September 14, 2011

Dear Arkansas General Assembly Member:

It is with great pride and pleasure that I forward to you the annual report of the Administrative Office of the Courts on Arkansas Drug Courts.

As chair of the State Drug Court Advisory Committee, I have watched this program grow in support among your colleagues. We, as the judiciary, are proud to be an important member of this partnership with you and the executive branch. Arkansas currently has 42 adult drug courts, ten juvenile drug courts, and three DWI courts.

Drug court programs can make a positive difference in their local communities. Drug courts divert offenders from correctional institutions and provide an intensive substance abuse treatment and monitoring system that can result in the rehabilitation of individuals. The typical drug court graduate is a hard working, sober, responsible taxpaying citizen that has been reunited with his or her family. Drug court judges frequently tell me how personally rewarding they find their work in the state drug court program, even though these duties are in addition to their regular caseload.

Unfortunately, despite having the support of communities, government agencies, and legislative representatives, Arkansas drug courts are facing a funding crisis. For the FY 2011, treatment funding has been reduced to one-third of what was provided during the last legislative session. A mere $500,000 was appropriated for drug court treatment funding, to be dispersed among 42 drug courts. A short-term residential stay for one client can cost $5,000. Many courts in the state will only receive $8,000 for an entire year. It is apparent that the current funding cannot possibly sustain a successful drug court for a year.

I encourage you to try to attend a drug court graduation ceremony in your area. There you will witness the dramatic changes that the program can make in individual lives. We should all be proud that our state has one of the highest success rates in the country for program graduates—92.5%!

Thank you for your continued support of our state drug court programs.

Sincerely,

Jim Hannah
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I. Introduction

The last twelve months has brought significant change to Arkansas’s drug courts. In February, 2011, Kari Powers was appointed as the new Drug Court Coordinator for the Administrative Office of the Courts. The 88th General Assembly also passed a comprehensive corrections reform bill that contained provisions regarding drug courts, their program development, program criteria and measurements for success. Perhaps the change with the greatest potential impact is a heavy cut in treatment funding. While the majority of state officials support the work of drug courts, the national economic downturn resulted in drug court treatment funding being cut to one-third the amount from the previous year.

Unfortunately, due to the decline in the national and state economic health, budget cuts and restraints reduced the treatment funding to $500,000.00 in the 2011 legislative session compared to $1.5 million and $3 million in previous years. This amount is disbursed among all the drug courts statewide. This funding for new drug court programs has also been reduced. The Legislature approved five more locations for new drug court programs, but until revenue is established to fund these programs, they will remain on hold. The General Assembly did approve the formation of three additional juvenile drug courts, which are funded and expected to become operational by January 2012.

Although they do not receive any additional compensation for their participation in the drug court program, circuit judges have generously volunteered to preside over the labor intensive drug courts that provide many addicts with their “first” chance to access substance abuse treatment and become responsible, taxpaying citizens. With a recidivism rate of only 7.5 %, perhaps one of the lowest rates in the country, the drug court program has proven itself to be a wise investment on the part of the General Assembly.

The following report provides an overview of the current drug court program in Arkansas, as it has evolved from the single court in 1994 to the present, with a state advisory committee chaired by the Chief Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court and an active state drug court professionals association. The last portion of Section II provides some insight into future directions and needs for the drug court program to remain strong in the state. The second half of the report, appearing in Section III, provides updated information on the prevalence of substance abuse in Arkansas, current information on the correlation of substance abuse to crime and the impact such has on prisons, and the rationale for the creation of drug courts in our state. In addition, there is background information covering the national movement to support drug courts that began in 1989 in Dade County, Florida.
A copy of this report can be accessed and downloaded from the Drug Court page of the Arkansas Judiciary at: http://courts.arkansas.gov/drugcourt.
The information and data in this report was collected in August 2011. For further information, please contact the:

Administrative Office of the Courts
625 Marshall Street
Little Rock, AR 72201
501 682-9400

If the reader has any questions concerning the contents of this report or the drug court program in general, those can be addressed to the Drug Court Division of the Administrative Office of the Courts. The email for the state coordinator is: kari.powers@arkansas.gov.

The 2009 Legislative Report is also available in electronic PDF format at: https://courts.arkansas.gov/drugcourt/documents/Legislative%20Report%202009%20Complete.pdf
II. Arkansas Drug Courts

A. Judges and Arkansas Drug Courts

Initially, drug courts were created and operated without specific statutory authority. When funds became available, either through a federal grant or from the Department of Community Correction, a drug court program could be initiated. In 1994, there was one drug court in the state. By 2011, there were 42 programs that had been established through the willingness of sitting circuit court judges who would take on additional responsibilities in their circuit. In multi-judge judicial districts, judges who preside over the criminal dockets frequently transfer appropriate drug-related cases to the drug court within that district, thus creating additional cases above the routine caseload distribution of the presiding drug court judge.

Drug court dockets are a specialized docket. Because they require additional time both on and off the bench, they are very labor intensive endeavors for the judge. A successful drug court program must establish the criteria for participation in the court, determining the length and components of the treatment program, learn about the evidence-based strategies for treatment and supervision of substance abusing/addicted individuals and determine appropriate sanctions or incentives for participants. All of these elements are integral components to program implementation. Each court must take into account factors specific to their area. Because the drug court program is a diversion of defendants from the regular criminal justice system, each judge must determine the level of community tolerance for public safety within the program. While some courts may choose to accept a certain case type, others have chosen to exclude that particular case type.

Once established, the more mature drug courts in Arkansas have seen that local support from the community can encourage the court to take on some of the more difficult defendants, providing these defendants with a second chance rather than seeing them processed through the prison system. Many courts that started out with rigid rules for sanctions, learn after a while, that each case stands on its own merits and all the circumstances have to be taken into consideration before imposing appropriate sanctions. The personal attention required of a drug court docket consumes an enormous amount of time from the judge who has regular exchanges with the drug court team members concerning “issues” with each drug court defendant. However, it is this personal attention and relationship that develops during the status hearings in court where the defendant appears regularly to report to the court their progress, which has proven to make the drug court program such a success. Repeatedly, research in the field has indicated that the judge-participant relationship is the most important factor for a program that reduces recidivism and rehabilitates addicts in their community. On the following page is a list of the presiding judges and their locations:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Judges’ Names</th>
<th>Judicial District</th>
<th>Counties Served</th>
<th>Congressional District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bentley Story</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>St Francis</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Laser</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Craighead</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbara Halsey</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Greene</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cindy Thyer</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Crittenden</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harold Erwin</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>3rd</td>
<td>Randolph</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phillip Smith</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Lawrence</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Chadd Mason</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Sutterfield</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Pope</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gordon McCain</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Franklin, Johnson</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary McGowan</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Perry, Pulaski</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Williams</td>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Grant, Hot Spring</td>
<td>4th</td>
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<td>Duncan Culpepper</td>
<td>8th</td>
<td>North Hempstead, Nevada</td>
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<td>East Clark</td>
<td>4th</td>
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<tr>
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<td>9th</td>
<td>West Howard, Pike</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bynum Gibson</td>
<td>10th</td>
<td>South Ashley, Bradley, Desha, Drew, Chicot</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam Pope</td>
<td>10th</td>
<td>East Ashley, Bradley, Desha, Drew, Chicot</td>
<td>4th</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Henry</td>
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<td>East Arkansas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Berlin Jones</td>
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<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Michael Fitzhugh</td>
<td>12th</td>
<td>East Sebastian</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Tabor</td>
<td>12th</td>
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<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
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<td>Susan Hickey</td>
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<td>Union</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwin Keaton</td>
<td>13th</td>
<td>Ouachita</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry Chandler</td>
<td>13th</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gordon Webb</td>
<td>14th</td>
<td>East Baxter, Boone</td>
<td>1st/3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerry Don Ramey</td>
<td>15th</td>
<td>Conway, Logan, Scott, Yell</td>
<td>2nd/4th/4th/2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Dan Kemp</td>
<td>16th</td>
<td>East Cleburne, Independence, Stone</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Dan Kemp</td>
<td>16th</td>
<td>East Izard, Fulton</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Hannah</td>
<td>17th</td>
<td>East White</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Homer Wright</td>
<td>18th</td>
<td>East Garland</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.W. Looney</td>
<td>18th</td>
<td>West Montgomery, Polk</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent Crow</td>
<td>19th</td>
<td>East Carroll</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Fryauf</td>
<td>19th</td>
<td>West Benton</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Clawson</td>
<td>20th</td>
<td>East Faulkner</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Cotrell</td>
<td>21st</td>
<td>East Crawford</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Herzfeld</td>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>West Saline</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phillip Whiteaker</td>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>West Lonoke</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B. Drug Courts and Prior Legislation

