

## **Ninth Circuit Drug Court graduation set for Sept. 29 in Vicksburg**

September 26, 2016

Seventeen people are expected to graduate from the Ninth Circuit Drug Court during a ceremony scheduled for Sept. 29 at 6 p.m. in the second floor Circuit Courtroom at the Warren County Courthouse.

State Drug Court Compliance Director Billy Saul will be the guest speaker. Circuit Judge Isadore Patrick will preside, and Circuit Judge James Chaney Jr. will present plaques to graduates.

Drug Court Coordinator Maryam Husband said that 91 participants will remain enrolled in the program after the graduation.

The Ninth Circuit Drug Court, which has been in operation since 2005, includes Warren, Sharkey and Issaquena counties.

Drug courts seek to rehabilitate drug-using offenders through drug treatment and intense supervision with frequent court appearances and random drug testing. Drug courts offer the incentive of a chance to remain out of jail and be employed and the sanction of a prison sentence if participants fail to remain drug-free and in compliance with all program requirements.

Mississippi currently has 42 drug courts. About 3,450 people are enrolled in drug courts statewide.

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