a vape or head shop.

Smoking

Smoking is not allowed on Cobb County Court House Property. No participant will be allowed to use e-cigarettes, hookah or vaping devices while in

the program.

Intermediate Court Fees

As a condition of participation in Drug Court, you are required to pay all program fees. Accepted forms of payment are cash, money orders, cashier's check. Personal checks or credit cards are not permitted. If you would like to pre-pay your program fees, you are free to do so.

Prior to making your first payment, you will be given a fee card that shows your name and case number. To ensure that your payment is properly credited towards your Drug Court program fee (as opposed to your fines), you must present this fee card to the clerk when making your weekly payment. There will be a \$5 charge for a lost fee card.

Failure to pay program fees will result in sanctions. If your fees are over \$150 on the day of court, you have until 3:00 pm to pay your fees and MUST provide proof of payment to the drug court office by that time or you will be ordered to complete community service. If your outstanding **fees exceed \$150**, you will be required to complete and provide proof of **eight(8) hours** of community service that will be due by Friday with proof in the Drug Court office. Faxes will not be accepted. Failure to complete your community service will result in your community service being doubled. If your fees exceed \$300, you could be sanctioned up to and including incarceration until the fee balance is paid to \$0. You will also be required to attend court weekly until your fees are below \$300.

All Drug Court program fees must be paid in full before 3 pm in order to be eligible for Phase transition and graduation from the program.

Community Service

It is your responsibility to check the Community Service Log weekly to see if you are on it. It is your responsibility to find a suitable place to complete your community service within Cobb County. You can not complete community service at your place of work. Proof of community service must be documented on the company letterhead and turned into the Drug Court office by 5 pm on Fridays. Anything turned in (or slide under the door) late will not be excepted and your original hours will double.

Supervision

The Drug Court Deputy will monitor the participant's progress in many ways. The Drug Court Deputy will randomly visit participant's school and place of business to monitor compliance. The deputy will be in an unmarked car and dressed in plain clothes during job/school verifications as to not disrupt the participant's activities. It may be necessary for the deputy to speak with a participant's teacher or employer only if identified that the said participant is not in compliance.

The Drug Court Deputy will randomly visit participant's home for curfew checks and has the right to search the home or vehicle at any time. The participant has waived their fourth amendment rights at admission into

the program.

AWOL Participants

If a participant elects to go AWOL from the drug court program, he/she will be self terminated on day 31 after going AWOL. After they are incarcerated, there will be no discussion as to whether or not a participant will remain in the program and they will then be sentenced

Sanctions

Drug Treatment Court embodies a carrot-and-stick approach in order to promote a drug and alcohol-free environment. Sanctions are the result of the participant failing to comply with the requirements of the Drug Treatment Court Program. Sanctions assist the participant in recognizing behaviors that may result in dismissal from the program. Sanctions will be discussed at staffing, among the Drug Treatment Court Team, and the appropriate sanction will be imposed based on the behavior and individual participant. Sanctions for noncompliance with program requirements become more severe as the frequency and severity of transgressions increase.

Below is a protocol guideline for sanctions but is not limited. The Judge holds final decision with ordering sanctions.

Behavior	Sanction
Positive/ Missed Drug Screen	3 day incarceration
Positive/ Missed Drug Screen	7 days incarceration
Positive/ Missed Drug Screen	14 days incarceration
Positive/ Missed Drug Screen	Consider termination hearing or higher level of care
Positive/ Missed Drug Screen	28 day incarceration
Unable to provide urine sample within allotted time	Equal to a positive screen
Late Drug Screen	Equal to a positive screen
Submitting tainted/ diluted drug screen	Grounds for termination
Late Participant Fees	No transition into next phase
When \$150 past due,	8 hrs Community Service
When \$300 past due,	incarceration until fees are paid in full
Curfew Violation	1 day Incarceration
Poor Attitude/ Disrespect	Essay or Respect Award
Missed Court Appearance	Increased court appearances
Missed Treatment Group	For every day missed of treatment, 24 hours incarceration
Late or missed Community Service	community service doubles
Missed community self help meeting	Daily Meetings
Forging community self help sign in form	Termination and possible new charges
Failure to turn in community self help sign in forms	Daily meeting
New criminal charges	Termination hearing
Failure to progress in treatment	Therapeutic Response

