



news

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Weld County DUI Court celebrates anniversary

GREELEY, Colo. – The Weld County DUI Court will celebrate its first anniversary with a ceremony following court proceedings Thursday, Feb. 3, at noon.

The problem-solving court was opened in early 2010 with the mission of promoting public safety by providing intensive court supervision of and prompt treatment for qualifying DUI offenders. Participants receive help in maintaining sobriety through education, incentives, encouragement for individual responsibility, and sanctions for violations from a network of agencies including the 19th Judicial District, District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, Sheriff's Office, counseling and treatment providers and private legal counsel.

Of the court's 18 participants, four have reached the fourth of five phases of treatment in the program, which takes a minimum of 18 months to complete. It has saved the county a collective 3,192 days in jail.

“Problem-solving courts such as our DUI Court have proved to be very valuable alternatives to incarceration, and I'm honored to be able to play a part in this effort,” said Weld County Judge Michele Meyer, who presides over the court. “Successful completion of the program gives graduates the tools to maintain sobriety and contribute to their community, while keeping offenders out of jail cells.”

More than 60 problem-solving courts are in operation in 17 of Colorado's 22 judicial districts. Problem-solving courts in the state include adult drug courts, juvenile drug courts, family/dependency and neglect courts, DUI courts, adult and juvenile mental health courts, a veteran trauma court and truancy courts.

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