

*Eligibility Requirements:*

*Resident of Ramsey County*

*No violent criminal history*

*Charged with third or more DWI in  
lifetime (alcohol related conviction,  
gross misdemeanors only)*

*Committed to recovery*

*Charged in Ramsey County*

**Ramsey County DWI Court  
Informational Handout for  
Interested Participants**



*Questions?*

*Call Mike O'Hara, DWI Court Screener, at  
651.266.2994*

*Or*

*Call Niki Leicht, DWI Court Coordinator, at  
651.266.9277*

Ramsey County Courthouse  
15 West Kellogg Boulevard  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102  
Phone: 651.266.9277

**The Ramsey County DWI Court** is designed to help you break the cycle of alcohol addiction and stop repeat DWI behavior.

After the DWI Court representative from Project Remand speaks to you about the program, if you decide that you are interested, you will come to observe a DWI Court hearing. DWI Court takes place every Thursday from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. in the Ramsey County Courthouse on the 10th floor, in courtroom 1080.

After your observation, you will continue on conditional release with Project Remand. Once you decide that you would like to join the DWI Court Program, you will come back to court to enter your plea of guilty. At that time, you will have officially entered the DWI court Program and you will be in **Orientation Phase**. During this phase you will continue on SCRAM, begin a chemical dependency treatment program, and abide by all the conditions of your release. This phase lasts until the day you are sentenced. Usually this happens six to eight weeks after you enter your plea.

The day you are sentenced, you enter **Phase One** of the program. After sentencing, the SCRAM bracelet is usually removed, as long as you have been compliant and there are not any concerns about your alcohol use. You will be sentenced to a period of time in which home confinement or Sentence to Serve is usually ordered. This sentence will be staggered, meaning that you will be required to serve a minimal amount of time up front and you will not have to serve the remainder of the time if you are doing well in the program. You will also be expected to complete primary treatment in this phase and maintain a period of sobriety. Once you have successfully completed all the requirements of phase one, you may apply to move to phase two of the program. The application process includes an application form to fill out and submit to the DWI Court team for review.

You also must make a presentation to the other participants as to what you have accomplished in phase one.

**Phase Two** also requires a period of continuous sobriety, completion of any aftercare recommendations made by your treatment facility, entering a cognitive group that is run by members of the DWI Court team. There are groups specifically for women and groups that are designed to work specifically with DWI offenders. Again, you will need to apply for movement from phase two after you have completed all the requirements of this phase. You must also make a presentation to the other participants regarding what you have accomplished in phase two.

**Phase Three** is the final phase of the program and is designed to ease your transition to graduation and a return to standard probation. This phase also has requirements to complete before applying for graduation.

Once you have graduated from DWI Court, you will remain on probation for a period of time. All DWI participants are sentenced to four years of probation, so your time remaining depends on the length of time you spend in the DWI Court Program.

**DWI Court offers:**

- **Reduced time in jail**
- **Cognitive Groups**
- **Mental Health Services**
- **Chemical Dependency Resources**
- **Assistance with transportation**
- **Pro-Social Activities**
- **Other incentives**