Incentives

Incentives reward participants for making positive steps toward attaining a drug free, crime free lifestyle. The most powerful incentive is the dismissal of the felony charge or probation violation. This in and of itself is a great incentive for successful completion of the Drug Treatment Court Program. Other incentives include:

- ✦ Praise from the Judge;
 - ✦ Promotion to the next phase;
 - ✦ Certificates;
 - ✦ Fast Pass (move to the front of the drug screen line)
 - ✦ Decreased court and treatment visits;
 - ✦ Permission for out of town vacations;
 - ✦ More personal responsibility and the privilege of mentoring newer participants;
 - ✦ Reduction in community service hours;
 - ✦ Gift Cards
 - ✦ Incentive Cards to be used for 1 vacation day or 5 hours of public service
- Recovery from drug/alcohol addiction.

Participants might also be awarded incentives for their personal achievements, such as obtaining a General Equivalency Diploma (GED), maintaining employment, rebuilding relationships with family, and increased self-esteem and respect.

You may also earn a **FAST PASS** Incentive for any positive notable behavior in the program. A FAST PASS gives you the opportunity to jump to the front of the drug testing line but is only valid for one use and must be presented at time of use.

*****Any jail sanction will result in a forfeit of all incentive vouchers earned.**

Community Service as an Alternative to Incarceration (CSAI)

You may be sanctioned for various infractions in the program but most often for not completing your ordered community service. You may choose to serve your CSAI hours in jail immediately. You must work **BOTH** CSAI days to receive credit and must make up any group missed. You will be held back in treatment for this sanction according to which phase you are in.

1. **Start Times** On the first day you are scheduled to work in the C.S.A.I. program you are to report to the COBB COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL, , no later than 9:30 A.M. Each day thereafter you may report no later than 9:30 A.M. Each day the program will conclude and you will be released no later than 4:00 P.M., but not earlier than 2:00 P.M.
2. **Tardiness** will not be acceptable. Participants reporting to the program later than fifteen (15) minutes after the start times, will not be allowed to work on that day and be considered as an unexcused absence.
3. **Absences** Once participation in the program has begun you are to report each day of each weekend and the C.S.A.I. program is scheduled until the Court's sentence is satisfied. Any absences from the program will be considered as UNEXCUSED unless authorized by the Court. Absences due to illness must be documented by a doctor or health care facility. All medical excuses are to be approved by the Court.
4. **Apparel** Clothing worn by participants must be suitable for outside

labor. Participants must wear long pants, NO SHORTS, shirt, socks and shoes. Shirts may be long or short sleeve. Shirts cannot be sleeveless, revealing, provocative or expose the shoulders or midriff. Work type boots are preferred, however, participants may wear tennis shoes as long as they are substantially sound. Socks must be worn. No flip flops, sandals or other open toed shoes will be allowed.

- 5. Tobacco** No tobacco products are allowed. All tobacco products found in the possession of participants will be confiscated and destroyed.
- 7. Valuables** All jewelry, money and other personal items will be confiscated but returned at the end of the day. Do not bring these items to this program.
- 8. Lunch** A sack lunch will be provided. DO NOT bring food or drink to the program.
- 9. Alcohol and Illegal Drugs** No alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs are to be brought on the premises of the Cobb County Animal Control or to the C.S.A.I. program. Any participants exhibiting signs of alcohol or illegal drug use will be immediately removed from the program and instructed to report the incident to Court. All participants may be subjected to test of their breath, urine or other bodily substances for alcohol or illegal drugs and if the test is positive the participant may be held at Animal Control until, at the discretion of the Supervising Officer, he or she may be safely released. All positive tests will be promptly reported to the Drug Court office and the Judge.
- 10. Behavior** County Officials, at their discretion, may remove a participant from the C.S.A.I. program for inappropriate behavior. All participants are expected to treat all personnel, supervisors and other participants with courtesy and respect. Profanity is not allowed nor is

casual conversation between participants. Physical contact with the public is prohibited. All participants are expected to follow immediately the reasonable instructions of Officials or the work crew supervisor. Participants are not to leave the assigned work site.