By 2007, with 37 operational drug courts in the state, the courts began to garner the attention of legislators and gather legislative support. During the 2007 legislative session, with the support of the Drug Court Judges Committee of the Arkansas Judicial Council, legislation was proposed to officially establish the procedure for creating these specialized dockets within the criminal justice system. Originally drafted by the Drug Court Judges Committee of the Arkansas Judicial Council, and proposed for sponsorship by the Judicial Council, the legislation provided the framework for both adult drug courts and juvenile drug courts within the state’s circuit court structure. After some maneuvering through the legislative process, Act 1022 of 2007, one of the last acts passed during the session, was signed into law by Governor Mike Beebe.

The act provides that the Administrative Judge in each judicial district is empowered to specify the judge that will sit over the drug court docket. This information is part of the annual plan filed by administrative judges of the judicial circuits with the Arkansas Supreme Court. As a general rule, a drug court program serves the county in which it is established. Multi-county judicial circuits may have more than one drug court, i.e. one per county. In some cases, a different judge will preside over the drug court for that particular county. In other instances, the same judge will “ride circuit” and preside over all the drug courts within the judicial district. In a few cases, the single court division provides the program to more than one county. For example, in northwest Arkansas, the court is called the Washington County- Madison County Drug Court and is presided over by Judge G. Chadd Mason. Judge Mason has drug court in both Fayetteville and Huntsville, the two counties’ seats.

Juvenile drug courts were also authorized in Act 1022 of 2007. By 2009, ten juvenile drug courts were established. In the 2011 legislative session, three more courts were authorized and funded bringing the total number to 13 juvenile drug courts, with the three new ones expected to be operational by January of 2012.

During the 2009 legislative session, two pieces of legislation affecting drug courts programs were enacted. One clarified the collection and disbursement of drug court program fees for the courts. Prior to passage of Act 490 of 2009 the courts were authorized to collect up to $20 per month as a program user fee but the law provided no direction on where the money was to be remitted or disbursed. Act 490 eliminated the cap on the fee and created a special revenue fund in the county treasury for the drug court program for receipt of these fees. In turn, moneys collected by the court are to then be made available to support the drug court program in that county through the appropriation process of the county quorum court.

Act 1491 of 2009 clarified the authority of the drug court judge to expunge the charges of the drug court participant and provided the additional authority to restore the privilege of carrying a firearm to drug court participants who successfully complete the program. The court must notify the prosecutor of the pendency of the action as well as the original court judge if from another Arkansas court.
C. AOC, DCC and OADAP Roles and Responsibilities

Act 1022 of 2007 also established the various roles and responsibilities of the three agencies involved with the Arkansas drug court program: the Administrative Office of the Courts; the Department of Community Corrections; and the Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention in the Department of Human Services.

Under the act, the Division of Drug Courts is established within the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to provide state-level coordination and support to drug court judges and their programs. The position of state drug court coordinator, also created within the act, serves as a liaison between drug court judges and the other two state-level agencies, DCC and OADAP. Training and education of drug court judges and other professionals are the responsibility of the division. In addition, the coordinator staffs the professional association and the state advisory committee, a 12 member committee comprised of representatives from the various agencies and associations affiliated with drug courts. The act provides for the oversight and disbursement of any funds appropriated to AOC for the maintenance or operation of local drug court programs and for the development of a funding formula by AOC and reviewed by the advisory committee to distribute such funds. The AOC is also charged with the responsibility of developing guidelines for the courts that will serve as a framework for effective local drug court programs and to provide a structure for conducting research and evaluation for drug court program accountability.

The Department of Community Correction (DCC) provides personnel for all drug courts. The probation officer and administrative assistant are employed by DCC. In all drug courts but one, the treatment counselor is also an employee of DCC. DCC provides for the random drug testing performed by drug court personnel. During the FY 2010, 91,400 samples were tested from over 1800 participants in the drug court program. Treatment counselors in the program provide outpatient treatment services, conducting both individual counseling sessions and group therapy sessions for participants. The act specifies that the ratio for participants to treatment counselor is to be 30 to 1 and for participants and probation officers, 40 to 1, thus assuring intensive monitoring of the program participants. In addition, DCC serves as the fiscal agent for the drug court treatment fund that pays for intensive short- or long-term residential treatment of drug court participants as ordered by the court. Under a formula based on a set base amount per court plus a per-case average amount above that base, money is allocated each year in July for courts to access for residential treatment services. DCC administrative assistants provide drug court judges with monthly updates to assist in monitoring the amount of treatment dollars being expended by the court.

The Department of Health, Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention, serves as the fiscal agent for funding treatment provided to juveniles in the juvenile drug court programs. In the adult program, OADAP certifies and licenses treatment providers and facilities to be considered for the provision of treatment services in the adult drug court program. OADAP supplies DCC with an ongoing list of licensed providers to assure eligibility for contracting with DCC and providing treatment to the courts. One of the
requirements for eligible providers is to be able to provide an open bed for the participant within twenty-four hours of the request. Since 2007, this has allowed drug court programs to place participants outside the “catchment” area designated by OADAP, thus making treatment services more readily available for drug court participants since they no longer have to compete for facility beds within that area. The OADAP also serves as a liaison between the licensed providers and the drug court programs.

D. State Drug Court Advisory Committee

Act 1022 of 2007 also created the State Drug Court Advisory Committee to provide state stakeholder organizations an opportunity for input into the development of adult drug courts in the state. Comprised of various directors of state agencies and association, or their designees, the committee meets quarterly to oversee and discuss issues that arise and affect the efficiency and effectiveness of the state adult drug court program. The committee also reviews the drug court treatment funding allocation formula each year and forwards any changes in the rationale behind the formula to the Legislative Council for approval. Each member of the committee serves as the official liaison between the drug court programs and their particular association or agency. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have members who serve on the committee. Chief Justice Jim Hannah currently serves as the chair of the committee. Current members and their representative organization are found in Appendix D.

