News for Immediate Release

Nov. 19, 2026

Franklin County Treatment Courts Earn Pennsylvania Supreme Court Certification

HARRISBURG, PA – Franklin County Common Pleas President Judge Shawn Meyers announced today that the county Good Wolf Treatment Court has officially earned certification from the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

Certification marks an important step for the county's justice system. It shows that these programs use proven methods and deliver high-quality services, resulting in higher recovery rates for participants and helping them build stable, productive lives.

"As President Judge, I am always heartened when a program in our criminal justice system achieves tangible results. This certification is proof positive of the dedication and commitment our stakeholders have to improving lives and ensuring those challenged by addiction are given the means to a sober life," said President Judge Meyers.

"I commend Presiding Judge Jeremiah Zook, Treatment Coordinator Rachael Geesaman and the entire team that works day in and day out to better the lives of their fellow citizens."

Treatment court programs help eligible people get treatment and support as they prepare to return to their communities. In Franklin County, these certified courts connect participants with jobs, housing, treatment, and other needed services.

"The Supreme Court's certification of Franklin County's The Good Wolf Treatment Court represents not only a recognition that we are operating according to best practices but also affirms our commitment to helping individuals who want to change their lives for the better," said Franklin County Presiding Judge Jeremiah Zook.

“Our Treatment Court brings together the court, adult probation, the district attorney, the public defender, and recovery/treatment professionals to hold individuals accountable in conjunction with helping them change their own lives.”

Together, they help participants build sober, productive lives and create a sense of shared purpose and trust.

Treatment courts aim to help people change through treatment instead of sending them to jail. Judges are more involved, and participants receive close supervision and access to the services they need.

Pennsylvania’s first drug court opened in Philadelphia in 1997, starting a strong statewide movement. Since then, programs have expanded to include DUI courts, juvenile drug courts, veterans courts and mental health courts. This growth shows our courts’ commitment to meeting the needs of different groups.

Today, Pennsylvania has more than 136 treatment courts. These courts help people with substance use, mental health, and co-occurring disorders work toward recovery and build support in their communities. Pennsylvania leads by building partnerships and investing significant resources in these programs.

Editor’s Note:

Franklin County’s Treatment Court program began in April 2017 as an alternative to traditional sentencing for non-violent offenders struggling with substance use. The program identifies eligible participants, assesses their needs and creates individualized treatment plans. Using proven, evidence-based practices, it provides intensive treatment, close supervision, and regular interaction with a judge. Working together as a team, the treatment court professionals address participants’ treatment and community needs while holding them accountable. The program runs for at least 24 months, with progress based on meeting program goals and following treatment plans.

###

Media Contact: Kimberly Bathgate, 717-576-4373