

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
2 BILL NO. 2753

By: Peterson, Sherrer and  
Hoskin of the House

3 and

4 Shaw of the Senate  
5  
6

7 An Act relating to criminal procedure; amending 22  
8 O.S. 2011, Sections 471.1 and 471.2, as amended by  
9 Section 2, Chapter 228, O.S.L. 2012 (22 O.S. Supp.  
10 2015, Section 471.2), which relate to the Oklahoma  
11 Drug Court Act; modifying certain definition;  
12 modifying certain eligibility criteria; amending 22  
13 O.S. 2011, Section 988.2, as amended by Section 1,  
14 Chapter 331, O.S.L. 2015 (22 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section  
15 988.2), which relates to the Oklahoma Community  
16 Sentencing Act; modifying certain definition; and  
17 providing an effective date.

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

19 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 22 O.S. 2011, Section 471.1, is  
20 amended to read as follows:

21 Section 471.1 A. For purposes of this act, "drug court", "drug  
22 court program" or "program" means an immediate and highly structured  
23 judicial intervention process for substance abuse treatment of  
24 eligible offenders which expedites the criminal case, and requires  
successful completion of the plea agreement ~~in lieu of~~  
~~incarceration.~~

1 B. Each district court of this state is authorized to establish  
2 a drug court program pursuant to the provisions of this act, subject  
3 to availability of funds. Juvenile drug courts may be established  
4 based upon the provisions of this act; provided, however, juveniles  
5 shall not be held, processed, or treated in any manner which  
6 violates any provision of Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes.

7 C. Drug court programs shall not apply to any violent criminal  
8 offense. Eligible offenses may further be restricted by the rules  
9 of the specific drug court program. Nothing in this act shall be  
10 construed to require a drug court to consider every offender with a  
11 treatable condition or addiction, regardless of the fact that the  
12 controlling offense is eligible for consideration in the program.  
13 Traditional prosecution shall be required where an offender is  
14 determined not appropriate for the drug court program.

15 D. Drug court programs shall require a separate judicial  
16 processing system differing in practice and design from the  
17 traditional adversarial criminal prosecution and trial systems.  
18 Whenever possible, a drug court team shall be designated consisting  
19 of a judge to administer the program, a district attorney, a defense  
20 attorney, and other persons designated by the drug court team who  
21 shall have appropriate understanding of the goals of the program and  
22 of the appropriate treatment methods for the various conditions.  
23 The assignment of any person to the drug court team shall not  
24 preclude the assigned person from performing other duties required

1 in the course of their office or employment. The chief judge of the  
2 judicial district, or if the district has more than one chief judge  
3 than the presiding judge of the Administrative Judicial District,  
4 shall designate one or more judges to administer the drug court  
5 program. The assignment of any judge to a drug court program or the  
6 designation of a drug court docket shall not mandate the assignment  
7 of all substance abuse related cases to the drug court docket or the  
8 program; however, nothing in this act shall be construed to preclude  
9 the assignment of all criminal cases relating to substance abuse or  
10 drug possession as provided by the rules established for the  
11 specific drug court program.

12 E. When a drug court program is established, the arresting  
13 officer shall file the criminal case record for potentially eligible  
14 offenders with the district attorney within four (4) days of the  
15 arrest. The district attorney shall file an information in the case  
16 within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the criminal case record  
17 when the offender appears eligible for consideration for the  
18 program. The information may be amended as necessary when an  
19 offender is denied admittance into the drug court program or for  
20 other purposes as provided in Section 304 of this title. Any person  
21 arrested upon a warrant for his or her arrest shall not be eligible  
22 for the drug court program without the approval of the district  
23 attorney. Any criminal case which has been filed and processed in  
24 the traditional manner shall be cross-referenced to a drug court

1 case file by the court clerk, if the case is subsequently assigned  
2 to the drug court program. The originating criminal case file shall  
3 remain open to public inspection. The judge shall determine what  
4 information or pleadings are to be retained in the drug court case  
5 file, which shall be closed to public inspection.

6 F. The court may request assistance from the Department of  
7 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services which shall be the  
8 primary agency to assist in developing and implementing a drug court  
9 program or from any state or local agency in obtaining the necessary  
10 treatment services which will assure maximum opportunity for  
11 successful treatment, education, and rehabilitation for offenders  
12 admitted to the program. All participating state and local agencies  
13 are directed to coordinate with each other and cooperate in  
14 assisting the district court in establishing a drug court program.

