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| **healing to wellness court** 14  *Initial Hearing* **process/Procedure Bench Card** | | | | | | |
| **The participant’s first hearing with the judge, team and peers sets the tone for his/her comprehensive, court-supervised healing process. The participant leaves the initial hearing fully informed of participation requirements and of all other pertinent aspects of the Healing to Wellness Court.** | | | | |
| Path – Process | | | Protocol – Procedure | | |
|  | | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Court Convenes Initial Hearing** | □ | | **Court Calls New Participant** | □ | | **Court Reviews Case File & Contents with Participant** | □ | | **Court’s Reviews Wellness Court Process with Participant/Counsel** | □ | | **Court Considers Comments from Team** | □ | | **Inquire if Participant has Questions** | □ | | **Court Closes Initial Hearing** | □ | | | |
| ***Action Judge’s response – responsibilities*** | | | | | |
| Initial Hearing Convened;  Court Calls New Participant | □ Welcome/introductions; quick announcements, etc. (unless done at Review Hearing)  □ Proceed with prearranged order of new clients | | | | |
| Review of Case File  & Contents with Participant | □ Review with participant the case file’s primary documents (Order, Contract, receipt of Handbook, etc.)  □ Check documents for participant signature  □ Check documents for counsel or parents/guardian signatures | | | | |
| Review of Wellness Court Process with Participant/Counsel | □ Review procedural history/participant’s criminal or other court status  □ Review important rules/ policies and procedures with participant  □ Review general components of Treatment/Wellness Plan (Phase Requirements)  □ Review sanctions and termination policy  □ Review the week’s tasks (what is to be done by the 1st Review Hearing) | | | | |
| Team Comments & Client Questions | □ Solicit welcome/comments from team  □ Solicit comments/questions from participant’s counsel, family, support persons  □ Ask participant for any questions | | | | |
| Court Closes Initial Hearing | □ Encouragement/Guidance/Direction/Warning | | | | |
| Record, Research & Rule References | | | | | |
| Data Points & Performance Measures  # days from referral/transfer to acceptance of client  # days from acceptance to Initial Hearing of client  # of types of charges/conduct presenting for client  # of new participants appearing per month/qtr.  # of Wellness/Tx Plans created/revised per month  # of types of charges dismissed/deferred per client | | **Wellness Court Policies & Procedures** | | Court Rules | |
| Code/Statutes Sections | |
| Resources/Technology: [www.home.tlpi.org](http://www.home.tlpi.org), [www.wellnesscourts.org](http://www.wellnesscourts.org), [www.ndci.org](http://www.ndci.org), [www.american.edu/spa/jpo/initiatives/drug-court/](http://www.american.edu/spa/jpo/initiatives/drug-court/) , [www.ndcdr.org](http://www.ndcdr.org), [www.drugcourtonline.org](http://www.drugcourtonline.org) | | | | | |
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