

Court of Common Pleas

County of Summit

General Division

209 SOUTH HIGH STREET
AKRON, OHIO 44308

For Immediate Release

May 19, 2017

***Judge Joy Malek Oldfield Announces Turning Point Drug Court
Graduation Ceremony in Celebration of National Drug Court Month***

Summit County, Ohio: Judge Joy Malek Oldfield has announced a Turning Point Drug Court graduation ceremony being held Monday, May 22, 2017 at 11:00 am., in celebration of National Drug Court Month. Five Turning Point participants will graduate at this event, and will share their journeys of recovery in the program. Their family and friends, Drug Court team members, and many other Turning Point participants will be in attendance. The ceremony marks their completion of an intensive program of comprehensive substance use treatment, close supervision, and full accountability.

Turning Point is a judicially supervised court docket that reduces correctional costs, protects community safety, and improves public welfare. Turning Point participants must meet their obligations to themselves, their families, and society. To ensure accountability, they are regularly and randomly tested for drug use, required to appear frequently in Court for review of their progress, rewarded for doing well and sanctioned for not living up to their obligations. At the end of their successful completion, participants take part in a graduation ceremony as their last status hearing in court.

Turning Point was developed from Summit County Felony Drug Court which started in 2002. It is a collaborative program of the Summit County Common Pleas Court, Oriana House, Inc., the Summit County Prosecutor's Office, the Summit County Executive's Office, and local police departments.

"I am honored to serve as the Presiding Judge for Turning Point and through this event bring public awareness to the successes of Drug Court programs. Drug courts and veteran's treatment courts represent one of the most successful strategies in our nation's history for reducing crime," stated Judge Malek Oldfield.

"I have a passion for working with people in recovery. It is one of the most rewarding aspects of my judicial career and I look forward to the continued success of the Turning Point Program." concluded Judge Oldfield.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Turning Point program should contact Ronya Habash at 330.643.7844.

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