15 G. Each drug court program shall ensure, but not be limited to:

- 16 1. Strong linkage between participating agencies;
- 17 2. Access by all participating parties of a case to information  
18 on the progress of the offender;
- 19 3. Vigilant supervision and monitoring procedures;
- 20 4. Random substance abuse testing;
- 21 5. Provisions for noncompliance, modification of the treatment  
22 plan, and revocation proceedings;
- 23 6. Availability of residential treatment facilities and  
24 outpatient services;

1       7. Payment of court costs, treatment costs, supervision fees,  
2 and program user fees by the offender;

3       8. Methods for measuring application of disciplinary sanctions,  
4 including provisions for:

- 5           a. increased supervision,
- 6           b. urinalysis testing,
- 7           c. intensive treatment,
- 8           d. short-term confinement not to exceed five (5) days,
- 9           e. recycling the offender into the program after a  
10           disciplinary action for a minimum violation of the  
11           treatment plan,
- 12           f. reinstating the offender into the program after a  
13           disciplinary action for a major violation of the  
14           treatment plan, and
- 15           g. revocation from the program; and

16       9. Methods for measuring performance-based effectiveness of  
17 each individual treatment provider's services.

18       H. All drug court programs shall be required to keep reliable  
19 data on recidivism, relapse, restarts, sanctions imposed, and  
20 incentives given.

21       I. Nothing in this section shall prohibit any county from  
22 establishing a drug court for misdemeanor offenses. Such  
23 misdemeanor drug courts shall follow the rules and regulations of  
24 felony drug courts except that the penalty for revocation shall not

1 exceed one (1) year in the county jail or the maximum penalty for  
2 the misdemeanor allowed by statute, whichever is less. The  
3 Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services shall  
4 provide technical assistance to the counties that establish  
5 misdemeanor drug courts.

6 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 22 O.S. 2011, Section 471.2, as  
7 amended by Section 2, Chapter 228, O.S.L. 2012 (22 O.S. Supp. 2015,  
8 Section 471.2), is amended to read as follows:

9 Section 471.2 A. The initial opportunity for review of an  
10 offender for a drug court program shall occur within four (4) days  
11 after the arrest and detention or incarceration of the offender in  
12 the city or county jail, or if an immediate bond release program is  
13 available through the jail, the initial opportunity for review shall  
14 occur in conjunction with the bond release program. When a drug  
15 court is established, the following information shall be initially  
16 reviewed by the sheriff or designee, if the offender is held in a  
17 county jail, or by the chief of police or designee, if the offender  
18 is held in a city jail:

19 1. The offender's arrest or charge does not involve a crime of  
20 violence against any person, unless there is a specific treatment  
21 program in the jurisdiction designed to address domestic violence  
22 and the offense is related to domestic violence and substance abuse;

23 2. The offender has no prior felony conviction in this state or  
24 another state for a violent offense within the last ten (10) years,

1 except as may be allowed in a domestic violence treatment program  
2 authorized by the drug court program. It shall be sufficient for  
3 this paragraph that a criminal history records name search was  
4 conducted and indicated no apparent violent offense;

5 3. The offender's arrest or charge does not involve a violation  
6 of the Trafficking In Illegal Drugs Act, ~~Section 2-414 et seq. of~~  
7 ~~Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes;~~

8 4. The offender has committed a felony offense; and

9 5. The offender:

- 10 a. admits to having a substance abuse addiction,  
11 b. appears to have a substance abuse addiction,  
12 c. is known to have a substance abuse addiction, ~~or~~  
13 d. the arrest or charge is based upon an offense eligible  
14 for the drug court program, or  
15 f. is a person who has had an assessment authorized by  
16 Section 3-704 of Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes  
17 and the assessment recommends the drug court program.

