



# SUCCESS THROUGH EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION (S.T.E.P.)

## BRAZORIA COUNTY'S DRUG COURT PROGRAM HANDBOOK

THIS HANDBOOK IS DESIGNED TO:

- ▶ ADDRESS CONCERNS
- ▶ ANSWER QUESTIONS
- ▶ PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT THE DRUG COURT PROGRAM

As a participant in the program, you will be required to be open, honest and truthful. You must follow the instructions given in court by the Judge, follow all of the **Terms and Conditions of Community Supervision (Probation)**, and comply with the treatment plan developed for you. Throughout the time you are in Drug Court, your case manager and treatment provider will be working closely with you and with each other. They will also promptly report all of your progress and any problems to the Drug Court Judge.

This handbook will explain what is expected of you and provide general program information.

### **r;J WHAT IS A DRUG COURT?**

Drug Court is a special program within the Brazoria County Criminal Justice System. It is a court supervised treatment program for defendants with non-violent criminal charges who also have a drug or alcohol addiction. The program is voluntary and is your personal choice. The Drug Court Team will be present to guide and assist you, but the final responsibility is yours. You must be motivated to make this change and commit to a drug free life

### **r;J WHAT IS THE DRUG COURT TEAM?**

Drug Court is a unique non-adversarial program that involves working with a team of individuals who are all dedicated to your recovery. The team consists of:

- Presiding Judge
- Program Administrator
- Case Manager/ Community Supervision (Probation) Officer
- Aftercare / Recommit to Recovery Supervision (Probation) Officer
- Assistant District Attorney
- Defense Attorney
- Treatment Providers
- Law Enforcement Personnel

### **ttJ WHAT IS A TREATMENT PLAN?**

If you are accepted into Drug Court, you will be required to follow a Treatment Plan. This begins with an evaluation and it will require all or some of the following:

- Outpatient treatment
- Inpatient treatment/ residential treatment
- Halfway house or transitional housing placement
- Regular and random drug testing
- Peer support activities
- Educational/vocational programs

Your Supervision Officer will also help you with other areas of your life according to your individual needs. This may include referral for these and other needs:

- Skills testing and an educational assessment
- Job Training and job-readiness training
- School or other educational services
- Job placement services
- Family counseling
- Life skills classes
- Public assistance/Medicaid
- Mental Health services
- Recreational activities

### **ltJ How CAN I PARTICIPATE IN THE DRUG COURT PROGRAM?**

Following your arrest or violation of probation you can be offered the opportunity to participate in the Drug Court Program or remain in the traditional criminal court.

Failure or dismissal from the program may result in your being sentenced to jail and revocation of supervision.

### **[t] HOW LONG WILL I BE IN THE PROGRAM?**

The amount of time you spend in the program will be determined by your individual progress, but will be no less than twelve (12) months. Community Supervision will continue after successful completion of the Drug Court Program.

**WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THAT ADDICTION IS A TREATABLE DISEASE, IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE IN THE PROGRAM BECAUSE OF YOUR CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR.**

### **ttJ WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?**

Drug Court gives you the opportunity to:

- Set and obtain goals
- Develop job skills
- Rebuild family and community ties
- Live a drug and crime free life A New Beginning

" Drug Court offers you the chance to move forward in your life. Remember, there are many people who make up the Drug Court Team and they all want to see you succeed. If you take advantage of the assistance offered and sincerely make an honest commitment to change your life for the rest of your life, you will discover many ways to make a better life for yourself, your family, and the community you live.

### **r.] HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?**

As a participant in the program, you will be required to pay a maximum of \$1,000.00 plus any additional fees assessed. **You must start paying fees once you are admitted into the program.**

### **!.! WHAT ARE THE RULES OF THE PROGRAM?**

#### **► Cease All Drug-Related Activity.**

You will totally abstain from the use or consumption of alcoholic beverages of any kind or any substance capable of or calculated to cause intoxication or the illegal use of any controlled substance (e.g., bath salts, K2, synthetic dmgs). Any relapse by you involving dmgs and/or alcohol must be reported to your Probation Officer. Failure to report drug or alcohol use will result in jail time.

