



**The Superior Court**  
COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN  
222 E. WEBER AVENUE, ROOM 303  
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95202

TELEPHONE  
(209)992-5555  
WEBSITE  
[www.sjCourts.org](http://www.sjCourts.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 2, 2015

Contact: Helen Ellis, Collaborative Court Manager  
(209) 992-5225

## **COURT RECEIVES FUNDING TO ENHANCE COLLABORATIVE COURT PROGRAMS**

The Superior Court of California, County of San Joaquin is pleased to announce that it has been awarded funding by the Judicial Council of California to enhance Collaborative Courts, which serve moderate and high-risk offenders in both Drug and DUI Courts. The \$598,500 in funding will be used to support program operations and client treatment and monitoring between April 1, 2015 and April 30, 2017.

The objective of the Drug Court is to provide intensive court monitoring so clients can achieve total abstinence from drugs and alcohol and become productive members of society. Drug Court mainly targets individuals in which jail or prison sentences will be imposed. The judge suspends the sentence and orders formal probation with a specific condition that the defendant completes the Drug Court treatment program. In the last three years, an average of 115 people per year have participated in the Drug Court program with an average of only 3 clients per year receiving new charges while in the program.

The objective of the DUI Court is to utilize both accountability and treatment alongside mandated sentencing to help clients fulfill their sentencing obligations. DUI Court focuses on all second offense DUI's and higher, watercraft DUI's, and repeat wet and reckless offenders. Monitoring in DUI Court requires regular court appearances, accountability to fulfill both DMV and court sanctioned sentencing mandates, regular drug and alcohol testing, home inspections to insure alcohol free compliance, attendance to outside support programs, and any other treatment as mandated by the Court. In the last three years, an average of 1,163 people per year have participated in the DUI Court program with an average of 1,087 people successfully completing the DUI monitoring program each year. The DUI recidivism rate in San Joaquin County over the last three years, for the clients who were successfully monitored through the program, is a mere 2.5% average.

San Joaquin County Superior Court is one of 27 courts in California to receive funding from the Recidivism Reduction Fund Court Grant Program. The funds are designated for courts to use in the administration and operation of programs and practices known to reduce offender recidivism and enhance public safety, including the use of validated risk and needs assessments, other evidence-based practices, and programs that specifically address the needs of mentally ill and drug addicted offenders.

###