

# THE RIGHTS OF THE PARENTS



# FAMILY RECOVERY COURT CONTACT INFO



# CUYAHOGA COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

## FAMILY RECOVERY COURT



### FEATURED COURT STAFF

#### JUDGE

KRISTIN W. SWEENEY

#### MAGISTRATE

DANIEL BARTOS

#### CASE MANAGEMENT CLERK

MARGARET SANDERS

216-698-2250

#### MANAGER

MELANIE MILLER

216-443-3142

**If you will not be in Court, you must  
contact either:**

### Department of Children and Family Services Social Worker

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Public Defender

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Public Defenders Office

216-443-7295

**Failure to contact one of the above  
individuals before The hearing is  
scheduled to begin will result in an  
unexcused absence and could result in  
a warrant being issued for your arrest.**

### Main Number

216-443-8400

### Location

Cuyahoga County  
Juvenile Justice Center  
9300 Quincy Avenue Cleveland,  
Ohio 44106

***If you are unable to attend court for a valid  
reason, you must contact the appropriate party  
before court to explain why you will not be  
attending the hearing.***

# THE PARENTS RESPONSIBILITIES



- Arrive at all hearings, meetings and other appointments on time
- Follow the case plan and the recommendations of your treatment provider, including attending an assessment, treatment, urinalysis testing and 12-step meetings
- Inform the Recovery Court Team of any changes in address or phone number
- Address the Magistrate, Judge and all Recovery Court personnel in a respectful manner.
- Dress appropriately for all courtroom appearances - no shorts, belly shirts, mini-skirts or revealing clothing

# PROGRAM



## DESCRIPTION

- Our mission is to identify and protect children who are at risk of harm due to substance abuse by the parent.
- Our goal is to assist parents in obtaining the necessary services to address their substance abuse addiction, while keeping their children safe.
- Our Court will accept cases where a filing has been completed by the Department of Children and Family Services, alleging a child to be abused, neglected or dependent when the case is assigned to the S.T.A.R.T. Unit or upon referral from another courtroom.
- The Family Recovery Court is an intensive program designed to reduce the time that a child spends in placement away from his/her home while at the same time working with the parents to resolve their substance abuse disorder in a way that reduces the possibility of relapse.
- Parents are eligible to participate in the Family Recovery Court when CCDCFS has filed a complaint alleging the child to be abused, neglected and/or dependent and the case has been assigned to the S.T.A.R.T. Unit and acceptance has been approved by all team members.

# PARTICIPATION



## QUALIFICATIONS

- You cannot participate in the program if you are using ongoing prescription narcotics. If you are prescribed a narcotic during the pendency of your case, you must inform the Recovery Court Team and a review of the situation will be held.
- If you have open warrants, they must be vacated within sixty (60) days of your entry into Recovery Court.

You are subject to SANCTIONS for any of the following:

- Unexcused absences from Court;
- Failure to provide documentation of required 12-step meetings;
- Failure to participate in random urinalysis testing;
- Failure to attend treatment;
- Failure to abide by orders of court.

SANCTIONS may include increased 12-step meetings, community service, completing court assigned projects, jail time and/or discharge from the program.

## RELATED DIVISIONS

Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services, S.T.A.R.T. Unit  
Office of the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor  
Division of Children and Family Services  
Office of the Cuyahoga County Public Defender, Juvenile Division

# COMMON



## QUESTIONS

### SHOULD I GET A LAWYER?

You are entitled to have counsel represent you at all stages of your case. An attorney will be assigned to you at your first hearing and will represent you throughout the pendency of the case in drug court

### CAN I VISIT MY CHILD IF HE OR SHE IS IN CUSTODY?

You have a right to visit your child, unless the Court tells you otherwise. The Recovery Court Team will work together to ensure that visitation is as frequent as possible between you and your child.

### HOW LONG WILL I BE IN RECOVERY COURT?

Your case may not be allowed to stay in Family Recovery Court for longer than one(1) year unless you have documented, uninterrupted sobriety of more than six(6) months and need to stay longer for a good reason. Your participation is always subject to review.

### WHEN WILL MY CHILD COME HOME?

The goal of the Recovery Court Team is protection of children, and reunification and stabilization of families. Your child will be returned to your care as soon as his or her safety and future well-being can be assured.