#### **► Comply With Alcohol and Drug Screening.**

You will be required to comply with regular drug testing throughout all phases of the Drug Court Program. One of the primary goals of Drug Court is to help you remain abstinent from alcohol and drugs. A positive test or admission of substance use may result in a sanction or change in treatment. Repeated substance use may result in your being placed in a residential treatment facility or incarceration.

See pages 7-9 of this handbook for additional information regarding the Dmg Testing policies.

#### **► Follow Your Treatment Plan.**

You must attend all Probation Officer visits, treatments and support services appointments. This includes counseling, educational sessions, and peer support meetings.

**YOUR TREATMENT SCHEDULE WILL VARY ACCORDING TO YOUR PROGRESS. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP ALL SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS AND ARRIVE ON TIME. You MUST REVIEW YOUR TREATMENT PLAN WITH YOUR SUPERVISION OFFICER AND FOLLOW IT CAREFULLY,**

#### **► Appear In Court As Scheduled.**

You will be required to appear in front of the Judge on a regular basis. The Judge will be given progress reports regarding your dmg tests, attendance and participation in your treatment program. The Judge will ask you about your progress, and discuss any problems you might have.



**DRUG COURT IS HELD EVERY THURSDAY AT 3:30 P.M.  
IN THE JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM IN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**



#### **► Be On Time.**

If you are late, you may not be allowed to attend and will be considered non-compliant.

#### **► Treat Others With Respect.**

You should respect the opinions and feelings of other people in the program. Verbal or physical threats to anyone will not be tolerated. Any inappropriate behavior will be reported to the court immediately and may result in severe sanctions.

#### **► Dress Appropriately For Court and Treatment Sessions.**

1. No revealing clothing, including both males and females.

2. Cutoffs are not allowed. Shorts are not allowed for court sessions. Shorts worn to report to your Case Manager and to treatment must be an appropriate length (to be determined by the Case Manager or treatment provider.)
3. No cut-off shirts are permitted.
4. No hats of any kind may be worn.
5. No bare feet.



**FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THE DRESS CODE MAY RESULT IN DENIAL OF SERVICES.**



**► Don't Break the Law.**

You are required to refrain from any further violations of the law. New arrests, whether or not they lead to formal charges, may result in being terminated from Drug Court or revocation. Any arrest or contact with law enforcement or police must be reported to your Supervision Officer immediately.

**C+J PROGRAM PHASES**

The Drug Court is a three-phase program that last a minimum of twelve (12) months. Total program length is based upon individual progress. Each phase consists of specific treatment goals, activities and requirements that you must meet before moving to the next phase.

**REMEMBER: WHILE THERE ARE CERTAIN THINGS YOU MUST COMPLETE, YOUR ABILITY TO MOVE ALONG IN THE PROGRAM AND GRADUATE WILL DEPEND MOSTLY ON YOUR OWN ACTIONS. IF YOU ARE NOT HONEST AND TRUTHFUL, IF YOU MISS APPOINTMENTS, IGNORE OTHER REQUIREMENTS, OR FAIL TO STAY AWAY FROM DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE, YOUR TIME IN THE PROGRAM COULD BE LONGER, OR YOU COULD BE TERMINATED FROM DRUG COURT. TERMINATION COULD RESULT IN YOUR COMMUNITY SUPERVISION BEING REVOKED AND THE JUDGE SENTENCING YOU TO THE COUNTY JAIL, STATE JAIL OR PRISON.**

**► PHASE 1 - INTRODUCTION & STABILIZATION**

Phase I begins the day you are accepted and court-ordered into the Drug Court Program, and lasts a minimum of sixty (60) days. Your treatment plan may include an inpatient or outpatient program.

**During Phase 1 you must:**

- Report to your Supervision Officer once per week or as directed.
- Appear in Drug Court once per week or as directed.
- Comply with the random drug testing policy.
- Participate in recommended alcohol/drug treatment.
- Submit to a drug test on Monday of each week, unless the Monday is a holiday, at which time you shall report the following business day.
- Complete an educational/employment assessment.
- Complete mental health screening and attend recommended follow-up services and/or treatment.
- Attend peer support meetings and/or other self-help activities a minimum of three (3) times weekly.
- Obtain a verifiable 12-step sponsor within two weeks of admission into Drug Court and provide a sponsor verification form.
- Permit random unannounced home visits by your Supervision Officer.
- Promptly comply with any court-ordered sanctions.

**To advance to Phase 2, you must have:**

- Sixty (60) days of negative drug tests.
- Thirty (30) days removed from any sanctions related to noncompliance with program rules.
- Complete a psycho-social evaluation

Your Supervision Officer will notify the Program Administrator and Presiding Judge when you are eligible to advance to the next Phase.

**YOUR MOVING TO THE NEXT PHASE IS BASED ON YOUR OWN PROGRESS AND YOUR ABILITY TO STAY FOCUSED ON WHAT YOU MUST DO TO MEET ALL OF THE PROGRAM RULES AND EXPECTATIONS.**

**► PHASE 2 - ACCEPTANCE**

The counseling in this Phase will focus on sober living. In addition, the participant will begin to actively address issues related to personal family, medical, vocational and housing needs. Phase 2 will last a minimum of six (6) months.

**During Phase 2 you must:**

- Maintain sobriety.
- Report to your Supervision Officer twice per month or as directed.
- Appear in Drug Court once per week or as directed.
- Comply with random drug testing policy.
- Submit to a drug test on Monday of each week, unless the Monday is a holiday, at which time you shall report the following business day.
- Attend treatment program as directed and follow all treatment recommendations.
- Continue involvement with peer support activities three (3) times weekly.
- Document verifiable contacts with sponsor.
- Submit to a trauma assessment and follow all recommendations of said assessment.
- Gain and maintain stable employment and/or be enrolled in school; begin educational classes or job skill training.

- Promptly comply with any sanctions.
- Pay Drug Court fees, fines and court cost payments.
- Demonstrate your personal acceptance of your chemical dependency and the need for recovery.
- Complete all assignments in Drug Court journals as directed by your Supervision Officer.

**To advance to Phase 3 you must have:**

- Ninety (90) days of negative drug tests.
- Sixty (60) days removed from any sanctions related to noncompliance with program rules.
- Completed a written assignment acknowledging a chemical dependency problem and a commitment to recovery.
- Submitted to and passed a hair follicle test.

- If you are not employed/enrolled in higher education, you must meet with the Specialty Court Liaison to look into getting into the workforce or to enroll into school.

Your Supervision Officer will notify the Program Administrator and Presiding Judge when you are eligible to advance to the next Phase.

**► PHASE 3 - CHALLENGE**

The main focus of this phase will be relapse prevention, maintaining abstinence from alcohol and substances, mentoring and daily living skills. During Phase 3, you will receive supportive services that aid in continued success in the community as a sober, productive and responsible citizen.

**During Phase 3 you must:**

- Maintain sobriety.
- Report to your Supervision Officer twice per month or as directed.
- Appear in Drug Court twice per month or as directed.
- Comply with random drug testing policy.
- Have successfully completed residential/outpatient treatment.
- Continue involvement with peer support activities three (3) times weekly.
- Document verifiable contacts with sponsor.
- Maintain employment and/or continue education.
- Promptly comply with any sanctions
- Remain current with Drug Court fees, fines and court cost payments.
- Completion of GED if appropriate.
- Complete all assignments in Drug Court journals as directed by your Supervision Officer.

