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PRESS ADVISORY

DC Drug Court Celebrates National Recovery Month with a Graduation Ceremony and Cookout

WHAT: Drug Court Graduation Ceremony and Cookout

WHEN: Wednesday, September 17, 2014, 10:30 AM (cookout 10a-3p)

WHERE: Fort Lincoln Park – 3100 Fort Lincoln Road, NE

WHO: Judge Gregory E. Jackson, DC Superior Court

Cliff Keenan, Director, Pretrial Services Agency of the District of Columbia

Tyrone C. Parker, Founder & Director, Alliance of Concerned Men

The DC Superior Court Drug Intervention Program (Drug Court) is a special court calendar designed to achieve a reduction in recidivism and substance abuse among nonviolent defendants suffering from substance use disorders. The Program strives to increase the defendants' likelihood of successful rehabilitation through early, continuous, and intense judicially-supervised treatment, mandatory periodic drug testing, community supervision, and use of appropriate incentives, sanctions, and other rehabilitation services.

Eligible defendants may request to be transferred to Drug Court in lieu of traditional criminal justice system case processing. While in Drug Court, program participants are:

- supervised closely by Pretrial Services Agency (PSA) staff;
- provided with intensive treatment and other services they require to get and stay clean and sober;
- held accountable by the Drug Court judge for meeting their obligations to the court, themselves, the community and their families;
- tested, at least weekly for drug use and sanctioned for non-compliance;
- required to appear in court frequently so that the judge may review their progress; and
- rewarded for doing well or penalized when they do not live up to their obligations.

NOTE: Judge Jackson will be available for interviews.

Participants may be photographed or interviewed only with their permission.

Please coordinate with on-site DCSC or PSA staff for assistance identifying participants.