

Judge Laura Ward :

WELCOME TO MANHATTAN TREATMENT COURT. IF YOU ARE WATCHING THIS VIDEO, YOU PROBABLY ALREADY PLEADED GUILTY TO A FELONY BEFORE ME OR ANOTHER JUDGE PRESIDING IN PART N. DURING YOUR PLEA YOU WERE TOLD WHAT YOUR PROMISED SENTENCE WOULD BE.

YOU WERE TOLD YOU WOULD BE EVALUATED FOR A DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAM. THE PROGRAM COULD BE AN IN-PATIENT OR AN OUTPATIENT PROGRAM.

IF YOU ARE ACCEPTED INTO DRUG TREATMENT AND SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE TREATMENT YOUR CASE MAY BE DISMISSED BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY YOU WILL HAVE THE TOOLS TO DEAL WITH YOUR DRUG PROBLEM AND BE BACK TO BEING A PRODUCTIVE MEMBER OF SOCIETY.

IF YOU ARE REJECTED FROM DRUG TREATMENT, THROUGH NO FAULT OF YOUR OWN YOU WILL EITHER BE PLACED ON INTERIM PROBATION SUPERVISION OR BE SENTENCED.

IF YOU ARE ACCEPTED INTO DRUG TREATMENT BUT FAIL THE PROGRAM, THAT IS YOU LEAVE THE PROGRAM WITHOUT PERMISSION OR AUTHORIZATION, ARE DISCHARGED FROM THE PROGRAM, GET REARRESTED OR JUST CANNOT STOP USING DRUGS OR FOLLOW THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF MTC YOU WILL BE SENTENCED.

OK - NOW WHAT HAVE YOU GOTTEN YOURSELF INTO?

YOU SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED A TREATMENT COURT MANUAL. (Show manual) READ IT. IF YOU CANNOT READ, TELL YOUR CASE MANAGER AND SOMEONE WILL READ IT TO YOU. THIS MANUAL SHOULD ANSWER MOST OF YOUR QUESTIONS. THE PURPOSE OF THIS VIDEO IS TO GIVE YOU AN OVERVIEW OF WHAT IS EXPECTED OF YOU AND WHAT YOU MAY EXPECT OF MTC.

EVERYONE INVOLVED IN MTC KNOWS THAT DEALING

**Still Picture**  
*MTC Participant Manual*  
*Cover and pages 11-12*

WITH YOUR ADDICTION IS PERHAPS THE HARDEST THING YOU WILL HAVE TO DO. THE JUDGE, CASE MANAGERS, DEFENSE LAWYER AND PROSECUTOR WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO HELP YOU SUCCEED - - BUT YOUR SUCCESS OR FAILURE ULTIMATELY RESTS ON YOU.

IF YOU LIE, HOLD BACK INFORMATION, OR TELL US WHAT YOU THINK WE WANT TO HEAR RATHER THAN WHAT IS ACTUALLY THE FACT WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO HELP YOU BECAUSE WE WILL NOT PLACE YOU IN THE CORRECT PROGRAM OR MONITOR YOU CORRECTLY.

**Background**

*Show MTC office and case manager speaking with participant in cubicle area*

Debbie Hall-Martin:

A COURT CASE MANAGER WILL INTERVIEW YOU TO DETERMINE WHETHER YOU CAN ENTER THE MTC PROGRAM. THE INTERVIEW WILL LAST ABOUT 45 MINUTES. THE CASE MANAGER WILL BE MAKING A RECOMMENDATION TO THE JUDGE THAT INCLUDES WHETHER YOU ARE ADDICTED OR ABUSE DRUGS AND/OR ALCOHOL; HOW BAD YOUR ADDICTION OR ABUSE IS; WHAT TYPE OF PROGRAM YOU SHOULD GO TO; AND ANY OTHER SERVICES OR PROGRAMS YOU MIGHT NEED OVER THE COURSE OF YOUR TIME WITH MTC.

THE CASE MANAGER WILL ASK LOTS OF QUESTIONS INCLUDING WHERE YOU AND WITH WHOM YOU LIVE, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, MEDICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH HISTORY AND WHAT KIND OF INSURANCE BENEFITS YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR. THE CASE MANAGER WILL ALSO ASK ABOUT YOUR DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE INCLUDING WHAT KINDS OF DRUGS, HOW MUCH AND HOW OFTEN YOU USE AND WHETHER YOU HAVE EVER GONE TO A PROGRAM BEFORE.

