



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: March 14, 2017

DATE: February 21, 2017
TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Dexter Thomas, Court Administrator, Reno Justice Court
325-6543, dthomas@washoecounty.us
THROUGH: Pierre Hascheff, Chief Judge, Reno Justice Court, 325-6550,
phascheff@washoecounty.us
SUBJECT: Approve to acknowledge a DUI Specialty Court grant award from the Judicial Council of the State of Nevada (JCSN) and the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), to establish a DUI Court, [\$25,000.00/ no match required], retroactive from January 18, 2017 through June 30, 2017; and direct the Comptroller to make the appropriate budget adjustments. (All Commission Districts)

SUMMARY

In April 2016, Reno Justice Court applied to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) for funding from NRS 176.0613 (AB29) to create a specialty court for DUI defendants. In June 2016, Reno Justice Court received notification that a \$25,000 grant award had been conditionally approved for FY 2017. The prescribed conditions were satisfied and Reno Justice Court received notice in January 2017 that the first of two quarterly grant payments would be transferred on January 18, 2017. The DUI Specialty Court will target 2nd time DUI offenders.

Washoe County's Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, secure and healthy communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION

No previous action has been taken on the Reno Justice Court's DUI Specialty Court. Reno Justice Court has operated the Court Compliance Program since 2000; the Community Court funded specialty courts since 2013, and the Domestic Violence Compliance Court since 2016. All of these courts have received state and/or federal grant funding to operate.

AGENDA ITEM # 5.B

BACKGROUND

In April 2016, Reno Justice Court applied to the Judicial Council of the State of Nevada (JCSN) for a State General Fund allocation to support the creation of a DUI Specialty Court. The grant request was conditionally approved in June 2016 and the conditions of the approval were satisfied, as prescribed, by January 1, 2017. No match is required to receive funding. This grant award is retroactive to January 18, 2017, when the first disbursement of \$12,500.00 was received. The final disbursement of \$12,500.00 will be transmitted in the 4th quarter of FY17.

The objective of the DUI Court is to help criminal defendants overcome their alcohol dependency, gain and maintain sobriety and live clean, healthy lives. The changes in individual's behaviors and lifestyles will result in reducing recidivism, while reducing the threat of individuals driving under the influence and/or driving while impaired in Washoe County. The DUI Court will improve public safety by educating drivers on the dangers of driving under the influence and/or driving while impaired of our highways.

The Reno Justice Court DUI Court will supplement the Court Compliance Program (CCP). The Court Compliance Program has successfully operated since July 2000 to provide tailored services to defendants with substance abuse needs. The newly formed DUI Specialty Court will follow the National Association of Drug Court Professionals' Adult DUI Court Best Practices and Standards. DUI Court participants will include defendants charged with their second DUI offense or first time offenders with >0.18 blood alcohol content or that cause property damage. The DUI Court is designed to serve 100 participants.

Defendants will be monitored by the Department of Alternative Sentencing (DAS) and will also utilize Sober24 for daily testing. In addition to Sober24, the Court may use best practices for this population such as ignition interlock, GPS, TAD and SCRAM devices to monitor the location and alcohol consumption of program participants.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: DUI Specialty Court

Scope of the Project: Establish a DUI Specialty Court that will follow the National Association of Drug Court Professionals' Adult DUI Court Best Practices and Standards.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: The DUI Specialty Court program will help criminal defendants overcome their alcohol dependency, gain and maintain sobriety, and live clean, healthy lives. The changes in individual's behaviors and lifestyles will result in reducing recidivism, while reducing the threat of individuals driving under the influence and/or driving while impaired in Washoe County

On-Going Program Support: On-going support of this program will be partially funded through program fees paid by participants. Reno Justice Court will continue to apply for additional grant funds from the JCSN on an annual basis.

Award Amount: \$25,000.00
Grant Period: January 18, 2017 – June 30, 2017
Funding Source: NV Administrative Office of the Courts
Pass through From: N/A
CFDA Number: N/A
Grant ID Number: N/A
Match Amount and Type: No match required
Sub-Awards and Contracts: N/A

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the adopted budget will be increased by \$25,000.00 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

Cost Object	G/L Account	Amount
Revenue:		
IO # XXXXX	432100 – State Grant	\$25,000.00
Expenditures:		
IO # XXXXX	710100 – Professional Services	\$11,000.00
IO # XXXXX	710300 – Operating Supplies	\$4,000.00
IO # XXXXX	710500 – Other Expenses	\$10,000.00

No match is required to accept this grant award.

The above budget does not include associated staffing impacts to the Alternative Sentencing, District Attorney or public defense functions to cover and support this additional specialty court.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners acknowledge a DUI Specialty Court grant award from the Judicial Council of the State of Nevada (JCSN) and the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), to establish a DUI Specialty Court, [\$25,000.00/ no match required], retroactive from January 18, 2017 through June 30, 2017; and direct the Comptroller to make the appropriate budget adjustments.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be:

“Move to acknowledge a DUI Specialty Court grant award from the Judicial Council of the State of Nevada (JCSN) and the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), to establish a DUI Specialty Court, [\$25,000.00/ no match required], retroactive from January 18, 2017 through June 30, 2017; and direct the Comptroller to make the appropriate budget adjustments.”