

News Release

**Honorable Joy Malek Oldfield, Presiding Judge
Turning Point Program
Summit County Court of Common Pleas
General Division**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contacts: **Jillian Zetts (330) 643-2321**
jzetts@cpcourt.summitoh.net

Nicole Lambert (330) 643-5366
nlambert@cpcourt.summitoh.net

Turning Point Program Presiding Judge Joy Malek Oldfield participates in National Expert panel with SAMHSA Center for Substance Abuse Treatment

Summit County, Ohio: Judge Joy Malek Oldfield participated by invitation in the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) national expert panel on Trauma Informed Treatment Courts. SAMHSA coordinated this effort in partnership with the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) to gather role-specific feedback from treatment court team members to help inform the development of guidance for implementing trauma informed approaches in treatment courts.

Research shows that trauma is widespread, and has drawn strong correlations between trauma and substance use disorders. Oldfield presides over Turning Point, a problem-solving, trauma-informed adult drug court under the General Division of the Summit County Court of Common Pleas.

Turning Point offers case management services, Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) treatment, trauma screenings, comprehensive mental health evaluations and recommended treatment, recovery support and counseling offered by a variety of partner treatment providers, including Summa Health System's Traumatic Stress Center, Oriana House, Summit Psychological Associates and Community Health Center, among others. Additionally, Turning Point is the only Summit County specialized docket with a therapy dog, "Tank," who provides a therapeutic boost to court participants.

"Everything we do has an impact on our participants and the community," stated Judge Malek Oldfield. "I'm proud that we are a trauma-informed court, partnering with the wealth of resources in Summit County, treating everyone with dignity, and engaging in a positive setting."

Oldfield, a leader in the field of recovery in criminal justice settings, previously served by invitation for SAMHSA in this area and others. First, in combination with the Bureau of Justice Assistance on a national expert panel to develop guidance for implementing MAT for individuals with substance use disorders. Second, in combination with the GAINS Center and SAMHSA's National Center for Trauma –Informed Care and Alternatives to Restraint and Seclusion (NCTIC) by presenting a webinar on Trauma in Specialty Court Settings. In that webinar, Oldfield provided information on how treatment courts can provide a trauma-informed approach to support the recovery of their participants.

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