ALL THE INFORMATION YOU TELL YOUR CASE MANAGER IS PROTECTED BY FEDERAL LAW AND, WITH VERY FEW EXCEPTIONS, IS CONFIDENTIAL AND WILL ONLY BE USED TO CONFIRM YOUR TREATMENT PLAN WITH THE COURT AND ANY PROGRAM THAT YOU GO TO. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO BE HONEST AND OPEN WITH THE MTC STAFF SO WE CAN GET YOU THE HELP YOU NEED AND INTO THE RIGHT PROGRAM.

Judge Laura Ward:

IT TAKES MOST DEFENDANTS MORE THAN A YEAR TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE MTC. THAT IS BECAUSE MANY DEFENDANTS RELAPSE OR FAIL TO FOLLOW THE RULES. WE HAVE A SUCCESS RATE OF CLOSE TO 80 PER CENT. THAT MEANS THAT EIGHT OUT OF TEN DEFENDANTS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE MTC WHICH INCLUDES EITHER GETTING THEIR GED OR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA, HAVING A JOB AND A PLACE TO LIVE AND ULTIMATELY HAVING THEIR CASE DISMISSED. THOSE ARE PRETTY GOOD ODDS.

FOLLOWING YOUR PLEA, YOU WILL BE EVALUATED BY A CASE MANAGER WHO WILL RECOMMEND A COURSE OF TREATMENT, INCLUDING IDENTIFYING WHICH SPECIFIC PROGRAM YOU WILL ATTEND.

THEREAFTER THE PROGRAM WILL INTERVIEW YOU. ONCE YOU ARE ACCEPTED INTO A TREATMENT PROGRAM. ONCE AGAIN THAT COULD BE AN IN-PATIENT OR AN OUT PATIENT PROGRAM. THE COURT WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF YOUR MTC CASE MANAGER WILL MONITOR YOUR PROGRESS. YOU WILL HAVE REGULAR COURT VISITS. PRIOR TO EACH COURT APPEARANCE THE JUDGE WILL RECEIVE A REPORT FROM YOUR PROGRAM AND YOUR MTC CASE MANAGER. THE JUDGE WILL REVIEW THE REPORT AND DISCUSS IT WITH YOUR CASE MANAGER AND ATTORNEY AND THE PROSECUTOR. IF YOU ARE DOING WELL YOU WILL RECEIVE REWARDS THAT COULD INCLUDE REDUCED DAYS IN TREATMENT. IF THERE ARE PROBLEMS YOU MAY BE SANCTIONS. SANCTIONS INCLUDE AMONG OTHER THINGS, WRITING AN ESSAY, SITTING IN COURT OBSERVING THE PROCEEDINGS, OR JAIL. IN ORDER TO COMPLETE MTC YOU MUST HAVE 365 DAYS DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE (INCLUDING METHADONE) THE LAST THREE MONTHS MUST BE CONSECUTIVE THAT IS NO DIRTY TOXICOLOGIES. IF YOU ARE ON METHADONE TALK TO YOUR CASE MANAGER BECAUSE THE CALCULATION OF YOUR 'DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE TIME' IS DIFFERENT THAN THE CALCULATIONS DONE FOR NON-METHADONE USERS. YOU MUST SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAM YOU ARE ATTENDING. IF IT IS A RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM,

**Still Picture**  
*Education Photo*

**Background**  
*Show MTC office and case manager speaking with participant in cubicle area*

**Still Picture**  
*Residential Treatment Program*

**Still Picture**  
*Outpatient Treatment Program*

**Still Picture**  
*Staffing (Robing Room)*

**Still Picture**  
**Still Picture**  
*Toxicology Courtroom*

THERE WILL BE AN AFTER-CARE PIECE YOU HAVE TO COMPLETE BEFORE YOU GRADUATE FROM MTC. SOME DEFENDANTS WILL HAVE AN ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT OF OBTAINING A GED OR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA. NO DEFENDANT WILL COMPLETE MTC UNLESS HE OR SHE CAN SUPPORT HIM OR HERSELF EITHER BY EMPLOYMENT OR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND HAS A PLACE TO LIVE. IT IS OUR GOAL TO HELP YOU REMAIN DRUG FREE AND TO DO THAT YOU HAVE TO BE ABLE TO SURVIVE - THAT IS SUPPORT YOURSELF AND HAVE A ROOF OVER YOUR HEAD.

