



JUDICIAL ORDER

ORDER OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE

NORTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL BRANCH

DRUG COURT MONTH

THE FIRST DRUG TREATMENT COURT IN NORTH CAROLINA WAS CREATED IN 1995. IN RECOGNITION OF THE SUCCESSFUL OPERATION OF DRUG TREATMENT COURTS IN NORTH CAROLINA FOR THE LAST 25 YEARS, THE MONTH OF MAY IS HEREBY DECLARED AS “DRUG COURT MONTH” FOR THE JUDICIAL BRANCH.

WHEREAS, TREATMENT COURTS HAVE BEEN RESTORING LIVES AND FAMILIES IN NORTH CAROLINA FOR 25 YEARS; AND

WHEREAS, THE OVERALL GOAL OF NORTH CAROLINA’S TREATMENT COURTS IS TO SIGNIFICANTLY BREAK THE CYCLE OF ADDICTION THAT GIVES RISE TO REPEATED LAW-BREAKING EPISODES; AND

WHEREAS, TREATMENT COURTS ARE THE CORNERSTONE OF JUSTICE REFORM SWEEPING THE NATION; AND

WHEREAS, TREATMENT COURTS HAVE SERVED 1.5 MILLION INDIVIDUALS NATIONWIDE; AND

WHEREAS, THEY ARE NOW RECOGNIZED AS THE MOST SUCCESSFUL JUSTICE SYSTEM INTERVENTION IN OUR NATION’S HISTORY; AND

WHEREAS, THEY SAVE AN AVERAGE OF \$6,000 FOR EVERY INDIVIDUAL THEY SERVE; AND

WHEREAS, TREATMENT COURTS SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT OUTCOMES, SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE ADDICTION AND RELATED CRIME, AND DO SO AT LESS EXPENSE THAN ANY OTHER CRIMINAL JUSTICE STRATEGY; AND

WHEREAS, TREATMENT COURTS IMPROVE EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING, AND FINANCIAL STABILITY, PROMOTE FAMILY REUNIFICATION, REDUCE FOSTER CARE PLACEMENTS, AND INCREASE THE RATE OF ADDICTED MOTHERS DELIVERING BABIES WHO ARE FULLY DRUG FREE; AND

WHEREAS, TREATMENT COURTS FACILITATE COMMUNITY-WIDE PARTNERSHIPS, BRINGING TOGETHER PUBLIC SAFETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS; AND

WHEREAS, TREATMENT COURTS DEMONSTRATE THAT WHEN ONE PERSON RISES OUT OF SUBSTANCE USE AND CRIME, WE ALL RISE.

NOW, THEREFORE, I DO HEREBY ORDER THAT THE MONTH OF MAY, 2020, BE DECLARED AS “DRUG COURT MONTH” FOR THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

THIS THE 7TH DAY OF MAY, 2020.

CHERI BEASLEY, CHIEF JUSTICE
SUPREME COURT of NORTH CAROLINA