

## COMAL COUNTY ACCOUNTABILITY COURT PROGRAM

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### **I. ACCOUNTABILITY (DWI) COURT PURPOSE:**

To promote public safety by reducing the recidivism rate of Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) offenders. Reduce the number of traffic accidents, injuries and deaths related to DWI offenders. Integrate substance abuse treatment with participant accountability with enhanced supervision and judicial monitoring

### **II. ACCOUNTABILITY (DWI) COURT TEAM:**

DWI Court Team Includes representatives from all aspects of the Criminal Justice System to include:

- Court and support staff
- Adult Probation
- Defense Attorney
- District Attorney
- Law Enforcement

### **III. ACCOUNTABILITY (DWI) COURT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:**

- Entry is post-judgment
- Subject to approval of the Accountability Court Team
- Participants to be screened and evaluated
- Convicted of DWI 2<sup>nd</sup> or have special circumstances that warrant entry into the program
- Reside within the service area of the Accountability Court

### **IV. ACCOUNTABILITY (DWI) COURT PHASES:**

#### **A. PHASE I**

- Participate in Phase I for a minimum of 3-4 months
- Participate in the SCRAM program for a minimum of 90 days and pay required fees (a written request for removal is required)
- Appear before the Accountability Court twice monthly (two contacts)
- Report to probation weekly
- Submit to random drug/ alcohol screens (urinalysis)
- Attend Mutual Support Group meetings at the rate of twice monthly and provide verification
- Not allowed to drive for the first 30 days (a written request for an Occupational Driver's License is required)
- Ignition Interlock with Camera is required on any vehicle driven with frequent testing or blow schedule
- Attend groups, classes or treatment as directed
- Attend Accountability Court graduations
- When eligible, provide a written request to advance to phase II

#### **B. PHASE II**

- Participate in Phase II for a minimum of 3-4 months
- Frequent Ignition Interlock testing or blow schedule
- Attend Mutual Support Group meetings at the rate of twice monthly and provide verification
- Report to probation bi-monthly (two contacts)
- Appear before the Accountability Court monthly
- Continue to attend groups/classes/treatment as directed by the Court
- Submit to random drug/alcohol screens (urinalysis)
- Attend Accountability Court graduations
- When eligible, provide a written request to advance to phase III

### **C. PHASE III**

- Participate in Phase III for a minimum of 3-4 months
- Frequent Ignition Interlock testing or blow schedule
- Submit to random alcohol and drug/ alcohol screens (urinalysis)
- Report monthly to probation
- Appear every 6 weeks before the Accountability Court
- Attend Mutual Support Group meetings at the rate of twice monthly and provide verification
- Attend Accountability Court graduations

### **V. ACCOUNTABILITY (DWD) COURT INCENTIVES:**

- Suspension or reduction of jail time
- Suspension or reduction of Court fine
- Suspension or reduction of Community Service Hours
- Eligibility for an Occupational Driver's License
- Assistance obtaining an Occupational Driver's License
- Reduction of reporting upon advancement through the phases
- Small incentives (candy, treats, movie passes, ect.)
- Graduation Ceremony
- Opportunity for change
- Upon successful completion of each program phase the defendant is rewarded a 25% reduction certificate toward the fine and Community Service Restitution hours. A graduation ceremony is held to recognize participant's completion of the program.

### **VI. ACCOUNTABILITY (DWD) COURT SANCTIONS:**

- Time in custody
- Return to previous program phase
- Increased treatment episodes
- Increased alcohol/ drug testing
- Community Service Restitution hours
- Written assignments

### **DWI Court Website:**

Website can be accessed to obtain information regarding eligibility and exclusion criteria, sample conditions of probation, programs required, occupational driver's license, and ignition interlock vendors.

[www.co.comal.tx.us/CCAC.htm](http://www.co.comal.tx.us/CCAC.htm)