



MAINE JUDICIAL BRANCH
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

Adult Drug Court Advisory Committee Receives Special Service Award

The Adult Drug Court Advisory Committee received a Special Service Award on January 14 for Individuals or Teams in recognition of its significant contribution to improvements in the operation and performance of the Judicial Branch. During the past year, members of the team, led by Justice Nancy Mills and with the dedicated work of Richard Gordon, Coordinator of Specialty Dockets, have extensively reviewed, vigorously debated and rewritten all the Adult Drug Court, Co-occurring Disorders Court, and Veterans Treatment Court policies, procedures, manuals and internal forms. The resulting materials align Maine's Adult Drug Courts with national best practices and standards. This will enhance the services provided to clients, and in turn the well-being of the clients, their families and their communities.

In addition, Justice Mills and Richard Gordon were able to secure, at virtually no cost to Maine, educational programs and trainings from the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, for court employees and recovery court team members working in the Adult Drug Treatment Court, Family Recovery Court and Co-Occurring Disorders and Veterans Court. The end result was a simplified referral process, a clear and understandable client handbook, a set of phase standards with goals, expectations, and consequences, and a program that, when fully launched in January 2019, will better serve those clients who are struggling to break the chains of addiction.

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Recipients: Justice Nancy Mills, Justice Wayne Douglas, Justice MaryGay Kennedy, Judge Charles Budd, Judge David Mitchell, Active Retired Judge John Romei, Jennifer Wood (Counselor, Blue Willow), Amy Curtis (Counselor, Blue Willow), Carolee Lindsey (Catholic Charities), Ashley Gaboury (Probation Officer, Maine Dept. of Corrections), Matthew Foster (District Attorney, Washington and Hancock Counties), John Risler (Assistant Attorney General), Jonathan Nathans (former Assistant Attorney General), Donald Hornblower, Esq. (defense attorney), Katherine Coutu (Maine DHHS), Elizabeth Simoni (Executive Director, Maine Pretrial Services), Darcy Wilcox (Deputy Director, Maine Pretrial Services), Catherine Chichester (Executive Director, Co-occurring Collaborative Serving Maine), Dr. Richard Dimond (citizen volunteer, Hancock County Drug Court), and Richard Gordon (Coordinator of Specialty Dockets and Grants, Maine Judicial Branch).