GED/High School Diploma

You must complete all GED requirements before graduating from the drug court program. Make sure that Court Administration has a copy of your completion and/or passing scores. No online programs will be accepted unless the test is taken in person at a court approved testing site.

List of sites:

1. The Center of Family Resources— 770 428 2601
2. Cobb County Adult Education Center— 678 594 8011
3. Cobbworks—770 528 4617
4. Marietta Church of God 770 971 4232
5. New Hope Gospel Ministries—404 933 6163
6. South Cobb Library 678 398 5828
7. North Metro Technical College—770 387 4032
8. Department of Technical & Adult Education—404 679 1621
9. Atlanta Technical College 404 225 4468
10. AFPLS Central Library—404 679 1621

Participants will receive one (1) incentive card for each section of the GED he or she passes.

Directions to the Cobb County Jail/Work Release

The Cobb County Jail is located at 1825 County Services Parkway, between Austell Road and Powder Springs Road, approximately 4.5 miles southwest of the Marietta Square.

If you are coming from Atlanta, take I-75 north to Windy Hill Road, exit #260. At the top of the ramp turn left onto Windy Hill Road. Proceed west approximately 6.4 miles on Windy Hill Road, which will dead end into Austell Road. Turn right on Austell Road and proceed to the next traffic light at County Services Parkway. Turn left onto County Services Parkway. Proceed on County Services Parkway approximately one mile. The Cobb County Jail entrance will be on your right. The sign will be marked "The Cobb County Adult Detention Center."

If you are coming south from Cartersville, take I-75 south to the North Marietta Parkway, exit #265. Turn right at the bottom of the ramp. Proceed approximately 5.3 miles to County Services Parkway. Turn left onto County Services Parkway. Proceed on County Services Parkway approximately ½ mile. The Cobb County Jail entrance will be on your left. The sign will be marked "The Cobb County Adult Detention Center." If you are coming from South Cobb, go north on Austell Road. Turn left onto County Services Parkway. Proceed on County Services Parkway approximately one mile. The Cobb County Jail entrance will be on your right. The sign will be marked "The Cobb County Adult Detention Center."

Sick Policy

If you are unable to attend court or group due to sickness, you must have a doctor's note or be approved by treatment or court administration staff. You must speak directly with staff 2 hours prior to group starting in order to be excused. If you have a doctor's excuse it must be obtained **before** your group/court time is scheduled to begin.

You must always present the "letter to the physician" to any medical personnel prior to medical treatment. If you fail to do so, you will be sanctioned.

Request and Phase Change Process

All requests must be in writing on a "Special Request" or "Phase change" form and turned into your counselor by group time on Thursday only. Late requests will **NOT** be accepted. You must be in court to hear the decision of your request or it will not be granted.

Parking At Court

Parking near the court house complex is always a challenge. Please make sure that you pay attention to where you are parking because most lots are reserved with a hefty violation fine. Please also allow time for parking challenges as this will **NOT** be a valid excuse to be late.

Weather

Please monitor the weather when conditions are not ideal. Our main goal is the safety of all participants in drug court. If the County and or the Courthouse is closed on the day of court, court is cancelled. In the event we have court and you have concerns about conditions in your area, please contact your counselor or Program Coordinator.

Tattoo's, Piercings & Hair Color

No bodily alterations can be made during the first 3 phases of the program. In phase 4, a participant may submit a request to have a tattoo approved if they are in compliance and have a \$0 fee balance. The tattoo must be approved by the team prior to the participant having work done. No hair color is allowed in drug court that is not naturally occurring in nature. No facial jewelry may be worn in court or during group. If you have such piercings, they must be removed prior to attending court or group.

Policy Changes/Handbook Revisions

From time to time, this handbook will be revised and policies will change. In between handbook revisions, you will receive memos updating you regarding such changes. Please feel free to ask questions if you are ever unsure about a rule or policy. It is always best to err on the side of caution instead of guessing and later finding out the hard way that you were wrong.

