



NEWS RELEASE

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Summit on DUI Courts Opens Today in San Francisco

Five Courts Funded to Establish DUI Courts

San Francisco—Five California trial courts will receive special training on the best practices needed to establish DUI courts at a two-day summit that opens today, October 22, in San Francisco.

DUI courts are designed to help the community and protect public safety by offering improved rehabilitation services combined with intensive judicial supervision of DUI offenders. The project will more than double the number of DUI courts operating in the state.

The summit will be held through tomorrow at the Hiram Johnson State Building, Judicial Council Conference Center, 455 Golden Gate Avenue, Third Floor, San Francisco. The event is sponsored by the Center for Children, Families & the Courts (CFCC) of the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Two-year funding for five counties was provided by the California Office of Traffic Safety to the Superior Courts of Butte, El Dorado, Orange, Shasta, and Sonoma Counties. A report tracking participant recidivism rates will be publicly available at the end of the project.

DUI courts, modeled after drug courts, are “collaborative justice courts” that promote accountability for DUI offenders by combining a team-based approach that includes judicial officers, attorneys, probation officers, and service providers in helping DUI offenders with comprehensive rehabilitation services such as alcohol testing and treatment services.

More than 60 delegates from the California Department of Motor Vehicles, America Automobile Association, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, the U.S. Department of Transportation, the National Drug Court

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Institute, and law enforcement will share their knowledge and expertise with the new DUI court teams.

For more information on collaborative justice courts, see www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/collab/#whatis and www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/collab/documents/California_Story.pdf.

News media interested in attending the DUI Court Summit should call Daisy Yee, media assistant, at 415-865-8929. For information about DUI Courts, contact Dave Bressler, CFCC, at 415-865-7703.

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