E. Arkansas Drug Court Professionals Association (ADCPA)

As outlined in Act 1022 of 2007, the legislation foreshadowed the creation of a professional association to serve the professionals participating throughout the state in drug court programs. Created as a non-profit state association, the ADCPA elected its first slate of officers to serve two-year terms during the 2nd Annual Statewide Drug Court Training Conference held in 2008. Five board members were selected to serve from each of the four congressional districts. From those elected to the board, four officers were elected to the positions of President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. Membership in the association costs $40.00 annually and is open to anyone who has a regular working relationship with a drug court program in the state. The association holds their annually membership and business meeting during the statewide training conference each spring.

The officers of the association serve as an important link for the state with the NADCP. The association president, former president and secretary represented the state organization during the NADCP meeting held in Washington D.C. in July of 2011.

F. New Legislation During the 2011 Legislative Session

During the 2011 session, an expansive corrections reform bill was passed. Act 570, The Public Safety Improvement Act, came into effect in July of 2011. Within the act, several sections affect drug court programs. Definitions were given for evidence-based practices, validated risk-assessments, and violent felony offenses. Drug courts are
charged with using validated risk-assessments to promote early identification of eligible target population. The drug court target population is identified as moderate to high risk participants. The act states that drug court programs success will be determined by the rate of recidivism of all drug court participants, including participants who do not graduate.

Act 570 also addresses what treatment provisions a drug court must be able to provide to participants, mandating that programs develop clinical assessment capacity, including drug testing, to identify participants with a substance addiction and develop a treatment protocol that improves the likelihood of participant success.

Within the act, the AOC is charged with developing criteria to determine future drug court locations. The AOC is also required to obtain data on the drug court programs within the state regarding the number of participants, applicants, successful applicants, successful participants, reasons for participant failure to complete the program, number of participants arrested for new criminal offenses, number of participants convicted of a new offense, number of participants who violated program conditions and the results of initial risk-needs assessments for participants.

Additional legislation was passed during the session that added three additional juvenile drug courts to the state, as well as authorizing district courts to preside over a drug court program under certain circumstances.

Five additional adult drug courts were authorized within the Department of Community Corrections budget; however, there is no funding available to establish the new courts. Unfortunately, due to budget constraints and a depressed economic outlook, treatment funding for drug court programs in the state was reduced to a mere one-third of the funding amount from the previous year. Additionally, treatment funding that had been available from the Tobacco Cessation revenue in the previous years was removed as a funding source to drug courts.

G. The Future of Drug Courts in Arkansas

Drug court programs are perhaps the most cost effective strategy for addressing the growing numbers of persons suffering from addiction to alcohol or other drugs in our state. They relieve the crowding situation in the Arkansas prison system and the county jail back-ups, while providing a highly restrictive, structured and monitored program in the community setting that can successfully rehabilitate persons addicted to alcohol or drugs. The startling statistics collected in the Arkansas schools and through household surveys from Arkansans as presented herein seem to indicate little, if any, reduction in the numbers of future addicts “coming of age” in the criminal justice system. Many noted professionals in the field have stated that we cannot build our way out of the current substance abuse crisis by merely housing more offenders in the prison system where the likelihood of their return to prison is so great. The state seems poised on precipice of a decision point for the future of the drug court programs in the state.
Without additional funding to provide an increase in the personnel to the existing drug court programs, the current caseload, hovering at approximately 2100+ participants, will become stagnant. The intensity of the supervision and the amount of labor involved in a successful program require that ratios of counselor and probation officer to number of participants remain at the levels currently articulated in law. Thus, caseloads per court will likely remain at the current levels without additional resources. Any increase in the caseload of the drug court program, must include an increase for treatment funds provided by the courts to maintain the success of the program. A program without access to sufficient treatment funding for participants will ultimately perform under par compared to a program with sufficient funding.

More funding is also required to establish new drug courts in counties where none exist. Currently, eighteen Arkansas counties lack a drug court program. Although court judges and staff, prosecutors and public defenders are willing to put in the unpaid extra hours to establish drug court programs in many of these areas, until positions in DCC can be funded for probation officers, administrative assistants and treatment counselors for these courts, they will not become a reality.

There is increased emphasis on development of additional specialized dockets from the federal level and state level as evidenced by provisions within Act 570. Federal agencies view the adult drug court model as a highly successful strategy for crime reductions. More of these “problem solving courts” are being sought and funded through grants from federal agencies that are turning more and more to treatment as a way to reduce demand for illegal drugs and criminal justice costs. The National Transportation and Highway Safety Administration (NTHSA) has provided the state with money to support the establishment of three DWI courts to date, with the additional training of six court teams held in August of this year. These programs, like the drug courts, will struggle to be successful without access to intensive residential treatment programs for those participants in need of such who appear in their courts. Court ordered treatment is an integral part of any drug court program. Without such, the rate of rehabilitated addicts will most likely be very low.

The opportunities for drug court program growth are limited without a combined effort of both methodological support for drug courts and fiscal support of drug court programs treatment needs. Without the adequate access and ability to provide the residential treatment component to drug courts, these programs will not reach their success potential. With one of the lowest recidivism rates (7.5%) in the country for drug court program graduates, it only makes sense to put more state revenue into a program that costs less than other strategies and has such a rewarding outcome for the citizens of the state---an intact family with a rehabilitated, tax-paying breadwinner who is supporting his or her family and participating in improving his or her community.
III. Why Drug Courts?

A. Impact of Substance Abuse on Federal, State and Local Budgets

In a comprehensive 2009 study conducted by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, for the first time the total amount spent by federal, state, and local governments on substance abuse was calculated.\(^1\)

In Arkansas, according to the study, spending on substance abuse ($888 million) is third, behind elementary and secondary education ($2,328 million) and higher education ($2,129 million). Ninety-five cents of every dollar is spent on the burden substance abuse creates on public programs (shoveling up) while only two cents goes to prevention, roughly three cents to treatment and less than a penny to regulation and compliance. The following table from the report shows the break-down by category of burden spending in the state\(^2\):

### Arkansas

**Summary of State Spending on Substance Abuse and Addiction (2005)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Burden Spending</th>
<th>Spending Related to Substance Abuse</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Amount ($000)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>---------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Justice</td>
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<td>Adult Corrections</td>
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<td>Juvenile Justice</td>
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<td>Juvenile Detention</td>
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<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unspecified</td>
<td>11,394.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$887,524.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Numbers may not add due to rounding.
B. Prevalence of Illicit Drug Use and Alcohol Abuse

Although federal, state and local funding for treatment programs has risen gradually in the past few years, these increases are falling short of the level of need. In Arkansas, there had been no increase in funding into the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention program in the past 13 years. The Arkansas legislature did pass a tobacco tax increase that will provide substance abuse coverage through the state Medicaid program for pregnant women and adolescents. Nationally, only 10% of individuals in need of substance abuse treatment receive it. In Arkansas, a recent study indicated that only 5% are treated. Each year, 95% of the estimated 270,000 Arkansans in need of substance abuse treatment lack access to such.

