

**DWI COURT TEAM  
MEMBERS**

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**Stephanie Goode,**

**Treatment Representative**

**Lisa Portinga, MET/Cognitive Facilitator**

**Mark Gangl, Cognitive Facilitator**

## Mission Statement

Enhance public safety through a court supervised program designed to assist repeat DWI offenders and restore them as law-abiding members of our community. A collaborative and strength based approach is used to support participants while holding them accountable.

**SECOND JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT**

**R A M S E Y  
C O U N T Y  
D W I  
C O U R T**



**DWI COURT**  
STRUCTURED SUPPORT  
FOR INDIVIDUAL CHANGE

**R A M S E Y C O U N T Y  
C O U R T H O U S E  
1 5 W E S T K E L L O G G  
B O U L E V A R D  
S A I N T P A U L ,  
M I N N E S O T A 5 5 1 0 2  
P H O N E :  
6 5 1 . 2 6 6 . 9 2 5 4**

## REDUCING RECIDIVISM, PROMOTING RECOVERY...

The Ramsey County DWI Court is designed to enhance public safety by holding repeat DWI offenders accountable through the use of technology, judicial supervision, chemical dependency treatment, intensive case management and supplemental services.

The DWI Court functions with a team of criminal justice professionals. The team consists of the presiding judge, prosecuting attorney, defense attorney, conditional release agent, case manager/probation officer, treatment provider, psychiatric nurse, surveillance technician, and program coordinator. DWI Court also works with the St. Paul Police and the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office for additional community supervision of participants. A research analyst provides evaluation for all of the Ramsey County Problem-Solving Courts.

DWI Court offers specialized programming for participants. Driving With Care is a cognitive based curriculum where clients learn that change in behavior is made by changing their thoughts, attitudes and beliefs. They learn about their own patterns of alcohol use and abuse and how to make cognitive and behavioral changes so as to prevent recidivism into DWI behavior. DWI Court also offers groups for our female participants, focusing on gender specific programming.

Things do not change, we change. - Henry David Thoreau

Participants are screened for program eligibility at arraignment (first appearance) and are released from jail on conditional release if they are interested in participating in DWI Court. While on conditional release, clients will be placed on SCRAM (secure continuous remote alcohol monitoring), receive a chemical health evaluation, and observe the DWI Court process. Participants can also be referred to the program by an attorney, judge, or prosecutor. If clients are



interested in the program, have observed the court hearings and deemed appropriate participants by the DWI Court team, they will enter a plea and be sentenced with the conditions of participating in DWI Court. Upon acceptance to DWI Court, participants begin a three phased program, in which they are required to attend chemical dependency treatment, cognitive skills groups, community support groups and other requirements based on their individual circumstances. Movement through the phases is determined by the team, after participants apply for phase movement and demonstrate what they have accomplished in each phase. **The length of the program is determined by the participants progress through the phases and the goals that they accomplish, at a very minimum of 13 months. After graduation from the program, participants remain on administrative supervision with community corrections for the remainder of their probationary term.**

### *Eligibility Requirements:*

*Resident of Ramsey County  
No violent criminal history  
Charged with third or more DWI in lifetime (alcohol related conviction, gross misdemeanors and 1st degree felony, non-presumptive commit to prison)  
Committed to recovery  
Charged in Ramsey County*

### *Benefits:*

*Jail sentence is reduced  
Assists participants in leading an alcohol and drug free lifestyle  
Integrates community treatment and other resources within the court system  
Reduces recidivism and enhances public safety*

### LOCATION:

Court is held on Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. in courtroom 131B with Judge Mark Ireland or Judge Judith Tilsen in the Ramsey County Courthouse.

We welcome visitors, so if you are interested please contact Tanya Jones, Program Coordinator, at 651.266.9277.