LET'S TAKE A MINUTE TO TALK ABOUT HOW YOU SHOULD INTERACT WITH THE COURT AND YOUR MTC CASE MANAGER. AS I SAID EARLIER WE CANNOT HELP YOU IF WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON. IT IS THE PROGRAM'S RESPONSIBILITY TO REPORT YOUR PROGRESS TO US. BUT YOU HAVE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR LIFE. BY THAT I MEAN YOU HAVE TO ADVOCATE FOR YOURSELF. YOU HAVE TO TELL YOUR CASE MANAGER WHAT YOU ARE DOING AND WHAT YOU WANT TO DO. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN THE TIME COMES FOR YOU TO GET A JOB, YOU MAY NEED OR WANT JOB TRAINING. THAT COULD BE AVAILABLE TO YOU THROUGH A STATE PROGRAM CALLED VESID. YOU COULD STUDY TO GET YOUR COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE, LEARN ABOUT COMPUTERS, WELDING, AUTO MECHANICS, PHLEBOTOMY, SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELING - - THE LIST GOES ON AND ONE. LET YOUR CASE MANAGER KNOW. IF YOU HAVE EMPLOYMENT HISTORY THESE PROGRAMS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE TO YOU. IF YOU HAVE A GED OR HIGH SCHOOL REQUIREMENT YOU MAY NEE SOME ADDITIONAL TUTORING - - LET US KNOW.

IF YOU ARE HAVING PROBLEMS LET YOUR MTC CASE MANAGER OR YOUR ATTORNEY KNOW. EACH TIME YOU APPEAR IN COURT, THE JUDGE WILL BRIEFLY GO OVER WHAT YOUR ARE DOING. FOR EXAMPLE, IF YOU ARE STUDYING FOR YOUR GED THE COURT MAY ASK HOW THE CLASSES ARE GOING. IF YOU ARE APPLYING FOR JOB TRAINING, THE JUDGE MAY ASK WHAT TYPE OF TRAINING. LISTEN TO WHAT THE JUDGE SAYS AND ASKS OF YOU BECAUSE THE JUDGE BASES YOUR

**Still Picture**  
Jail

REWARDS OR SANCTIONS ON INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE PROGRAM AND MTC. IF THE INFORMATION IS INCORRECT OR INCOMPLETE TELL THE COURT. IF YOU ARE HAVING A PROBLEM, DO NOT HESITATE TO RAISE THE PROBLEM WITH THE COURT - - FOR EXAMPLE, YOU NEED ADDITIONAL TUTORING IN MATH OR YOU WANT MORE FAMILY COUNSELING OR FAMILY VISITS. YOU MAY NOT ALWAYS GET THE ANSWER YOU WANT TO HEAR, BUT UNLESS YOU LET THE COURT KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON, THE COURT CANNOT RESPOND TO ISSUES.

IF YOU ARE RELEASED TO A PROGRAM, GIVE THE PROGRAM A CHANCE. NO PROGRAM IS AS NICE AS HOME, BUT THE PROGRAMS ARE BETTER THAN JAIL AND WILL HOPEFULLY ENABLE YOU TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF DRUGS AND JAIL.

REMEMBER, DRUG TREATMENT IS NOT A RIGHT, IT IS AN ALTERNATIVE TO INCARCERATION. THE LAW HAD SET UP STRICT PRISON SENTENCES FOR DRUG USE AND POSSESSION. THE COURT HAS DETERMINED THAT YOU HAVE A DRUG PROBLEM THAT HAS BROUGHT YOU INTO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM. THE COURT IS WILLING TO ASSIST YOU IN DEALING WITH YOUR PROBLEM RATHER THAN AUTOMATICALLY PUNISHING YOU WITH JAIL FOR BREAKING THE LAW. BUT YOU HAVE ALSO AGREED TO WORK ON YOUR ADDICTION. WE ARE PARTNERS IN A GOAL TO GIVE YOU THE TOOLS AND ABILITY TO LIVE A DRUG FREE PRODUCTIVE LIFE.

AT ALL TIMES DURING MTC YOU HAVE THE KEYS TO YOUR FREEDOM. YOU FOLLOW THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF YOUR DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAM AND MTC AND ALL THE JUDGE CAN DO IS PRAISE YOU. IF YOU VIOLATE THE RULES AND REGULATIONS, GET REARRESTED OR CONTINUE TO USE DRUGS AND ALCOHOL THE COURT WILL PUNISH YOU.

PLEASE LET YOUR CASE MANAGERS KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.

GOOD LUCK.

I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU.