

# 52-4 District Court Drug Therapy Court

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## Attorney information sheet

### Purpose

The Drug Treatment Court (DTC) is a specialty court designed for individuals whose criminal behavior is linked to substance use disorders. It offers intensive supervision, treatment, and accountability in place of traditional sentencing, with the goal of reducing recidivism and supporting long-term recovery.

### Eligibility Criteria

- Be assessed as high risk/high need through validated risk and clinical assessment tools.
- Reside in Oakland County at the time of screening (limited exceptions may apply at the court's discretion).
- Abstain from marijuana use (including medical marijuana) while in the program (MCL 333.26427(e)).
- Not be currently charged with First Degree Murder, CSC 1st–3rd Degree, or Child Sexually Abusive Activity (MCL 600.1066(e)).

Judicial Discretion: Admission is ultimately determined by the judge, except where prohibited by statute.

### Program Highlights

- Minimum of 12 months participation; structured into progressive phases with treatment, probation reporting, testing, and court review sessions.
- Incentives and sanctions are used to promote accountability and reinforce progress.
- Participants who do not comply may face sanctions, including jail or termination from the program, with resentencing on the original offense.

### Driver's License Impact

- Eligible participants may obtain a restricted license with ignition interlock after program stabilization (minimum 60 days sobriety, treatment compliance, and team approval).
- If a participant fails to complete or withdraws, their license will be revoked for at least one year or until eligible for an SOS hearing.
- Successful graduates may pursue full license restoration after one year on the interlock and meeting all SOS requirements.

### Key Takeaway for Defense Counsel

Defense attorneys should ensure their clients:

- Understand program requirements and restrictions before entering.
- Recognize the potential benefits (reduced incarceration, structured support, possible restricted license).
- Acknowledge the risks of termination (resentencing, license revocation).