

Task Force to Study Feasibility of Establishing Opioid Intervention Courts in the State to Hold First Meeting Tuesday, Sept. 18

Connecticut Judicial Branch
Task Force to Study the Feasibility of Establishing Opioid Intervention Courts

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Purpose – The purpose of this committee is to study the feasibility of establishing one or more courts that specialize in the hearing of criminal or juvenile matters in which a defendant is an opioid-dependent person, who could benefit from intensive court monitoring and placement in a substance abuse treatment program.

The Connecticut Judicial Branch, as a result of a public act the General Assembly enacted this year, has scheduled three meetings of the

Task Force to Study the Feasibility of Establishing Opioid Intervention Courts in the State.

The meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 18, Wednesday, Oct. 17, and Monday, Nov. 5. All three meetings are open to the public and will be held in Courtroom C3 at the Torrington Courthouse, 50 Field St., in Torrington. The meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 18, will start at 10 a.m.

Public Act 18-166 created the task force. The legislation requires the Chief Court Administrator, in consultation with the Chief State’s Attorney, the Chief Public Defender and the dean of the University of Connecticut School of Law to study a number of issues, including: an examination of issues pertaining to testing arrestees for opioid use; treatment placement options; development of a rapid integration team to focus on meeting treatment needs; the development of judicial processes to monitor opioid-dependent arrestees; and the use of curfews and electronic monitoring to facilitate successful completion of the treatment program. Other members of the task force will include personnel from the Judicial Branch and the state Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

The first meeting’s agenda includes an overview of current programs designed to assist substance-dependent defendants.