A comprehensive picture of substance abuse in Arkansas youth can be found through the Arkansas Prevention Needs Assessment (APNA) conducted through the public schools each November. Since 2002, there has been a decrease in student use for alcohol, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco and marijuana. However, the 2010 APNA still indicated a heavy use by Arkansas youth for these substances. Binge drinking appears to be the most serious use problem among Arkansas youth. Over 13% of youth reported binge drinking in the past two weeks prior to the survey. Perhaps most alarming is the reported average age of initiation to alcohol use in Arkansas. The average first regular use of alcohol (more than a sip) has remained steady over the past six years for the state at age 14.1. In response to a question concerning source, across all grades, the most prominent response was “I got it from someone over 21.” Twenty-seven percent of high school seniors that reported drinking reported the source as someone over 21. However, over four percent of the students reported their source as “getting it from the home with parent’s permission.” Retail sales of alcohol to minors does not appear to be a major issue in Arkansas with the total reporting purchases with or without a fake I.D. being below 1 percent.

Marijuana use has continued to decline according to the survey. The total percentage for 2010 was 14.9, a 7.8 point decrease from the 22.7 percentage reported in 2003.

The APNA collected for the first time in 2008, misuse of prescription drugs, providing for the first time information in this emerging category of substance abuse. The percentages are alarming at 3.9 percent of 6th graders, 10.6 percent from the 8th grade, 18 percent of 10th graders, and 22.2 percent of high school seniors. Misuse of prescription drugs was defined in the survey as use of “Valium, Xanax, Ritalin, Adderall, OxyContin, Darvocet, or sleeping pills without a doctor telling you to take them.” The total percentage for Arkansas misuse of prescription drugs was 12.8 percent.

The chart on the following page illustrates the survey data collected.
C. Drugs/Alcohol and Crime

The correlation between substance abuse and criminal activity continues to be demonstrated daily in the Arkansas criminal justice system as more and more repeat offenders are recycled through the judicial system and on to the correction community for incarceration. The fact that the top offense for both admission and serving time in Arkansas Department of Correction in fiscal year 2010 is controlled substance is a testament to this reality. More persons were sent to the Arkansas penitentiary for controlled substance charges in FY 2010 (2,220) than those sent for burglary, and assault and battery combined (1,073 and 536 respectively). The average sentence for those serving time for controlled substances is fourteen and a half years.6

According to the report on Drug Use and Dependence, State and Federal Prisoners, 20097 (the most recent report available from the Bureau of Justice Statistics), the percent of state prisoners under the influence of drugs at the time of commission of their offense has remained steady from 1997 through 2004 at 33%. Those that indicated drug use in the month prior to their offense also remained constant at 57%. In 2004, only about a third of the prisoners who met the criteria for drug dependency or abuse the month before their offense participated in drug abuse programs in state prison. And the churning effect noted above of recycling prisoners through the criminal justice system is indicated by the fact that prisoners with drug dependency or abuse had extensive criminal records. Among state prisoners who were
dependent on or abusing drugs, 53% had at least three prior sentences to probation or incarceration, compared to 32% of other inmates. Substance dependent or abusing inmates were also more likely to have been on probation or parole supervision (48%) than other inmates (37%). Although marijuana remained the most common drug used by state prisoners, there was a shift downward between 1997 and 2004 for cocaine/crack use. The rate in 1997 was 49.2 percent and it decreased to 46.8 percent in 2004. However, the gain there to society was made up for in methamphetamine use, up to 23.5 percent in 2004 from 19.4 percent in 1997. Except as mentioned, drug use by state prisoners between the two periods was unchanged.

In the future, as more information becomes available concerning criminal activity and substance abuse in the state, more specific information will be helpful in designing programs to meet local community needs. Databases are now being developed to report this information.

D. Impact on Corrections

A large portion of the state general revenue budget goes to support the operations of corrections in Arkansas (8% in fiscal year 2008 according to the National Association of State Budget Officers, State Expenditure Reports). In a study conducted in 2008 by the PEW Center on the States, Arkansas ranked 10th in the nation in percentage of total general fund expenditure for corrections. The report, entitled One in 100: Behind Bars in America 2008 provides interesting detail and state-by-state analysis of growth in prison populations across the country. For example, one out of every 102 adults in Arkansas is incarcerated; one out of every 29 adults is under correctional control, i.e. incarcerated, on probation or parole. In 1982, only one in 134 adults was incarcerated, on probation or parole. In 1983, the cost per offender, per day, for incarceration in prison was $19.09. In 2010, that costs was reported as $60.03.

A January 2011 PEW Working Group Report, Consensus Report of the Arkansas Working Group on Sentencing and Corrections, stated that “Arkansas’s prison population has doubled during the past 20 years, driving corrections costs up 450 percent. At the same time, recidivism and crime rates have remained stubbornly high. If left unchecked, the population will grow by as much as 43 percent in the next decade and cost Arkansas taxpayers an additional $1.1 billion.” The report concluded that.” An extensive review of data revealed that the state is underutilizing probation, imposing longer prison sentences for non-violent offenses, and delaying transfer to parole.”

As a result of the recommendations contained in the report, Arkansas passed Act 570 of 2011, in an effort to address the issues highlighted in the report. The goal of the recommendations from the PEW report were to save the state millions in costs, reduce the prison population and improve public safety through the reduction in recidivism. Drug courts, using evidence based practices and proven methods, work to support these objects and have since their inception. It makes sense to ideologically, programmatically and financially support Arkansas drug courts so that they can continue to save money for the State, reduce the prison population and reduce recidivism.
The current population in Arkansas under correction control exceeds 70,000, more than the populations of 65 of the 75 counties in the state. In the Department of Community Correction 2010 Annual Report, statistics reported on the rapid growth in the caseload of community corrections officers. The technical violation centers provide a shorter period of incarceration in which to rehabilitate the offender for outside life, thus reducing the costs associated with return to the general prison population. In a survey conducted on 1,225 residents of the TV Centers from July 2005, through March 2006, the recidivism rates were 22.7%.

Another area of costs in the corrections population is those incarcerated awaiting release. On any given day, approximately 1800 prisoners remain behind bars although they have been approved for release. At a cost of $60.03 compared to $1.53 per day on probation, $14.03 per day for drug court probation, the potential costs do mount up. The Arkansas drug court program continues to be an important and proven strategy in reducing costs of prison growth in the state. Although only providing a diversion program for approximately 2100 participants during FY 2011, when multiplied by the costs per day ($60.03) and days per year, the program saved approximately $35 million dollars for the state in corrections costs. (This includes the deduction of approximately $14.04 per day for a drug court participant as reported by the Division of Legislative Audit.) In a recent report, DCC reported that the recidivism rate for drug court graduates (those who successfully complete the drug court program requirements) is 7.5 percent, nearly one-fourth the rate for persons in the regular probation/parole program (20.9% probation and 26.6% parole) and a stark contrast to the overall recidivism rate for the Department of Correction (41.4%). Drug court programs seem to be very successful in breaking the churning cycle that otherwise sends offenders repeatedly through the criminal justice system.

E. Overview of Drug Courts in the United States

First begun in Dade County, Florida in 1988, drug courts became a national trend during the late 1990s to address the overwhelming rise in illicit drug use and the resultant overcrowding in prison systems. Today, there are over 2100 problem solving courts in various stages of development. Over 1,040 of these are adult drug court programs. Recent years have seen an expansion of this model into the family courts and juvenile court settings as well as specialized dockets for veterans, homeless and DWIs.

