



For Immediate Release

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***Judge Joy Malek Oldfield, Turning Point Program Presiding Judge
Announces Ohio Supreme Court Certification***

Summit County, Ohio: Summit County Common Pleas Judge Joy Malek Oldfield's Turning Point Program has earned recertification from the Ohio Supreme Court's Commission on Specialized Dockets.

Having successfully presided over the Turning Point Program since February 13, 2017, Judge Oldfield was first awarded Supreme Court certification in 2017. To receive her most recent recertification, Judge Oldfield had to submit an application, undergo a virtual site visit, and provide specific program materials in response to certification standards.

Turning Point is a specialized docket for non-violent, drug-dependent offenders that receive intensive court supervision, participate in appropriate drug and mental health treatment, and submit to random drug and alcohol testing. Turning Point's mission is to improve the overall quality of life in Summit County by providing a cost-effective way to reduce crime and allow offenders to transform into positive, contributing community members.

Oldfield, who has a passion for working with people in recovery, said, "I'm truly honored to continue presiding over the Turning Point Program. It is one of the most rewarding aspects of my judicial career."

Judge Oldfield continued, "I have seen the many accomplishments of our participants and the positive impact the Turning Point Program continues to have in our community. I'm grateful to be part of such a successful program and pleased to have received recertification by the Ohio Supreme Court."

Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor congratulated the Turning Point Program and Judge Joy Malek Oldfield for receiving final certification. "Specialized dockets divert offenders toward criminal justice initiatives that employ tools and tailored services to treat and rehabilitate the offender so they can become productive members of

society,” said Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O’Connor. “Studies have shown this approach works by reducing recidivism while saving tax dollars.”

The certification requirements include establishing eligibility requirements, evaluating effectiveness of the specialized docket, and assembling a treatment team for implementing daily operations of the specialized docket. The Commission on Specialized Dockets has 22 members who advise the Supreme Court and its staff regarding the promotion of statewide rules and uniform standards concerning specialized dockets in Ohio courts; the development and delivery of specialized docket services to Ohio courts; and the creation of training programs for judges and court personnel. The commission makes all decisions regarding final certification.

Additional information about the Turning Point Program can be found on the Common Pleas Court website at [The Turning Point Program | Summit County Court of Common Pleas \(summitcpcourt.net\)](http://www.summitcpcourt.net).

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