



A Brief Overview of  
MADD Court Monitoring Revisions  
Lifesavers Conference 2016

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### Revamped Training Launched in 2015

- Prior training materials and methods were inadequate
- Current training provides online or in-person options supplemented by a Training Guide
  - Segments for basic Court Monitoring, Data Base Training, and Training for Supervisors
- What follows are examples of current training (not the complete material)



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### Goals of Court Monitoring



Promoting appropriate sentencing thus reducing the likelihood of repeat DWI offenses. Enhancing transparency and accountability within the criminal justice system.

- Compiling information on the handling of DWI cases.
- Creating relevant reports regarding outcomes.
- Promoting public interest in the justice system and creating awareness in the outcomes of criminal cases.

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### Policy and Guidelines

- **Criminal background** – May be required in some circumstances. All results are kept confidential.
- **Confidential information** - Protect information, especially as it applies to victims, volunteers, employees, or MADD.
- **Gifts & solicitation** - Do not accept any gifts or tips from community partners or others. You may not promote or solicit your business, political agenda, or religious beliefs at any time.

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### Overview of Training



- The Impact of Court Monitoring
- Preparing for Court
- The Criminal Process
- The Role of the Monitor
- Gathering Information in Court
- Court Monitoring through Data Mining
- Volunteer Recruitment
- Resources

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### Impact of Key Studies

- Court monitoring is effective with consistent attendance in court, and should be promoted in areas in which it is currently not taking place.
- Court monitoring has a positive effect on case disposition.
- Recidivism decreases when charges are brought against first time offenders.
- Standardization creates increased reporting and an increase in information that can result in higher conviction rates.

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### Preparing for Court



- The Roles of Key Court Personnel
- Different Court Systems
- Courthouse Security
- Courtroom Decorum

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### Different Court Systems



A DWI Court is a specialty court working to change the behavior of an offender arrested for DWI. The DWI Court or DWI/Drug Court uses accountability and long-term treatment to address the root cause of impaired driving: alcohol and other substance abuse.

MADD does not monitor DWI Court systems

Nor does MADD focus on felony cases for monitoring purposes

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### Courthouse Decorum

- Never wear a name badge, or use anything with a MADD logo on it.
- Dress business or business casual.
- Remain neutral. Do not betray your personal feelings by facial expressions, gestures or remarks.
- At all times, act professionally.



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### Investigation

#### Law enforcement detection:

- Sobriety checkpoint (if allowed by law)
- Saturation patrols
- Traffic stop
- Crash scene investigation
- Concerned citizen report (911 call)

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### Commonly Used Terms

- Plea Hearing
- Voir Dire
- Opening Statement
- State's Case
- Defendant's Case
- Closing Arguments



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### The Courtroom



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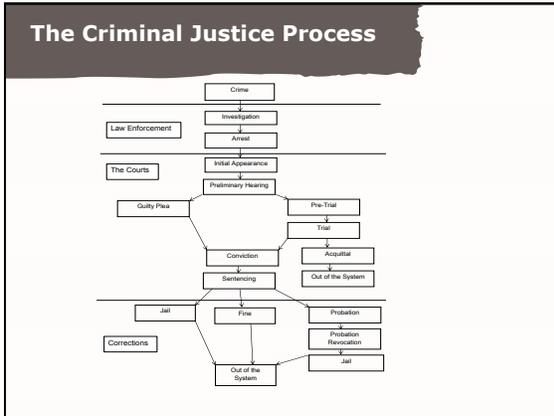
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### The Role of the Monitor

**Cultivating Partnerships:**  
The ability to cultivate partnerships with court personnel is crucial to gathering the information we need.

- Law Enforcement
- Court Clerk

**Maintaining Neutrality:**  
MADD court monitors maintain an objective professional "observer" status, keeping their observations confined to the facts as they can be recorded, and withholding personal conclusions about what they see and hear.

- Boundaries
- Media

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### How to Gather Information in Court

**Familiarize Yourself with the Reporting Form**

- General case information
- Demographic information
- Proceeding information
- Charge information
- Sentence information
- Sentencing guidelines
- Efficiency of courts

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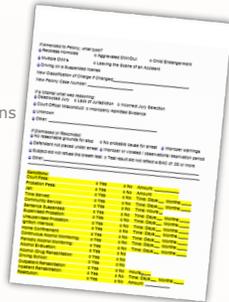
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### Know What Information to Record

#### Sanctions

- Child endangerment enhancements
- Alcohol/drug evaluation
- Probation costs - any reductions
- Ignition interlock assignment
- Home incarceration/electronic monitoring Days /Months
- Alcohol/drug evaluations
- Alcohol/drug rehabilitation
- Deferred adjudication




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### Know What Information to Record

#### Neutrality

- Remain respectful at all times.
- Avoid speaking with defense attorneys, defendants, journalists, witnesses, or jury members.
- Do not post information about monitoring or the cases you have monitored on any social media at any time.
- Respectful relationships with court personnel give credibility to current and future monitors, and the Court Monitoring Program.

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### Court Monitoring Through Data Mining



While being present in the courtroom is preferred, there are some instances where it may not be possible. Data mining allows monitors to gather information directly from court records using the internet.

- Benefits of Data Mining
- Drawbacks of Data Mining
- Jail Record Information

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### Reporting



- Database Entry
- Trend & Data Analysis
- Grants
- Reporting & Media

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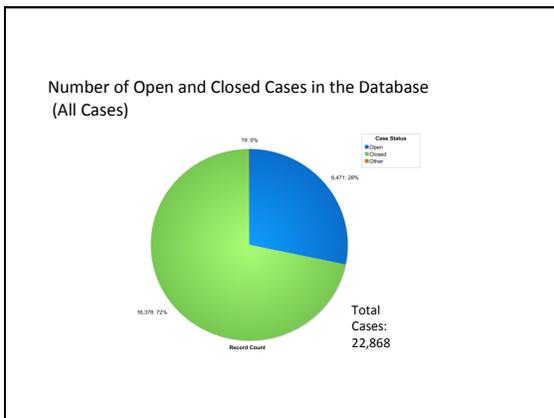
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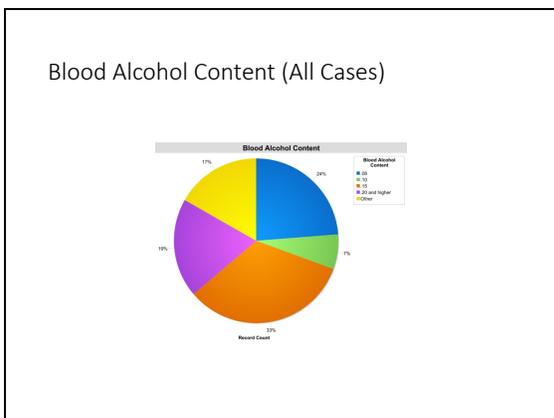
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**Recruiting & Working with Court Monitor Volunteers**

**Recruitment Packets**

- Executive Summary
- Volunteer Role Description
- Court Monitoring Program Brochure
- Yes, I'm Interested Response Card
- Volunteer Application



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**Recruiting & Working with Court Monitor Volunteers**

**Collaborating with Colleges and Universities**

- Service learning centers
- Working with a professor to participate
- Additional time needed for students
- Majors that would benefit most from court monitoring
- Experiences the court monitoring program can provide to students



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National Law Enforcement Initiatives Manager  
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