A drug court program is typically defined as a “highly structured judicial intervention process for substance abuse treatment of eligible offenders which requires successful completion of the drug court program treatment in lieu of incarceration.” Although each court operates with some degree of flexibility, the purpose behind the creation of such courts is to reduce crime by changing the defendant’s substance abuse behavior. In exchange for full participation in the treatment program to graduation, charges are frequently dismissed or reduced, thus avoiding costly incarceration and additional societal costs, such as welfare payments for the defendant’s family and increased medical costs associated with substance abusers. In the meantime, while the
offender processes through the drug court program, he/she remains employed in the community and often is required to perform community service work as a condition of his/her program participation.

A drug court team consists of the judge and court staff, the prosecuting attorney, the public defender or private counsel representing the defendant, treatment counselors, intake or assessment officers, and probation or parole personnel. Residential treatment programs are contracted for by the court with community providers. Out-patient treatment and group therapy are provided by the treatment counselors employed by the correction department. Most courts require attendance to some group programs usually based on the 12 steps to recovery. Drug court treatment programs are rigorous in their requirements and frequently are presented in phases or stages, with advancement following completion of the earlier portion of the program. Treatment includes frequent mandatory drug testing and status hearings where the offender must reappear before the court. Prescribed sanctions and appropriate rewards are an important component to a successful drug court program. Much of the literature on drug courts indicates that the ultimate success or failure of a program often hinges on the close interpersonal interactions between the judge and the offender throughout the course of treatment. Those courts with lower success rates are ones that rotate a panel of judges through the drug court system in their jurisdiction.

Drug courts operate in two ways, either allowing an eligible offender to enter treatment prior to being charged with the crime (pre-adjudication) or, after a plea to the court, as a condition of probation (post-adjudication). Not all offenders are eligible for drug court participation. Typically, only those charged with non-violent crimes with a demonstrated chemical dependence on alcohol or an illicit drug can be considered by the program. Most courts exclude any defendants required to register as a sexual offender. Drug courts vary on whether offenders with prior criminal records can be considered for the program.

Since the rapid growth in drug courts of the late 1990s and early 2000s, the federal department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) has supported the establishment of a National Drug Court Institute to provide support to drug courts in operation throughout the United States, as well as a professional organization known as the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP). These entities, along with a Drug Court Clearinghouse and Technical Assistance Project operated in the Justice Programs Office at American University, the NADCP and the Office of Justice Programs developed and published the ten key components that define drug courts. These ten basic elements provide the skeletal structure upon which most drug courts are formed. These components were incorporated into the Arkansas Drug Court Act of 2007, Act 1022, and have become requirements for drug courts operating in the state.
F. Development of Drug Courts in Arkansas

Arkansas’ first drug court was established in 1994 in the Sixth Judicial District (Pulaski County) as a pre-adjudication program then known as S.T.E.P. (Supervised Treatment and Education Program). In operation as a pilot program until 1999 and the successor drug court program known as P.A.C, (Post-Adjudication Drug Court) were both supported from grants awarded by the Office of Justice Programs Drug Courts Program Office requiring such courts to follow a treatment modality. Recognizing the effectiveness of a drug court, when grant funding expired, the Department of Community Correction stepped in to provide support for the drug court program.

Since 1994, the Department of Community Correction has provided personnel to establish additional drug courts throughout the state. DCC provides probation officers and treatment counselors for all but one drug court in the state. The judge, public defender, prosecutor and court staff are not paid additionally for participation in the drug court program, although the docket tends to be very labor intensive with frequent staffing and longer court sessions. Many courts conduct their sessions during the lunch hour or at night to accommodate participants’ work schedules. There are currently 42 adult drug courts that are operational. There are eighteen counties that are not served with a drug court. Some of those counties continue to have a high rate of drug-related arrests, particularly Mississippi and Phillips Counties. Although court personnel are willing to establish a program in that county, the additional personnel required from DCC has not materialized in that agency budget in recent years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KEY COMPONENTS OF DRUG COURTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Drug courts integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice system case processing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety protecting participants’ due process rights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in the drug court program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Drug courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitation services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. A coordinated strategy governs drug court responses to participants’ compliance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Ongoing judicial interaction with each drug court participant is essential.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Monitoring and evaluation measures the achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective drug court planning, implementation, and operations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Forging partnerships among drug courts, public agencies, and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances drug court program effectiveness.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In addition, since July 2009, Arkansas has ten juvenile drug courts that have become operational or continue in operation with funding to support an intake/probation officer. These courts are located under the juvenile court program operated in Benton, Pulaski, Washington, Independence, Faulkner, St. Francis, Saline, Garland, Jefferson, Drew and Ouachita Counties. 2011 legislative session, three additional juvenile courts were authorized and funded for Pope, Craighead and Hempstead counties. Information concerning Arkansas adult drug courts and their locations is contained in Appendix B. Appendix C contains an Arkansas map displaying the 2009 Arkansas Juvenile Drug Court Program.

Through grant dollars coming from the State Highway Safety Office in the Arkansas State Police, three pilot DWI courts became operational in 2009, in Batesville, Sherwood (North Little Rock) and Hot Springs. District Court Judges Chaney Taylor, Milas Hale and David Switzer are following the adult drug court model to divert multiple DWI offenders into a treatment program coupled with community service and mandatory, random alcohol and other drug testing in an effort to reduce the number of repeat DWIs offenders in the state. These three courts are committed to collecting accurate data to report on the impact the programs have in their areas.

Arkansas drug court programs, now growing in their maturity, have become an integral part of the recovery community. Graduation programs are well attended by local officials, legislators, as well as family and friends of the participants. Drug courts routinely host community forums or cook-outs and participate in recovery month activities during the month of September each year. Court anniversaries are marked with celebrations that include drug court graduates, many coming back to share the story of their journey with current drug court participants. Local businesses and employers provide substantial support to Arkansas drug courts in the form of employment, contributions for incentives and monetary support for celebrations. To increase the awareness of the consequences of substance abuse, some drug courts hold hearings in local public schools.

Although Arkansas drug courts have proven themselves quite competitive in obtaining federal grant dollars, the majority of the drug courts in Arkansas are dependent of funds from the Department of Community Correction to operate. As new emphasis has been placed on drug court in the federal government, many courts have succeeded in attracting new federal dollars for expansion of services in their courts. Some court programs are beginning to secure local community support through “Friends of the Drug Court” programs that solicit contributions and hold fund raisers to support the activities of the court. In 2010, these courts conducted over 91,400 drug tests on approximately 1800 participants. The number of participants has risen from 1426 in December 2006 to over 2100 in 2011. The capacity to grow further is limited by state law that restricts the number of participants per treatment counselor and number of participants per probation officer, necessary quality control measures to assure the adequate monitoring of participants in the program, lack of additional funds to hire more personnel, as well as a lack of adequate funding to support residential treatment services to participants as needed.
On a state level, the courts operate under the guidance of a partnership between the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention in the Department of Health, and the Department of Community Corrections. In 2007, the legislature created the position of State Drug Court Coordinator in the Administrative Office of the Courts to develop a centralized management information system, to coordinate state training programs, to prepare reports and oversee evaluation activities. The court coordinator serves as the liaison with DHS and DCC at the state level. The coordinator assists drug courts with training, hosting an annual statewide conference to bring technical experts in drug court programs to the state. In 2008, the coordinator assisted drug courts in establishing the Arkansas Drug Court Professionals Association. The association co-hosts the annual conference and provides a leadership structure for the furtherance of professionalism in the drug court program. The drug court coordinator publishes a quarterly newsletter, The Line, posted on the AOC web-site, that provides updates and information concerning drug courts’ activities throughout the state. The state drug court coordinator serves as the Arkansas representative to the national meeting of state drug court coordinators held each year and works with the National Association of Drug Court Professionals to secure support from the Arkansas Congressional delegation to the program in the Department of Justice. Currently, forty-six states, the District of Columbia and two territories have a designated state drug court coordinator, with the majority of these (88%) located in the state court administrator’s office.
Notes

2. Id. at page 91.
12. Arkansas Department of Community Correction, *2010 Annual Report*
Appendix A

Department of Community Correction 2010 Caseload Data:

DCC Drug Testing Data 2010:
Appendix B

2011 Arkansas Adult Drug Courts

[Map showing counties served by adult drug court, with numbers indicating caseloads for November 2010.]