**This is the last phase of your program before graduation. In order to graduate, you must successfully complete this Phase, have a minimum of 12 months active time in the Drug Court Program, and have not used drugs or alcohol for at least 120 days. The final decision about your readiness to graduate will be made by the Judge and Drug Court Team.**

**YOUR SUPERVISION OFFICER WILL NOTIFY YOU WHEN THE JUDGE AND DRUG COURT TEAM HAVE DECIDED THAT YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR GRADUATION. You MUST THEN COMPLETE YOUR GRADUATION QUESTIONNAIRE AND SUBMIT IT AS DIRECTED, SUBMIT TO AND PASS A HAIR FOLLICLE TEST, AND ATTEND A GRADUATION PANEL INTERVIEW.**

**Following your graduation, you will be invited to participate in the Drug Court Alumni Association - CONTINUED PEER SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL!!!**

**► AFTERCARE**

The Aftercare Phase of the Drug Court Program is for graduates who are still on Community Supervision after successful completion of the program.

**During Aftercare, you must:**

- Continue to attend peer support meetings three (3) times weekly and submit verification to Supervision Officer each office visit.
- Report once monthly and comply with the random drug testing policy as directed.
- Appear in Drug Court once a month and participate in drug court activities.

The above aftercare provisions shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the court or until your community supervision expires.

**CiJ NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The Brazoria County S.T.E.P. Drug Court Program does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations. We are committed to providing an inclusive and non-discriminatory environment for all participants of our program.



**DRUG COURT CONTACTS:**

**Alejandra Pitones - Specialty Courts Program Supervisor 1524 East Mulberry, Suite 200, Angleton, Texas 77515  
979-864-2132 (Office)/ 979-313-1643 (Cell)  
alejandrap@brazoriacountytx.gov**

Constance Posadas- Drug Court Supervision Officer 979-864-2123

Lane Hargrove - Aftercare/ Recommit to Recovery Supervision Officer 979-864-2128

Patrina Green-Specialty Courts Liaison 979-864-2125

Sharon Middleton - Assistant District Attorney 979-864-1461



Steve Crenshaw - Defense Attorney 979-200-4746

Random Drug Test Line:  
979-459-7257

## BRAZORIA COUNTY "S.T.E.P." DRUG COURT RANDOM UA POLICY

1. ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO CALL THE DRUG TESTING MESSAGE LINE AT 979- 459-7257 OR LOGIN TO MY.AVERHEALTH.COM. You MUST CALL THIS MESSAGE LINE OR LOGIN EVERYDAY, 365 DAYS PER YEAR AND ENTER YOUR PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER. You **MUST** LISTEN TO THE ENTIRE MESSAGE UNTIL YOU HEAR A CONFIRMATION NUMBER, IF YOU HANG UP BEFORE THE COMPLETE MESSAGE PLAYS, YOUR CALL MAY NOT BE REGISTERED AND MAY BE REPORTED AS A "MISSED CALL."
2. IF YOU ARE SELECTED FOR A DRUG TEST ON ANY GIVEN DATE, **YOU MUST REPORT DURING DESIGNATED HOURS** TO SUBMIT TO THE TEST.
3. Do NOT CALL YOUR SUPERVISION OFFICER, OR OTHER COURT STAFF, INCLUDING THE **JUDGE** -TO PROVIDE AND EXPLANATION AS TO WHY YOU ARE UNABLE TO REPORT/SUBMIT THE REQUESTED URINE SAMPLE. **NO EXPLANATION WILL** BE ACCEPTED VIA TELEPHONE.
4. FAILURE TO REPORT FOR A DRUG TEST WHEN SELECTED COULD RESULT IN SANCTIONS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE JUDGE AND/OR DRUG COURT TEAM.
5. DRUG TEST RESULTS WHICH INDICATE THAT A SAMPLE WAS DILUTED WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME SANCTIONS AS IF THE RESULTS WERE POSITIVE.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Dilute - Reprimand by the Judge
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Dilute - Will be referred to the doctor
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Dilute - Sanctioned Ordered by the Judge
6. MEDICATIONS WITHOUT VALID MEDICAL PRESCRIPTIONS AND A VERIFIABLE PRESCRIPTION MAY NOT BE USED WHILE IN THE DRUG COURT PROGRAM,

FOR ANY MEDICAL CONDITION THAT IS DISCOVERED DURING YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM, YOU MUST SIGN A MEDICAL RELEASE WITH YOUR TREATING PHYSICIAN AND DISPENSING PHARMACY AND PRESENT A COPY OF THESE RELEASES TO YOUR SUPERVISION OFFICER, DENTAL PROCEDURES ARE CONSIDERED MEDICAL PROCEDURES.

You ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATIONS THAT MIGHT ALTER TEST RESULTS DUE TO INGREDIENTS. You ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR READING ALL LABELS OR CONSULTING WITH YOUR PHARMACIST OR DOCTOR BEFORE TAKING ANY MEDICATIONS.

**You WILL SIGN A RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIALITY ALLOWING YOUR SUPERVISION OFFICER TO DISCUSS MEDICATIONS AND TREATMENT WITH YOUR PRESCRIBING/TREATING DOCTOR AND DISPENSING PHARMACY.**
7. IN ORDER TO SUCCESSFULLY GRADUATE FROM THE DRUG COURT PROGRAM, ALL DRUG TEST RESULTS MUST BE NEGATIVE AT LEAST 120 CONSECUTIVE DAYS PRIOR TO GRADUATION.

### URINE ABSTINENCE TESTING AND INCIDENTAL ALCOHOL EXPOSURE

Recent advances in the science of alcohol detection in urine have greatly increased the ability to detect even trace amounts of alcohol consumption. In addition, these tests are capable of detecting alcohol ingestion for significantly longer periods of time after a drinking episode.

Because these tests are sensitive, in rare circumstance, exposure to non-beverage alcohol source can result in detectable levels of alcohol (or its breakdown products.). In order to preserve the integrity of the Drug Court testing program, it has become necessary for us to restrict and /or advise Drug Court participants regarding the use of certain alcohol-containing products.

It is YOUR responsibility to limit your exposure to the products and substances detailed below that contain ethyl alcohol. It is YOUR responsibility to read product labels, to know what is contained in the products you use and consume and to stop and inspect these products BEFORE you are them. **Use of the products detailed below in violation of this contract will NOT be allowed as an excuse of a positive test result. When in doubt, don't use, consume or apply.**

#### **Cough syrups and other liquid medication**

Drug Court participant have always been prohibited from using alcohol-containing cough/cold syrups, such as Nyquil. Other cough syrup brands and numerous other liquid medications, rely upon ethyl alcohol as a solvent. All prescription and over-the-counter medication should be reviewed with your case manager before use. Information on the composition of prescription medications should be available upon request from your pharmacist. Non-alcohol containing cough and cold remedies are readily available at most pharmacies and major retail stores.

#### **Non-Alcoholic Beer and Wine**

Although legally considered non-alcoholic, non-alcoholic beers (e.g. O'Doul's, Sharps) do contain a residual amount of alcohol that may result in a positive test result for alcohol, if consumed. Drug Court participants are not permitted to ingest non-alcoholic beer or non alcoholic wine.

#### **Food and Other Ingestible Products**

There are numerous other consumable products that contain ethyl alcohol that could result in a positive test for alcohol. Flavoring extracts, such as vanilla or almond extract, and liquid herbal extracts (such as Gingko Biloba, could result in a positive screen for alcohol or its breakdown products. Communion wine, food cooked with wine, and flambe dishes (alcohol poured over a food and ignited such as cherries jubilee, baked Alaska) must be avoided. Read carefully the labels on any liquid herbal or homeopathic remedy and do not ingest without approval from your case manager.

#### **Mouthwash and Breath Strips**

Most mouthwashes (Listerine, Cepacol, etc.) and other breath cleansing products contain ethyl alcohol. The use of mouthwashes containing ethyl alcohol can produce a positive test results. Drug Court participants are required to read products labels and educate themselves as to whether a mouthwash product contain ethyl alcohol. Use of ethyl alcohol-containing mouthwashes and breath strips by Drug Court participants is not permitted. Non-alcohol mouthwashes are readily available and are an acceptable alternative. If you have questions about a particular product, bring it in to discuss with your case manager.

#### **Hand sanitizers**

Hand sanitizers (e.g. Purell, Germ-x, etc.) and other antiseptic gels and foams used to disinfect hands contain up to 70% ethyl alcohol. Excessive, unnecessary or repeated use of these products could result in a positive urine test. Hand washing with soap and water are just as effective for killing germs.

