

**Madison County Assessment and Treatment Alternative Court
Mental Health Court**

Criminal Justice Center

509 Ramey, Suite 304

Edwardsville, Illinois 62025

618-692-8961 Fax: 618 692-8984

Officers: Nancy Cooper, Chief

Assistant State's Attorney: Pamela Conforti

Glenda Bell, Supervisor

Public Defender Advocate: Allison Hernandez

Phillip White, PO

Michael Wilkinson, PO

Assessment Specialist: Dennis Baker, MS, LCPC

Case Managers: Chestnut Health Systems, Inc.: Becca Lanter

Community Counseling Center: Gary Vandever

The Mental Health Court is a diversion program in the Probation Department for defendants with severe mental illness, with open criminal misdemeanor charge(s) and some class 3 or 4 felonies. The purpose is to provide a treatment based option to traditional court for defendants with mental illness who choose to participate. Benefits of participation in this diversion include:

- Help with Aftercare following Hospitalization
- Prompt Assessments
- Encouragement and support for recovery efforts
- A Separate Court Process
- Consolidation of relevant open cases
- Early defense attorney involvement
- Expedited treatment services
- A Case Manager to help arrange appointments
- Assistance in application for entitlements
- Transportation
- Emergency Medication Access
- Successful completion results in Dismissal of the relevant charges

Eligible mental illnesses are thought pattern disorders and mood disorders

Currently not eligible are mental retardation, mental disorders directly caused by medical conditions for which the remedy is medical care only, disorders caused only by substance abuse. We will help people with these conditions to find other solutions.

The current program will not be considering accepting ordinance violations, or traffic-only offenses, or cases in which the defendant has been placed on Probation. There must be an open misdemeanor, or class 3 or 4 felony charge.

Referrals can be arranged by contacting Dennis Baker, at 618-692-8961, Fax 692-8984, dlbaker@co.madison.il.us. Voice Mail 296-4907 is available 24/7.

