

Contact Persons



**Successful Treatment
And Recovery Court
(STAR)**

Mental Health Docket

of the

**PORTAGE COUNTY
MUNICIPAL COURT**

* **Judge Barbara Oswick**

Presiding Judge

STAR Court

330.297.4277

Developed in collaboration with the Portage County Mental Health and Recovery Board, Coleman Professional Services, Townhall II, Family & Community Services, and the Portage County Municipal Court.

* **Theresa Spiker**

STAR Court Coordinator

Adult Probation Dept.

330.297.3650

**Portage County
Municipal Court
203 West Main St.
Ravenna, Ohio 44266
330.297.3625**



**JUDGE BARBARA OSWICK
Presiding**

Overview

The Mental Health Court was developed in order to assist individuals with severe and persistent mental illness who come into frequent contact with the adult criminal justice system.

The program is designed to divert individuals with mental health issues **away from jail**, to **prevent homelessness**, and to **coordinate mental health treatment**.

A variety of services are available to meet the individual's specific needs: receiving on-going mental health care, psychiatric care, intensive case management, vocational support, substance abuse treatment, and providing a link to social service agencies.

Goals

- * To deter those diagnosed with mental health conditions from cycling through state hospitals and local jails.
- * To encourage personal responsibility and understanding for one's illness as well as provide support and the appropriate services available to help the individual.
- * To rehabilitate the individual and prepare him/her to lead a healthy, law-abiding life upon completion of the program.

Eligibility Criteria

- ~ Primary Axis I diagnosis from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual or Mental Disorders
- ~ Portage County Resident
- ~ Adult 18 years of age or older
- ~ Misdemeanor crimes that are 1st, 2nd or 3rd degree (OVI, sex offenses [excluding public indecency], crimes involving use of a weapon, crimes involving children as victims, M-4 and MM offenses are ineligible)
- ~ Must meet both legal and clinical eligibility criteria
- ~ Recommendation for program participation from Prosecutor, Judge, Defense Counsel, defendant, probation department and/or trained professional
- ~ Defendant desires and agrees to voluntarily participate in the STAR Court, with understanding of program and consequences for failure to comply
- ~ Defendant must plead guilty to offense and undergo an Eligibility Investigation (EI) to determine eligibility
- ~ Approval of EI and acceptance into STAR Court by Judge
- ~ Defendant is placed on probation for one year and ordered into the STAR Court as a condition of Probation
- ~ Upon successful completion, the charge(s) for which the defendant is in STAR Court will be dismissed and will be eligible for sealing.