



Statement regarding evaluation of Downtown Community Court

March 5, 2014

The Office of the Chief Judge released the following statement with respect to the evaluation report on the Downtown Community Court:

The Court is committed to the Downtown Community Court as an important part of the Downtown Eastside, drawing upon the support of local residents and businesses and a shared vision for a safer community. The evidence is clear that the Downtown Community Court's (DCC) collaborative Case Management Team approach, addressing root causes through integrated services, achieved a reduction in recidivism that is significantly greater than that at a traditional court, and notably for offenders having some of the most complex and long-standing treatment needs. Clearly more study is required to determine how to replicate these results more broadly and in other settings, while being mindful of a need for fiscal effectiveness. This evaluation provides the positive impetus to encourage continuing exploration of the DCC vision in helping offenders break free from the cycle of crime, homelessness, addictions and mental illness.

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