#### **Hygiene Products**

Aftershave and colognes, hair sprays and mousse, astringents, insecticides (bug sprays such as Oft) and some body washes contain ethyl alcohol. While it is unlikely that limited use of these products would result in a positive test for alcohol (or its breakdown products) excessive, unnecessary or repeated use of these products could affect test results. Participants must use such products sparingly to avoid reaching detection levels. Just as the court requires Drug Court participants to regulate their fluid intake to avoid dilute urine samples, it is likewise incumbent upon each participant to limit their use to topically applied (on the skin) products containing ethyl alcohol.

#### **Solvents and Lacquers**

Many solvents, lacquers and surface preparation products used in industry, construction, and the home, contain ethyl alcohol. Both excessive inhalation of vapors, and topical exposure to such products, can educate themselves as to the ingredients in the products they are using. There are alternative to nearly any item containing ethyl alcohol. Frequency of use and duration of exposure to such products should be kept to a minimum. If a contact with such products cannot be avoided, you need to discuss this with your Supervision Officer. Do not wait for a positive test results to do so.

#### **Other**

You are not to use any Delta-8, CBD, THC-P, Kratom or Whippits (nitrous oxide). You are strongly encouraged to avoid any products sold online or at vape shops.

**REMEMBER!**

**WHEN IN DOUBT, DON'T USE, CONSUME OR APPLY.**

**BRAZORIA COUNTY DRUG COURT MEDICAL INFORMATION FORM**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, AM A PARTICIPANT IN A DRUG COURT PROGRAM. THIS PROGRAM IS A COURT MONITORED RECOVERY PROGRAM FOR ADDICTS. AS A RESULT, I AM SUBJECT TO FREQUENT AND RANDOM DRUG TESTING. THEREFORE, I MUST REPORT MY VISIT TODAY TO THE COURT USING THIS FORM.

AS I AM IN RECOVERY, I WOULD RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOU TAKE THIS INTO CONSIDERATION AND OFFER NON-NARCOTIC MEDICATIONS, IF POSSIBLE, WHEN DRUGS ARE NECESSARY FOR MY MEDICAL TREATMENT.

DATE:

PHYSICIAN (NAME): PHYSICIAN (SIGNATURE): PHYSICIAN CONTACT PHONE NUMBER:

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL MY SUPERVISION OFFICER, AT 979-864-2146 OR THE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR AT 979-864-2132. IF THIS PATIENT FAILS TO PRESENT THIS FORM TO THE NURSE AND PHYSICIAN PRIOR TO RECEIVING MEDICATION OR A PRESCRIPTION FOR MEDICATION, PLEASE NOTIFY THE COURT.

PLEASE LIST THE MEDICATIONS AND PURPOSE OF MEDICATIONS PRESCRIBED TODAY:

I. 2. 3. 4.

## **BRAZORIA COUNTY DRUG COURT SANCTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COURT**

SANCTIONS FOR NON-COMPLIANCE INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- ▶ Admonishment by Court.
- ▶ Participant will explain to group why he/she used and plan of action to avoid usage.
- ▶ Participant will pay for positive urinalysis testing.
- ▶ Participant will attend additional court reviews as an observer.
- ▶ Zero Tolerance Initiative implemented.
- ▶ Additional recovery-related homework
- ▶ Participant's case will be staffed by the Drug Court Team for termination and/or other sanctions.
- ▶ Participant will be placed on electronic monitoring/house arrest.
- ▶ Participant will be ordered to serve jail time (length of time to be determined by the Court).
- ▶ Participant will complete Community Service (hours to be determined by the Court).

THE ABOVE SANCTIONS HAVE BEEN EXPLAINED TO ME. I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO THE SANCTIONS ABOVE.

