

Tarrant County First Offender Drug Program

Honorable Scott Wisch and Honorable Carey F. Walker, Presiding Judges



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First Offender Drug Program – Overview

- Offers non-violent offenders an opportunity to address and correct a mistake.
- Participants require minimal supervision
- Participants will be required to enter a plea of guilty and the judge will accept the plea and postpone sentencing pending completion of the program.
- Consists of both a misdemeanor and a felony track. Both tracks will require random drug testing, checking in with a case manager, hair testing and a drug education or life skills class.
- Upon successful completion of the program, the participant is allowed to withdraw their plea and the DA's office will dismiss the case. If the participant fails to successfully complete the program the case will proceed to sentencing based upon original plea.
- CASE ELIGIBLE FOR EXPUNCTION IF DISMISSED

CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION The Following Offenses are Eligible:

- 1. Poss Cont Sub U/1G-PG1-5
- 2. Poss Cont Sub 1-4-PG1
- 3. Poss Cont Sub U/1G-PG2
- 4. Poss Cont Sub-1G-4G-PG2
- 5. Poss Cont Substance U/2 OZ-PG 2-A
- 6. Poss Marihuana U/2
- 7. Poss Mari 2-4 OZ (C/A)
- 8. Poss Marihuana 2-4 OZ
- 9. Drug Free Zone-CS U/1G-PG1/PG2
- 10. Drug Free Zone-CS U/28-PG3
- 11. Drug Free Zone-Mari U/2OZ
- 12. Attempt of any above listed offense

Applicant cannot have been convicted of, have current or past community supervision or deferred adjudication, nor currently have any pending case for offenses other than Class C misdemeanors.

Program Cost

Felony

\$550

- Urinalysis 2 x per month 2 hair tests
- Short term education class

Misdemeanor

\$350

- Urinalysis 2 x per month
- Short term education class

Term

Felony 180-day program

Misdemeanor 90-day program

Program Goals

To diverting low risk/low needs first-time drug offenders to a court-supervised program that will enhance public safety, reduce crime, hold offenders accountable, and increase sobriety among drug offenders

The First Offender Drug Program is designed to be minimalistic:

- Defendants will receive minimal supervision.
- There are no progressive sanctions.
- No drug use
- No underage use of alcohol
- Any violation of program conditions or failure to meet all requirements will result in termination.
- Termination from First Offender Drug Program means that the defendant's case will proceed to formal sentencing based upon the original plea.

Offender Drug Program **Tarrant**

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