

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 50th Legislature (2005)

HOUSE BILL 1462

By: Sherrer

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to criminal procedure; amending 22 O.S. 2001, Sections 471.2 and 471.9, which relate to eligibility and successful completion of drug court program; modifying eligibility requirements; providing for the continuation of monitoring after completion of drug court program; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 22 O.S. 2001, Section 471.2, is amended to read as follows:

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

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

2. The offender has no prior felony conviction in this state or another state for a violent offense, except as may be allowed in a domestic violence treatment program authorized by the drug court

program. It shall be sufficient for this paragraph that a criminal history records name search was conducted and indicated no apparent violent offense;

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

4. The offender has committed a felony or misdemeanor offense; and

5. The offender:

- a. admits to having a substance abuse addiction,
- b. appears to have a substance abuse addiction,
- c. is known to have a substance abuse addiction, or
- d. the arrest or charge is based upon an offense eligible for the drug court program.

B. If it appears to the reviewing officer that the offender may be potentially eligible for the drug court program based upon a review of the information in subsection A of this section, the offender shall be given an eligibility form which may be voluntarily completed by the offender, and the reviewing officer shall file the criminal case record within the time prescribed in subsection E of Section ~~2~~ 471.1 of this ~~act~~ title. The offender shall not automatically be considered for the program based upon this review. The offender must request consideration for the drug court program as provided in subsection C of this section and shall have approval from the district attorney before being considered for the drug court program. The eligibility form shall describe the drug court program for which the offender may be eligible, including, but not limited to:

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

2. A general explanation of the roles and authority of the supervising staff, the district attorney, the defense attorney, the

treatment provider, the offender, and the judge in the drug court program;

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

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

5. A clear statement that the plea agreement will specify the offense to which the guilty plea will be entered and will state any penalty to be imposed for the offense, both in the event of a successful completion of the drug court program, and in the event of a failure to complete the program;

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

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

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

8. A clear statement that during participation in the drug court program should the offender:

- a. fail to comply with the terms of the agreements,
- b. be convicted of a misdemeanor offense which reflects a propensity for violence,
- c. be arrested for a violent felony offense, or
- d. be convicted of any felony offense,

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

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

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

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

b. after release of the offender from incarceration, the offender must sign and complete the eligibility form and file it with the district attorney or the court, prior to or at the time of either initial appearance or arraignment.

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

3. Nothing contained in the provisions of this subsection shall prohibit the drug court from considering any offender deemed eligible for the program at any time prior to sentencing whose case

has been prosecuted in the traditional manner, or upon a violation of parole or probation conditions relating to substance abuse, upon recommendation of the district attorney as provided in Section ~~9~~ 471.8 of this ~~act~~ title.

D. When an offender has filed a voluntary request to be considered for a drug court program on the appropriate form, the district attorney shall indicate his or her approval of the request by filing the form with the drug court judge. Upon the filing of the request form by the district attorney, an initial hearing shall be set before the drug court judge. The hearing shall be not less than three (3) work days nor more than five (5) work days after the date of the filing of the request form. Notice of the hearing shall be given to the drug court team, or in the event no drug court team is designated, to the offender, the district attorney, and to the public defender. The offender shall be required to notify any private legal counsel of the date and time of the hearing.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 22 O.S. 2001, Section 471.9, is amended to read as follows:

Section 471.9 A. When an offender has successfully completed the drug court program, the criminal case against the offender shall be:

1. Dismissed if the offense was a first felony offense; or
2. If the offender has a prior felony conviction, the disposition shall be as specified in the written plea agreement.

B. The final disposition order for a drug court case shall be filed with the judge assigned to the case, and shall indicate the sentence specified in the written plea agreement. A copy of the final disposition order for the drug court case shall also be filed in the original criminal case file under the control of the court clerk which is open to the public for inspection. Original criminal case files which are under the control of the court clerk and which are subsequently assigned to the drug court program shall be marked

with a pending notation until a final disposition order is entered in the drug court case. After an offender completes the program, the drug court case file shall be sealed by the judge and may be destroyed after ten (10) years. The district attorney shall have access to sealed drug court case files without a court order.

C. A record pertaining to an offense resulting in a successful completion of a drug court program shall not, without the offender's consent in writing, be used in any way which could result in the denial of any employee benefit.

D. Successful completion of a drug court program shall not prohibit any administrative agency from taking disciplinary action against any licensee or from denying a license or privilege as may be required by law.

E. Any offender may be subject to continued monitoring in the manner and form determined by the court for up to twelve (12) months following successful completion of the drug court program.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2005.

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