

Specialized Docket Programs Across Ohio



Ohio Specialized Docket Programs (As of Jan. 1, 2010)

- 74 Drug Courts
- 33 Mental Health Courts
- 7 Re-Entry Courts
- 6 DUI/OVI Courts
- 4 Domestic Violence Courts
- 2 Child Support Enforcement Courts

THE SUPREME COURT of OHIO

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THE SUPREME COURT of OHIO

SPECIALIZED DOCKETS SECTION

Practitioner Network
Support Services
Training

JUDICIAL & COURT SERVICES
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE *and*
RESOURCES *for* OHIO COURTS



History of Specialized Dockets

The specialized docket model was developed in 1989 with the establishment of the nation's first drug court in Miami-Dade County, Fla. The model hinges on the cultivation of community collaborations for a complete systems approach to handle cases with the highest recidivism rates. Courts implement wrap-around treatment services, intensely monitor offender compliance and enforce immediate sanctions when an offender fails to follow program protocols.

The Advisory Committee on Specialized Dockets

The Advisory Committee on Specialized Dockets provides ongoing advice to the Chief Justice, Justices and Supreme Court staff on the promotion of statewide rules and uniform standards for specialized dockets in Ohio courts; the development and delivery of specialized docket services to Ohio courts, including training programs for judges and court personnel; and the consideration of any other issues the advisory committee deems necessary to assist the Court and its staff regarding specialized dockets in Ohio courts.

The committee includes 15 members of specialized docket courts, who represent many court levels and a diversity of geographic regions, disciplines and roles, including:

- Common pleas, juvenile and municipal court judges
- Magistrates
- Public defenders
- Prosecutors
- Program coordinators
- Probation officers.

Success stories result when a community collaborates to provide treatment services to offenders.

— Justice Evelyn Lundberg Stratton

The Supreme Court Specialized Dockets Section

The Supreme Court of Ohio has been a staunch supporter of specialized dockets in Ohio trial courts since the 1995 inception of the state's first drug court in Hamilton County.

The Supreme Court established the Specialized Dockets Section, which consists of five full-time employees trained to serve the distinct needs of specialized docket programs. Through this section, the Court promotes the creation of specialized dockets with the provision of technical assistance to individual trial courts, and designs, funds, and hosts a variety of training events for professionals with a stake in specialized docket programs.

The key to the Supreme Court's successes in this arena has been collaboration and partnership with other Ohio state agencies, including the:

- Department of Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services
- Office of Criminal Justice Services
- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Job & Family Services
- Department of Public Safety
- Department of Rehabilitation & Correction.

Providing treatment is more humane, it's more cost-effective and just simply the right thing to do.

— Governor Ted Strickland

Specialized dockets draw together a broad range of community resources to help people regain control of their lives. The proud, smiling faces at a drug court graduation are just one sign of the successes that can be achieved through collaboration.

— Chief Justice Thomas J. Moyer

Available Services

Technical Assistance

Supreme Court Specialized Dockets staff offer:

- Support to trial courts in needs evaluation, planning and implementation of specialized docket programs
- Resources and personal assistance for issues associated with specialized docket programs
- Resolution of legal and procedural issues arising from the establishment of specialized docket programs.

Training

Training events are regularly hosted and sponsored by the Specialized Dockets Section with continuing education credits available for attending court and treatment personnel.

Ohio Specialized Dockets Practitioner Network

The Specialized Dockets Section hosts a statewide network of specialized docket personnel as a forum for communication and information sharing among different programs.

Staff hold regular meetings of court personnel and treatment professionals, organized by discipline, to allow for issue resolution and to facilitate networking.