



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Drug Courts are specialized court programs that allow substance abuse offenders an opportunity to enter a drug treatment and recovery program rather than incarceration; and

WHEREAS, Drug Courts significantly reduce illegal drug use and criminal behavior at a substantial cost savings to the state's prison system; and

WHEREAS, Drug Courts were first instituted in Hawai'i in 1996, beginning on O'ahu and then on Maui (2000), Hawai'i Island (2002), Kaua'i (2003), and Moloka'i (2006); and

WHEREAS, by providing treatment and supervision through a Drug Court in the community, the state saves \$150 daily per individual not incarcerated in the correctional centers; and

WHEREAS, participants must complete substance abuse treatment; undergo frequent and random drug and alcohol testing; attend frequent court hearings; and with assistance, obtain employment and housing; and

WHEREAS, more than 2,300 people have graduated from Hawai'i Drug Court programs; and

WHEREAS, families are strengthened because Drug Court participants get clean and sober and go on to live positive, pro-social lives; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i State Judiciary greatly values the support of the State Legislature, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, Office of the Public Defender, private attorneys, treatment and rehabilitation professionals, law enforcement, educators, employers, and government and community leaders for their tremendous support;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim May 2021 as

"NATIONAL DRUG COURT MONTH"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join me in recognizing the value and impact of Drug Courts that provide hope and opportunities for individuals to reclaim their lives from substance abuse.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this thirtieth day of April 2021.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i