- Counties Served By Adult Drug Court
- November 2010 Caseload
Appendix C

2011 Arkansas Juvenile Drug Court Program

[Map showing counties and judicial districts with annotations for 2011 Arkansas Juvenile Drug Court Program.]
Appendix D

ARKANSAS DRUG COURT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chief Justice Jim Hannah  Arkansas Supreme Court
Ms. Alonza Jiles  State Board of Correction
Mr. David Eberhard  Director, Dept. of Community Correction
Mr. Ron Angel  Director, Division of Youth Services
Mr. Joe Hill  Director, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention
Hon. Robin Carroll  Prosecuting Attorney
Hon. Kent Krause  Deputy Public Defender
Mr. J.D. Gingerich  Director, Administrative Office of the Courts
Senator Bill Pritchard  Senate Member
Representative Andrea Lea  House Member
Ms. Fran Flener  Arkansas Drug Director
Judge Joe Griffin  Circuit Court Judge
1st JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Counties Served: St. Francis (Forrest City)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011: $8,000.00

Type: Adult/Post-Adjudication

Judge: Hon. Bentley Story

Court Address: P.O. Box 249
Forrest City, AR 72336

Contact: Glynda Wilson- Assistant Area Manager
Phone: 870-261-7545
E-mail: Glynda.wilson@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Thursdays at 1pm
Location: 313 South Izard Street
Forrest City, AR 72336

Court Session: Thursdays at 1:30pm
Location: same as above
2nd JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Counties Served: Craighead (Jonesboro)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $10,832.00

Type: Adult/ Post-Adjudication

Judge: Hon. David Laser

Court Address: P.O. Box 420
Jonesboro, AR

Contact: Tammy Darnell- Administrative Assistant
Phone: 870-972-6206
E-mail: tammy.darnell@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Sessions held: Tuesdays at 5:30 pm
Court Sessions held: Tuesdays at 6:00 pm
Location: Justice Complex
410 West Washington
Jonesboro, AR 72401
2nd JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Counties Served: Greene (Paragould)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,177.00

Type: Adult/ Post-Adjudication

Judge: Hon. Randy Philhours

Court Address: 320 West Court Street, Box 121
Paragould, AR 72450

Contact: Scott Rogers- Administrative Assistant
Phone: 870-236-7500
E-mail: scott.rogers@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Mondays at 6pm
Location: Greene County Courthouse

Court Session: Mondays at 6:30 pm
Location: Greene County Courthouse
2ND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Counties Served: Crittenden (West Memphis)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult/ Pre and Post-Adjudication

Judge: Hon. Cindy Thyer

Court Address: 320 West Court Street, Rm 212
Paragould, AR

Contact: Brian Holt- Drug Court Coordinator
Phone: 870-735-4486
E-mail: brian.holt@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Every other Monday at 9am
Location: see above

Court Session: Every other Monday at 9:30 am
Location: See above
3rd Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Jackson (Newport, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $25,000.00

Type: Adult - Post-adjudication

Judge: Hon. Harold Ewing

Court Address: 208 Main Street
Newport, AR 72112

Contact: Cathy Jeffery-Administrative Specialist III
Phone: (870) 523-4191
E-mail: cathy.jeffery@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Fridays at 8:30 a.m.
Location: Jackson County Courthouse – Judges Chambers

Court Session: Fridays at 9:00 a.m.
Location: Jackson County Courtroom
3rd Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Randolph (Pocahontas, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Post-adjudication

Judge: Hon. Philip Smith

Court Address: 1112 Pace Road
Pocahontas, AR 72455

Contact: Tara Sharp – Probation/Parole Officer
Phone: (870) 248-3330
E-mail: tara.sharp@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.
Location: Randolph County Sheriff Department – Judges Chambers

Court Session: Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.
Location: Randolph County Sheriff Department – District Court Room
3rd Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Lawrence (Walnut Ridge, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. Philip Smith

Court Address: 1000 W. Main Street
Walnut Ridge, AR 72476

Contact: April Faughn – Probation/Parole Officer
Phone: (870) 886-3553
E-mail: april.faughn@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.
Location: Lawrence County Courthouse – Judges Chambers

Court Session: Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.
Location: Lawrence County Courtroom
4th Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Washington (Fayetteville, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $30,833.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. Chadd Mason

Court Address: 123 N. College
              P.O. Box 4703
              Fayetteville, AR 72702

Contact: Cindy Dickey
Phone: 479-973-8432
E-mail: cdickey@co.washington.ark.us

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Mondays at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00a.m.
Location: Washington County Courthouse

Court Session: Mondays at 10:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.
Location: Washington County Courthouse
5th Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Johnson, Franklin (Clarksville, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011  $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Hybrid

Judge: Hon. Gordon McCain

Court Address: 215 West Main Street
Clarksville, AR 72830

Contact: Brenda Miller - Intake
Phone: 479-754-0351
E-mail: Brenda.Miller@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: 1st Wednesday of the Month Time: Noon
Location: Johnson County Circuit Courtroom

Court Session: 1st Wednesday of the Month Time: 12:30 p.m.
Location: Johnson County Circuit Courtroom
5th Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Pope (Russellville, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $11,009.00

Type: Adult - Hybrid

Judge: Hon. Dennis Sutterfield

Court Address: 100 W. Main Street
Russellville, AR 72802

Contact: William Titsworth-Coordinator
Phone: (479) 968-5154
E-mail: william.titsworth@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: 2nd & 4th Mondays at 11:00 a.m.
Location: Pope County Courthouse

Court Session: 2nd & 4th Mondays at 12:00 p.m.
Location: Pope County Courthouse
6th Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Perry, Pulaski (Little Rock, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $65,525.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. Mary S. McGowan

Court Address: 401 West Markham, Suite 320
Little Rock, AR 72201

Contact: Jackie Austin-Case Coordinator
Phone: (501) 340-5602
E-mail: jaustin@pulaskimail.net

Pre-Court Staffing Session:
Location: Not Applicable

Court Session: As Scheduled
7th Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Grant, Hot Spring (Malvern, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $10,301.00

Type: Adult - Post-adjudication

Judge: Hon. Chris Williams

Court Address: 210 Locust Street
               Malvern, AR 72104

Contact: Linda White – Intake
Phone: 501-467-3633
E-mail: linda.d.white@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Fridays at 1:30 p.m. & Mondays at 12:30 p.m.
Location: Fridays – 215 E. Highland Ave, Suite 3, Malvern, AR 72104
           Mondays – 210 Locust Street, Malvern, AR 72104

Court Session: Mondays at 1:00 p.m.
Location: 210 Locust Street, Malvern, AR 72104
8th N. Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Hempstead, Nevada (Hope, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Pre-adjudication

