

***Reducing drunk
driving means
fewer victims in
our community.***

All Metropolitan Court judges may
refer to the DWI Recovery Court

*For more information
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The DWI Recovery Court seeks to reduce the risk of impaired driving and other drug and alcohol related criminal behavior through intensive judicial supervision, probation services, specialized treatment, and frequent drug and alcohol testing.



DWI RECOVERY
COURT

Bernalillo County
Metropolitan Court



OVERVIEW

The Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court implemented the DWI Recovery Court for alcohol and other drug abusing defendants in response to this serious community problem.

The participant will have frequent one-on-one interaction with the presiding Judge, supervision by a specialty court probation officer, intensive treatment, regular alcohol and drug testing, community service, and attendance at a Mothers Against Drunk Driving Victims Impact Panel. The Court's multi-disciplinary team conducts routine staffing regarding each participant's progress.

The minimum length of the Court program is 12 months. Each individual's length of stay depends on his or her progress.

SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES

An independent study by the Institute for Social Research at the University of New Mexico concluded: *"... [participants] are committing fewer offenses overall, but they are also committing a lower level of DWIs and violent offenses."*

To meet the needs of each participant the Court provides special tracks for those with co-occurring substance use disorders and mental illness, as well as Spanish speakers.

Treatment consists of an assessment, treatment planning, mindfulness-based stress reduction, and individual and group counseling. Regular attendance at self-help groups is required. In addition, assistance with education, employment, parenting, and life skills are provided.

PROGRESS AND COMPLETION

Participant's progress through four phases with a significant number of requirements in each phase. Points are earned each week towards the movement to the next phase. The final phase assists participants in the transition back into the community without the structure of the DWI Recovery Court.

Non-compliance with the Court's expectations will result in sanctions up to and including termination from the program and a return to traditional court case processing.

Success results in graduation at a special ceremony with the Court participants, staff, and invited guests.