

KEY PROGRAM COMPONENTS INCLUDE

- Integrated treatment services
- Non-adversarial approach
- Early identification of potential participants
- Continuum of services
- Frequent drug testing
- Ongoing judicial interaction with participants
- Program monitoring and evaluation
- Bi-annual graduation ceremonies

CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY

Honorable
Timothy C. Evans
Chief Judge

Honorable
Paul P. Biebel, Jr.
Presiding Judge
Criminal Division

Honorable
Charles P. Burns
RAP Court Judge
2600 S. California (202)
Chicago, Illinois 60608

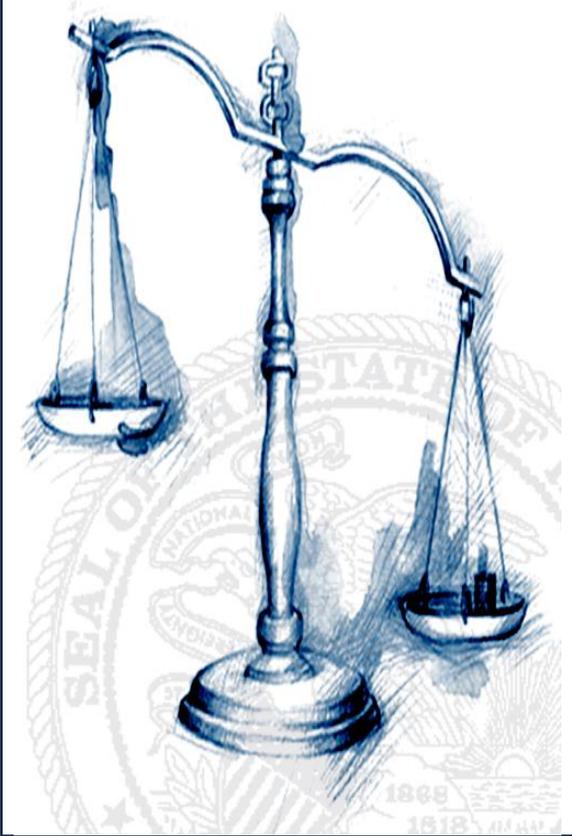
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REHABILITATION ALTERNATIVE PROBATION (RAP) PROGRAM

DRUG TREATMENT COURT

CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY



WHAT IS RAP COURT?

The Cook County Rehabilitation Alternative Probation (RAP) drug court treatment program was established in 1998 pursuant to a grant award to the Criminal Division of the Circuit Court of Cook County from the Federal Office of Justice Programs.

The RAP program is an alternative sentencing approach to non-violent offenders serving a probation sentence who are rearrested for felony drug possession. Defendants found acceptable are given the opportunity to voluntarily participate in a highly structured, closely monitored, treatment based probation.

IS RAP COURT WORKING?

Over 82% of defendants found acceptable for RAP have entered treatment. Over 84% have been placed into treatment within 14 days of their arrest. Over 57% have completed jail-based residential treatment before being released from custody. Over 40% have successfully completed the RAP program. Recidivism rates for 3 years post completion of the program have decreased by 84%.

"Maybe life perches us on these thresholds of not knowing which way to go, to make us realize that there are no easy answers, to make us turn inward and to hear that voice inside ourselves. I now know I have a strength and wisdom inside myself that I never knew I had."

R.R., 1999

WHO GOES TO RAP COURT?

Assistant State's Attorneys in bond court screen defendants for RAP eligibility. A petition for violation of probation is filed and new charges are dismissed. The probation case is then transferred to RAP court where urinalysis is conducted and a Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities (TASC) evaluation is ordered. Within ten days, an assessment report is filed and a determination as to eligibility is made by the team. Acceptable defendants are resentenced to eighteen months RAP probation and placed into appropriate treatment.

"I am motivated by a new and better outlook that enhances my ambition and determination to become the best that I can be. A better citizen who has compassion for his fellow man and who has something worthy to contribute to society."

R.T., 2001

RAP COURT TEAM

Every RAP case is supervised by the drug court team which consists of the judge, a state's attorney, a public defender or private attorney, and representatives from probation, corrections, treatment agencies, and TASC. The team meets Mondays and Wednesdays for status of active participants, and Tuesdays and Thursdays for eligibility and acceptance of new cases.

A graduated system of sanctions and incentives is employed by the drug court team to assist substance abusing offenders to break the cycle of their addiction and their involvement in the criminal justice system.

RAP CONDITIONS

- treatment contract with court
- completion of required treatment
- support group meeting attendance
- frequent court appearances
- weekly probation reports
- drug testing (urinalysis)
- community service
- housing, training, employment and education referrals