Judge: Hon. Duncan Culpepper

Court Address: 2806 N. Hazel Street
Hope AR, 71801

Contact: Sandra Hundley – Administrative Specialist II
Phone: (870) 777-2445
E-mail: sandra.hundley@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Wednesday – once a month at 11:30 a.m.
Location: 400 South Washington, Hope, AR 71801

Court Session: Wednesday – once a month at 1:30 p.m.
Location: 400 South Washington, Hope, AR 71801
8th S. Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Miller (Texarkana, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,531.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. Joe Griffin

Court Address: 410 Laurel, Suite 207
Texarkana, AR 71854

Contact: Jodi Burke – Coordinator
Phone: 870-774-2421
E-mail: jodiburke@cableone.net

Pre-Court Staffing Session: 2 times a month - Day: Varies Time: 30 minutes before court
Location: Miller County Courthouse

Court Session: 2 times a month - Day: Varies Time: 9:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.
Location: Miller County Courthouse
9th E. Judicial Circuit

Counties Served:  Clark (Arkadelphia, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011  $8,000.00

Type:  Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge:  Hon. Robert McCallum

Court Address:  419 Clay Street, 2nd Floor of Court Complex Bldg.
Arkadelphia, AR 71923

Contact:  Mike Wolfe – Intake
Phone:  870-403-0383
E-mail:  mike.wolfe@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session:  2nd Wednesday & last Monday of every month at 8:30 a.m.
Location:  Judges Chambers

Court Session:  2nd Wednesday & last Monday of every month at 9:00 a.m.
Location:  Circuit Courtroom
9th W. Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Howard, Pike (Nashville, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $9,062.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. Charles Yeargan

Court Address: 420 N. Main, Suite 3
Nashville, AR 71852

Contact: Tomekia Williamson – Probation Officer
Phone: (870) 845-3793
E-mail: Tomekia.williamson@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.
Location: 400 Howard County Courthouse

Court Session: Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.
Location: Howard County Courthouse
10th Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Ashley, Bradley, Drew, Desha & Chicot
(Monticello East, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011     $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. Bynum Gibson

Court Address: Drew County Courthouse
210 South Main
Monticello, AR 71655

Judge: Hon. Sam Pope

Court Address: 205 E. Jefferson, # 12
Hamburg, AR 71646

Contact: Trinita Newton – Probation Officer
Phone: 870-367-3201
E-mail: trinita.newton@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Mondays at 3:30 p.m.
Location: Drew County Courthouse

Court Session: Mondays at 4:00 p.m.
Location: Drew County Courthouse
11th E. Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Arkansas (Stuttgart, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. David Henry

Court Address: 302 College Street
Stuttgart, AR 72160

Contact: Thelma Robinson – Intake
Phone: 870-673-8410
E-mail: thelma.robinson@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Mondays at 3:00 p.m.
Location: Stuttgart Courthouse

Court Session: Day: Mondays at 3:30 p.m.
Location: same as above
11th W. Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Jefferson (Pine Bluff, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $15,965.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. Berlin C. Jones

Court Address: 101 West Barraque
Pine Bluff, AR 71601

Contact: Latonya Taggart – CounselorOfficer
Phone: (870) 850-8986
E-mail: lotonya.taggart@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.
Location: Jefferson County Courthouse – 1st Division Jury Room

Court Session: Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.
Location: Jefferson County Courthouse
12th Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Sebastian (Fort Smith, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $27,824.00

Type: Adult Pre–adjudication

Judge: Hon. J. Michael Fitzhugh & Hon. Stephen Tabor

Court Address: 901 S. B Street
Fort Smith, AR 72901

Contact: Shirl Page – Coordinator
Phone: (479) 784-1507
E-mail: spage@co.sebastian.ar.us

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Fridays at 8:30 a.m.
Location: Jury Room, Courts Building

Court Session: Fridays at 9:00 a.m.
Location: Courtroom, Courts Building
13th Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Ouachita (Camden, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Post-adjudication

Judge: Hon. Edwin Keaton

Court Address: 145 Jefferson Street
Camden, AR 71701

Contact: Lynette Langley-Drug Court Administrator
Phone: 870-837-1140
E-mail: lynette.langley@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Mondays at 8:15 a.m.
Location: Ouachita County Courthouse, 3rd Floor (Jury Room)

Court Session: Day: 2nd & 4th Mondays at 9:00 a.m.
Location: Ouachita County Courthouse, Courtroom B
13th Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Union (El Dorado, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $16,673.00

Type: Adult - Post-adjudication

Judge: Hon. Susan Hickey

Court Address: Union County Courthouse
101 N. Washington
El Dorado, AR 71730

Contact: Paul Meason – Coordinator
Phone: 870-881-9301
E-mail: paulmeason@sasaeldo.org

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Fridays at 8:30 a.m.
Location: 100 Hargett Street
El Dorado, AR 71730

Court Session: Fridays at 9:00
Location: Union County Courthouse
13th Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Columbia (Magnolia, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $18,266.00

Type: Adult - Post-adjudication

Judge: Hon. Larry Chandler

Court Address: 222 S. Pine
Magnolia, AR 71753

Contact: Jennifer White-Intake
Phone: 870-234-2720
E-mail: jenniferw@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.
Location: Criminal Detention Facility
82 Columbia Road 300
Magnolia, AR 71753

Court Session: 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 2:30 p.m.
Location: Criminal Detention Facility – Magnolia, AR
14th Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Boone (Harrison, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,177.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. Gordon Webb

Court Address: Boone County Courthouse
100 N. Main
Harrison, AR 72601

Contact: Rachel Pippin – Probation Officer
Phone: 870-741-3228
E-mail: rachel.pippin@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: 2 Fridays a month at 8:00 a.m.
Location: Boone County Courthouse

Court Session: 2 Fridays a month at 9:00 a.m.
Location: Boone County Courthouse
14th Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Baxter (Mountain Home, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Post-adjudication

Judge: Hon. Gordon Webb

Court Address: Department of Community Corrections
613 South Street
Mountain Home, AR 72653

Contact: Eva Frame – Drug Court Probation/Parole Officer
Phone: 870-425-9139
E-mail: evaf@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Every other Thursday at 1:00 p.m.
Location: Department of Community Correction in Mountain Home

Court Session: Every other Thursday at 2:00 p.m.
Location: Department of Community Correction in Mountain Home
15th Judicial Circuit

Counties Served:    Logan, Scott (Booneville, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011    $8,000.00

Type:    Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge:    Hon. Jerry Don Ramey

Court Address:    Logan County Courthouse
                  366 N. Broadway
                  Booneville, AR 72927

Contact:    Dee Stokes-Intake
Phone:    479-675-3170
E-mail:    dee.stokes@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session:    Day: Varies    Time: 8:30 a.m.
Location:    Logan County Courthouse, Booneville, AR

Court Session:    Day: Varies    Time: Immediately following the Staffing
Location:    Logan County Courthouse, Booneville, AR
15th Judicial Circuit

County Served: Yell (Danville & Dardanelle, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Pre - Adjudication

Judge: Hon. Jerry Don Ramey

Court Address: 110 W. 6th
Danville, AR 72833

Contact: Lisa Wells
Phone: 479-495-5731
E-mail: lisa.wells@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Day: Varies Time: Immediately prior to Court
Location: 108 Union Street, Dardanelle, AR 72834

Court Session: Day: Varies Time: 8:30 a.m.
Location: 108 Union Street, Dardanelle, AR 72834
15th Judicial Circuit