18 B. If it appears to the reviewing officer that the offender may  
19 be potentially eligible for the drug court program based upon a  
20 review of the information in subsection A of this section, the  
21 offender shall be given an eligibility form which may be voluntarily  
22 completed by the offender, and the reviewing officer shall file the  
23 criminal case record within the time prescribed in subsection E of  
24 Section 471.1 of this title. The offender shall not automatically

1 be considered for the program based upon this review. The offender  
2 must request consideration for the drug court program as provided in  
3 subsection C of this section and shall have approval from the  
4 district attorney before being considered for the drug court  
5 program. The eligibility form shall describe the drug court program  
6 for which the offender may be eligible, including, but not limited  
7 to:

8 1. A full description of the drug court process and  
9 investigation;

10 2. A general explanation of the roles and authority of the  
11 supervising staff, the district attorney, the defense attorney, the  
12 treatment provider, the offender, and the judge in the drug court  
13 program;

14 3. A clear statement that the drug court judge may decide after  
15 a hearing not to consider the offender for the drug court program  
16 and in that event the offender will be prosecuted in the traditional  
17 manner;

18 4. A clear statement that the offender is required, before  
19 consideration in the program, to enter a guilty plea as part of a  
20 written plea agreement;

21 5. A clear statement that the plea agreement will specify the  
22 offense to which the guilty plea will be entered and will state any  
23 penalty to be imposed for the offense, both in the event of a  
24



1 successful completion of the drug court program, and in the event of  
2 a failure to complete the program;

3 6. A clear statement that the offender must voluntarily agree  
4 to:

- 5 a. waive the right to a speedy trial,
- 6 b. waive the right to a preliminary hearing,
- 7 c. the terms and conditions of a treatment plan, and
- 8 d. sign a performance contract with the court;

9 7. A clear statement that the offender, if accepted into the  
10 drug court program, may not be incarcerated for the offense in a  
11 state correctional institution or jail upon successful completion of  
12 the program;

13 8. A clear statement that during participation in the drug  
14 court program should the offender fail to comply with the terms of  
15 the agreement, the offender may be sanctioned to serve a term of  
16 confinement of six (6) months in an intermediate revocation facility  
17 operated by the Department of Corrections. An offender shall not be  
18 allowed to serve more than two separate terms of confinement in an  
19 intermediate revocation facility;

20 9. A clear statement that during participation in the drug  
21 court program should the offender:

- 22 a. fail to comply with the terms of the agreements,
- 23 b. be convicted of a misdemeanor offense which reflects a  
24 propensity for violence,

1 c. be arrested for a violent felony offense, or

2 d. be convicted of any felony offense,

3 the offender may be required, after a court hearing, to be revoked  
4 from the program and sentenced without trial pursuant to the  
5 punishment provisions of the negotiated plea agreement; and

6 10. An explanation of the criminal record retention and  
7 disposition resulting from participation in the drug court program  
8 following successful completion of the program.

9 C. 1. The offender may request consideration for the drug  
10 court program as follows:

11 a. if the offender is incarcerated, the offender must  
12 sign and complete the eligibility form and return it  
13 to the sheriff, if the offender is held in the county  
14 jail; or to the chief of police, if the offender is  
15 held in a city jail. The sheriff or chief of police,  
16 upon receipt of the eligibility form, shall file the  
17 form with the district attorney at the time of filing  
18 the criminal case record or at any time during the  
19 period of incarceration when the offender completes  
20 the form after the criminal case record has been  
21 filed, or

22 b. after release of the offender from incarceration, the  
23 offender must sign and complete the eligibility form  
24 and file it with the district attorney or the court,

1 prior to or at the time of either initial appearance  
2 or arraignment.

3 2. Any offender desiring legal consultation prior to signing or  
4 completing the form for consideration in a drug court program shall  
5 be referred to the defense attorney of the drug court team, or a  
6 public defender, if the offender is indigent, or allowed to consult  
7 with private legal counsel.

8 3. Nothing contained in the provisions of this subsection shall  
9 prohibit the drug court from considering any offender deemed  
10 eligible for the program at any time prior to sentencing whose case  
11 has been prosecuted in the traditional manner, or upon a violation  
12 of parole or probation conditions relating to substance abuse, upon  
13 recommendation of the district attorney as provided in Section 471.8  
14 of this title.