## **BRAZORIA COUNTY DRUG COURT TRAVEL POLICY**

TRAVEL IS DEFINED AS ANY TRIP OUTSIDE AN ADJACENT COUNTY. ADJACENT COUNTIES ARE: FORT BEND, GALVESTON, HARRIS, MATAGORDA, AND WHARTON COUNTY. TRAVEL POLICIES APPLY TO ALL SUPPORT GROUP RELATED EVENTS.

1. I may not travel outside an adjacent county without obtaining permission to travel.
2. If I am within Brazoria County or any adjacent county, I am required to report for drug testing if selected for the day unless I have prior approval from the Court to miss a random drug test. Failure to report for a drug test will result in a sanction from the court.
3. If I travel outside an adjacent county, I must **obtain an alcohol/drug monitoring device and attend a support group meeting once daily** on every day not considered a travel day.
4. In order to travel, I must submit a travel request listing dates of travel, place, reason, and plan for attending meetings at least seven days prior to travel.
5. I understand that if I travel to and from a destination within a single day, I must seek permission to travel outside an adjacent county; however, I will not be required to attend a meeting or obtain an alcohol/drug monitoring device.
6. I understand that I may not travel while in Phase I of the program nor while on Zero Tolerance except for emergencies.
7. Travel for work is defined as any trip in the performance of an occupation and any trip involving performing a specific task, such as chaperoning a youth group. I understand that travel for work is limited to two trips per month, not to exceed a total of 5 days in one month unless approved by drug court staff. I understand that if I travel for work, I may be required to:
  - a. Obtain a SCRAM device
  - b. Provide written documentation of the need for the trip from my job; and
  - c. Attend a meeting every day that is not a travel day
  - d. **I understand that my work travel cannot exceed a total of 40 days travel while in the program unless approved by drug court staff.**

8. Emergency travel is defined as a trip to attend a funeral or hospital admission for an immediate family member (immediate family is considered within one generation). I understand that if I travel on an emergency travel, I may be required to:
  - a. Obtain a SCRAM device
  - b. Provide written documentation from the hospital and/or an obituary; and
  - c. Attend a meeting every day that is not a travel day
9. Leisure travel is any trip not required by work or an emergency. A person is limited to five (5) days leisure travel (total) while in the Drug Court Program, unless approved otherwise by Drug Court staff. In addition:
  - Leisure travel outside the country is restricted to persons in Phase III.
  - Leisure travel is restricted from any area whose primary source of revenue is gambling.
  - Leisure travel may require the placement of a SCRAM device and/or support group meeting attendance.
10. I understand I must submit to a drug test before and after any approved travel, regardless of whether or not I am selected by the random drug testing system for that particular day.

**BRAZORIA COUNTY DRUG COURT**  
**VOLUNTARY AUTHORIZATION AND WAIVER OF CONFIDENTIALITY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, waive my rights of confidentiality and authorize any and all Brazoria County Supervision and Corrections Department personnel to request and or receive information or records from any person including myself, or any agency having information or records concerning any medical, psychological or psychiatric history and any information or records pertaining to diagnosis, condition or treatment of a medical, psychological or psychiatric nature including acquired immune deficiency syndrome, human immunological viral infection or any AIDS related complex.

I further waive my right of confidentiality and authorize Brazoria County Community Supervision and Corrections Department personnel to disclose any and all acquired information or records to the following:

1. The Judge having authority over my case and the personnel of that court.
2. Other Brazoria County Supervision and Corrections Department personnel involved in the supervision and maintenance of the probation record.
3. Personnel of any department to which my case may be transferred for supervision.
4. Personnel of any residential facility or outpatient program in which I may be committed and /or confined.
5. Personnel of any institution to which I may be committed and/or confined.
6. Personnel from District Attorney's Office and any attorney or record representing me in these case for which I am on probation.

This waiver is limited to communication made to and among the person or agencies reference above and I do not waive my rights of confidentiality in regard to any other individual or agency not so included. I understand the purpose of this waiver is to facilitate the supervision of my case and I may revoke this waiver at any time.

On this day of 20\_\_\_\_, I have read or had read to me the terms and conditions of this agreement and fully understand same, do hereby freely agree to those terms and conditions.



Signature of Participant      Signature of Witness