County Served: Conway (Morrilton, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Hybrid

Judge: Hon. Jerry Don Ramey

Court Address: 117 S. Moose  
Morrilton, AR 72110

Contact: Tiffany Landon - Intake  
Phone: (501) 354-2164  
E-mail: tiffany.landon@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: 2nd Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.  
Location: Conway County Courthouse, Morrilton, AR

Court Session: 2nd Wednesday at 11:00 a.m.  
Location: Conway County Courthouse
16th Judicial Circuit

County Served: Independence (Batesville, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. John Dan Kemp

Court Address: 107 West Main Street, Suite G
Mountain View, AR 72560

Contact: Debi Spinks-Intake
Phone: 870-793-7965
E-mail: debi.spinks@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Monday at 1:15 p.m.
Location: County Courthouse: 549 W. Main Street
Batesville, AR 72501

Court Session: Monday at 1:30 p.m.
Location: County Courthouse: 549 W. Main Street
Batesville, AR 72501
16th Judicial Circuit

County Served: Cleburne (Heber Springs, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. John Dan Kemp

Court Address: 110 D. Tulaka Blvd.
                Heber Springs, AR 72543

Contact: Tonya Benton-Intake
Phone: (501) 362-3229
E-mail: tonya.benton@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Mondays at 9:00 a.m.
Location: County Courthouse: 110 D. Tulaka Blvd.,
          Heber Springs, AR 72543

Court Session: Mondays at 9:30 a.m.
Location: County Courthouse: 110 D. Tulaka Blvd.,
          Heber Springs, AR 72543
16th Judicial Circuit

County Served: Fulton, Izard (Melbourne, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult/ Post-Adjudication

Judge: Hon. John Dan Kemp

Court Address: 110 D. Tulaka Blvd.
Heber Springs, AR 72543

Contact: Tonya Benton-Intake
Phone: (501) 362-3229
E-mail: tonya.benton@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Mondays at 9:00 a.m.
Location: County Courthouse: 110 D. Tulaka Blvd.,
Heber Springs, AR 72543

Court Session: Mondays at 9:30 a.m.
Location: County Courthouse: 110 D. Tulaka Blvd.,
Heber Springs, AR 72543
16th Judicial Circuit

County Served: Stone (Mountain View, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Post-adjudication

Judge: Hon. John Dan Kemp

Court Address: 107 W. Main Street, Suite G
Mountain View, AR 72560

Contact: Dan Trammell-Intake
Phone: 870-269-5225
E-mail: danny.trammell@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Mondays at 4:15 p.m.
Location: Courtroom Probation Office: 301 Industrial Drive
Mountain View, AR 72560

Court Session: Mondays at 4:30 p.m.
Location: Courtroom Probation Office: 301 Industrial Drive
Mountain View, AR 72560
17th Judicial Circuit

County Served: White (Searcy, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. Craig Hannah

Court Address: White County Courthouse
Court Square
Searcy, AR 72143

Contact: Rebecca Bohannon-Intake
Phone: 501-279-7990
E-mail: becky.bohannon@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Mondays at 2:45 p.m.
Location: White County Courthouse: Court Square

Court Session: Mondays at 3:00 p.m.
Location: White County Courthouse
18th E. Judicial Circuit

County Served: Garland (Hot Springs, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $11,368.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. John Homer Wright

Court Address: 501 Ouachita Ave., Suite 300
               Hot Springs, AR 71901

Contact: Michael Hall-Probation Officer
Phone: (501) 624-3347
E-mail: michael.j.hall.dcc@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Mondays at 2:30 p.m.
Location: Garland County Courthouse – 3rd Floor, Jury Room

Court Session: Mondays at 3:30 p.m.
Location: Garland County Courthouse – 3rd Floor, Room 300
18th W. Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Polk, Montgomery (Mena, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $12,956.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. J. W. Looney

Court Address: 507 Church Street
Mena, AR 71953

Contact: Steve Free – Counselor
Phone: 479-394-4107
E-mail: Steven.Free@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: 1st Monday of the month at 8:00 a.m.
Location: 507 Church Street, Mena AR – Jury Room

Court Session: 1st Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m.
*Reviews are on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month*
Location: 507 Church Street, Mena, AR – Courtroom
19th E. Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Carroll (Berryville, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Post-adjudication

Judge: Hon. Kent Crow

Court Address: 44 S. Main
               Eureka Springs, AR 72616

Contact: Danyaile Willing – Probation Officer
Phone: 870-423-5695
E-mail: danyaile.willing@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Day: Every other Monday at 2:30 p.m.
Location: Alternate between two courthouses. Call for location.

Court Session: Day: Every other Monday at 3:00 p.m.
Location: Alternate between two courthouses. Call for location.
19th W. Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Benton (Bentonville, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $23,399.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. Mark Fryauf

Court Address: Benton County Circuit Court Div.3
102 North East “A” Street, Box 2
Bentonville, AR 72712

Contact: Brenda Marshall – Intake
Phone: 479-696-9967
E-mail: brenda.marshall@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Day: 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1:00 p.m.
Location: Department of Community Correction
703 S. E. “J” Street
Bentonville, AR 72712

Court Session: Day: 3rd Thursday & Friday of the month at 9:00 a.m.
Location: Benton County Circuit Court Division 3
20th Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Faulkner (Conway, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011  $13,133.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. Charles Clawson

Court Address: 801 Locust Street
Conway, AR 72034

Contact: Kim Gary – Coordinator
Phone: 501-450-4970
E-mail: kgary@faulknercc.org

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Bi-weekly on Thursdays at 3:00 p.m.
Location: Judge Clawson’s Office

Court Session: Bi-weekly on Fridays at 9:00 a.m.
Location: Faulkner County Courthouse, Courtroom C
21st Judicial Circuit

Counties Served: Crawford (Van Buren, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $12,779.00

Type: Adult - Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. Gary Cottrell – Circuit Judge

Court Address: Crawford County Court
300 Main Street, Room 25
Van Buren, AR 72956

Contact: Ranelle Brock-Officer
Phone: 479-424-3560
E-mail: ranelle.brock@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.
Location: Crawford County Courthouse, Jury Room

Court Session: Day: Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m.
Location: Crawford County Courthouse, Division 1 Courtroom
22nd Judicial Circuit

County Served: Saline (Benton, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $9,416.00

Type: Post–adjudication

Judge: Hon. Robert Herzfeld

Court Address: 321 N. Main
               Benton, AR 72015

Contact: Andy Gill – Prosecutor
Phone: (501) 315-7767
E-mail: acgill07@gmail.com

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Mondays at 1:30 p.m.
Location: Jury Room, Courtroom 4

Court Session: Mondays at 2:00 p.m.
Location: Courtroom 4
23rd Judicial Circuit

County Served: Lonoke (Lonoke, Arkansas)

Treatment Allocation for FY 2011 $8,000.00

Type: Adult - Post-adjudication

Judge: Hon. Phillip Whiteaker

Court Address: 301 N. Center Street
Lonoke, AR 72086

Contact: Mary “Liz” Hayes – Intake
Phone: (501) 676-3378
E-mail: mary.hayes@arkansas.gov

Pre-Court Staffing Session: Fridays at 10:00 a.m.
Location: Lonoke County Courtroom

Court Session: Fridays at 11:00 a.m.
Location: Lonoke County Courtroom