

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

420
A



FROM: Director of Mental Health

SUBMITTAL DATE:
April 19, 2004

SUBJECT: Proclaim May, 2004 as National Drug Court Month in Riverside County. All Districts.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Supervisors Proclaim May, 2004 as National Drug Court Month in Riverside County.

BACKGROUND: Since the establishment of the first drug court in 1995, the goals have been met to offer an alternative to incarceration for qualified drug abuse offenders. The Riverside County Drug Courts enable communities to offer an effective and cost efficient way to help non-violent drug offenders commit to a rigorous drug treatment program in lieu of prison. The Drug Courts are an excellent way to make strides forward in winning the war against drugs.

Departmental Concurrence

JJR: PR

[Signature]
John J. Ryan, Director of Mental Health

FINANCIAL DATA

Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 0	In Current Year Budget:	N/A
Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	N/A
Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	2003/2004

SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A

Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

County Executive Office Signature

[Signature: Dan Martin]

Dept't
 Consent
 Policy
 Consent
 Policy
 Per Exec.

Prev. Agn. Ref.: May 14, 2002

District: All

Agenda Number: 2.3

2.3

SUBJECT: Proclaim May, 2004 as National Drug Court Month in Riverside County. Department of Mental Health All Districts.

BACKGROUND

In Riverside County, the Drug Court sites are located in Cathedral City, Blythe, and Riverside. Like many of the over 1,500 drug courts in operation, the drug courts in Riverside County hear cases of offenders that are charged with drug-related crimes. The drug court relieves the already overwhelmed court dockets, placing offenders in an environment where they undergo treatment and counseling, submit to frequent and random drug testing, make regular appearances before the judge and are monitored closely for program compliance.

The campaign is designed to reclaim the values of healthy drug-free living. Drug Court Month provides Riverside County and the nation with a framework in which it builds visible support for a drug free society. Riverside County Drug Courts have proven that drug usage by offenders is substantially reduced when they are enrolled in drug court programs. Therefore, the Department of Mental Health requests that the Board of Supervisors proclaim the Month of May as National Drug Court Month.

PROCLAMATION

In Support of Establishing May, 2004 as "National Drug Court Month"

WHEREAS, The Riverside County Board of Supervisors and the Department of Mental Health recognize the important contributions of the Riverside County Drug Courts which are proven to be an excellent way to make strides forward in winning the war against drugs; and

WHEREAS, drug courts provide the focus and leadership for community-wide, anti-drug systems, bringing together criminal justice, treatment, education and other community partners in the fight against drug abuse and criminality; and

WHEREAS, drug court programs combine intensive judicial supervision, mandatory substance abuse treatment and drug testing and escalating sanctions and incentives in order to break the cycle of drug addiction and its concomitant crime; and

WHEREAS, the judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, treatment and rehabilitation professionals, law enforcement and corrections personnel, researchers and educators, national and community leaders and others dedicated to the movement have had a profound impact through hard work and commitment to their communities; and

WHEREAS, the drug court movement has grown from the 12 original drug courts in 1994 to over 1,200 drug courts that are in operation or in the planning stages; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of Riverside County declares that a National Drug Court Month be established during the Month of May, 2004, recognizing the practitioners and participants who make drug courts work and the significant contributions that drug courts have made, and continue to make, in reducing drug usage and crime.

Bob Buster, Chairman
Supervisor, First District

John F. Tavaglione
Supervisor, Second District

Jim Venable
Supervisor, Third District

Roy Wilson
Supervisor, Fourth District

Marion Ashley
Supervisor, Fifth District