15 D. When an offender has filed a voluntary request to be  
16 considered for a drug court program on the appropriate form, the  
17 district attorney shall indicate his or her approval of the request  
18 by filing the form with the drug court judge. Upon the filing of  
19 the request form by the district attorney, an initial hearing shall  
20 be set before the drug court judge. The hearing shall be not less  
21 than three (3) work days nor more than five (5) work days after the  
22 date of the filing of the request form. Notice of the hearing shall  
23 be given to the drug court team, or in the event no drug court team  
24 is designated, to the offender, the district attorney, and to the

1 public defender. The offender shall be required to notify any  
2 private legal counsel of the date and time of the hearing.

3 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 22 O.S. 2011, Section 988.2, as  
4 amended by Section 1, Chapter 331, O.S.L. 2015 (22 O.S. Supp. 2015,  
5 Section 988.2), is amended to read as follows:

6 Section 988.2 A. For purposes of the Oklahoma Community  
7 Sentencing Act:

8 1. "Local community sentencing system" means the use of public  
9 and private entities to deliver services to the sentencing court for  
10 punishment of eligible felony offenders under the authority of a  
11 community sentence;

12 2. "Community sentence" or "community punishment" means a  
13 punishment imposed by the court as a condition of a deferred or  
14 suspended sentence for an eligible offender;

15 3. "Continuum of sanctions" means a variety of coercive  
16 measures and treatment options ranked by degrees of public safety,  
17 punitive effect, and cost benefit which are available to the  
18 sentencing judge as punishment for criminal conduct;

19 4. "Community sentencing system planning council" or "planning  
20 council" means a group of citizens and elected officials specified  
21 by law or appointed by the Chief Judge of the Judicial District  
22 which plans the local community sentencing system and with the  
23 assistance of the Community Sentencing Division of the Department of  
24

1 Corrections locates treatment providers and resources to support the  
2 local community sentencing system;

3 5. "Incentive" means a court-ordered reduction in the terms or  
4 conditions of a community sentence which is given for exceptional  
5 performance or progress by the offender;

6 6. "Disciplinary sanction" means a court-ordered punishment in  
7 response to a technical or noncompliance violation of a community  
8 sentence which increases in intensity or duration with each  
9 successive violation;

10 7. "Division" means the Community Sentencing Division within  
11 the Department of Corrections which is the state administration  
12 agency for the Oklahoma Community Sentencing Act, the statewide  
13 community sentencing system, and all local community sentencing  
14 systems;

15 8. "Eligible offender" means a felony offender who has been  
16 convicted of or who has entered a plea other than not guilty to a  
17 felony offense and who upon completion of a Level of Services  
18 Inventory or another assessment instrument has been found to be in a  
19 range other than the low range, who has been convicted of at least  
20 one prior felony, and who is not otherwise prohibited by law;  
21 provided, or is a person who has had an assessment authorized by  
22 Section 3-704 of Title 43A of the Oklahoma Statutes and the  
23 assessment recommends community sentencing. Provided, however, that  
24 no person who has been convicted of or who has entered a plea other

1 than not guilty to an offense enumerated in paragraph 2 of Section  
2 571 of Title 57 of the Oklahoma Statutes, as an exception to the  
3 definition of "nonviolent offense" shall be eligible for a community  
4 sentence or community punishment unless the district attorney or an  
5 assistant district attorney for the district in which the offender's  
6 conviction was obtained consents thereto. The district attorney may  
7 consent to eligibility for an offender who has a mental illness or a  
8 developmental disability or a co-occurring mental illness and  
9 substance abuse disorder and who scores in the low range on the LSI  
10 or has an assessment authorized by Section 3-704 of Title 43A of the  
11 Oklahoma Statutes or another assessment instrument if the offender  
12 is not otherwise prohibited by law. Any consent by a district  
13 attorney shall be made a part of the record of the case; and

14 9. "Statewide community sentencing system" means a network of  
15 all counties through their respective local community sentencing  
16 systems serving the state judicial system and offering support  
17 services to each other through reciprocal and interlocal agreements  
18 and interagency cooperation.

19 B. For the purposes of the Oklahoma Community Sentencing Act,  
20 if a judicial district does not have a Chief Judge or if a judicial  
21 district has more than one Chief Judge, the duties of the Chief  
22 Judge provided for in the Oklahoma Community Sentencing Act shall be  
23 performed by the Presiding Judge of the Judicial Administrative  
24 District.

