

Supreme Court of Florida

PROCLAMATION

In re: Problem-Solving Court Month and Opioid and Stimulant Use Disorder Awareness Month

WHEREAS, substance use and mental disorders are taking an enormous toll on the lives of millions across the state and nation, and the occurrence of drug overdoses and overdose deaths from opioid and stimulant use and misuse represent an urgent public health crisis; and

WHEREAS, problem-solving courts promote confidence in and satisfaction with the justice system process, save the State of Florida taxpayer dollars, and are recognized as the most successful justice system intervention for individuals with substance use and mental disorders; and

WHEREAS, judges, court personnel, attorneys, treatment professionals, law enforcement and corrections personnel, educators, national and community leaders, and others working to support problem-solving courts and to reduce substance use and mental disorders have a profound impact through hard work and commitment to their communities; and

WHEREAS, the need for collaboration and continued development of partnerships between the justice system and other stakeholders is vital; and

WHEREAS, the first drug court established in Miami, Florida, in 1989, has served as a model for the 183 problem-solving courts currently operating in Florida and the more than 4,000 problem-solving courts currently operating throughout the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Carlos G. Muñiz, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Florida, do hereby proclaim that May 2024 shall be known within the State Courts System as a month of recognition of the contributions of problem-solving courts in meeting the challenges of substance use and mental disorders throughout the state and nation and as a month of awareness, training, and action regarding opioids, stimulants, and related substance use treatment and recovery.

DONE IN CHAMBERS on this Thirtieth Day of April in the Year Two Thousand Twenty-Four.



Chief Justice Carlos G. Muñiz

ATTEST:



John A. Tomasino, Clerk of Court

