

For immediate release  
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## Mansfield Municipal Mental Health Court Graduation on August 1, 2018—Press Release

The Mansfield Municipal Mental Health Court will hold a graduation ceremony on August 1, 2018 at The Rehab Center, 270 Sterkel Blvd., at 12:00P.M., followed by a reception. Judge Frank Ardis Jr. and Judge Jerry Ault will provide a brief keynote address.

The Mental Health Court was formed and began operating on January 1, 2004 and was the third of its kind in Ohio. It was developed to coordinate court supervision services with treatment providers to divert misdemeanor offenders with severe mental illness from repeated encounters with law enforcement and the jails by increasing treatment compliance and access to services. These services include medication, group and individual counseling, housing, case management, crisis intervention, education and employment. This project was implemented without additional funding from the residents of Mansfield and Richland County.

The Mental Health Court is a voluntary Specialty Court Docket program providing intense supervision of offenders that involves regularly scheduled review hearings with the judge, home visits, curfew checks, drug and alcohol testing and increased communication with the treatment providers. The Mental Health Court program requires at least one year of supervision and treatment, which is organized into four phases, corresponding to individual development. The length of a participant's involvement in the program is determined by the safety needs of the community as well as each individual's needs and progress.

Graduation is open to the public and your attendance would be greatly appreciated.

For more information, please contact Kimberley Romoser, Senior Probation Officer for the Mansfield Municipal Court at 419-755-9603.