

# Homeless Court

Bringing the law to the streets, the court to the homeless service agencies, and justice for all.

## **What is Homeless Court? What kinds of cases do you assist with?**

- Individuals with San Diego County misdemeanors, traffic/trolley infractions, or City of San Diego parking citations can work with and complete requirements with an Approved Homeless Court Provider to have their cases resolved upon HCP Graduation.
  - o Exceptions: Sex cases. DV cases. Felony cases. Open DUI's.
  - o Every Provider's requirements are different based on the needs of the clients and their program. The list of approved providers is here: <http://bit.ly/sdhcp>
- Homeless Court occurs once per month, at local Homeless Service Providers in the community.
- Family Law Facilitator, Child Support Services, and Legal Aid Society are also present at HCP Counseling sessions on-site to assist with family/child support, and civil legal issues.

## **What if the Client has an open warrant? Will they be arrested?**

- No. No one is ever arrested in Homeless Court. Clients should consider HCP a safe place.

## **Who are the Approved Homeless Court Providers? What is required?**

- The list of Approved Homeless Court Providers is here: <http://bit.ly/sdhcp>
- Every Provider is different based on the needs of the clients and their programs.
- The Homeless Court Program Website is here: <http://www.homelesscourtprogram.org>

## **Can the Client get referred by the Court directly?**

- No, if the case is active/open, the court may continue the case a maximum of 180 days for the client to participate with the HCP Provider and be referred to HCP.
- If clients have not graduated HCP by the continuance date, they must go back to court.

## **Can Homeless Court get my license back with the DMV or get my car out of the tow yard?**

- If the DMV hold on the license is an FTA or AllianceOne debt from the court, HCP Graduation will clear the DMV Hold.
- We can assist with getting a release from the yard once the client has started participating, but cannot pay towing fees. Contact us to discuss.

## **What are the first steps to start working with Homeless Court?**

1. If the Client isn't already working with an Approved HCP Provider, they should first go to <http://bit.ly/sdhcp> and choose a program that will meet their needs (housing/safe parking/drug rehab/mental health/case management/etc.). Self-referral is possible from a not-yet-approved provider. Contact us for details.
2. Contact that Provider and work with them to complete their requirements for HCP Referral.

## **Can the Client contact the Homeless Court Program to ask questions?**

- Yes, it is preferred that clients contact us by email: [sandiego@homelesscourtprogram.org](mailto:sandiego@homelesscourtprogram.org), or by text: 619.717.6101.
- If Client contacting by phone, they should understand this is a voicemail number ONLY – we will return calls usually within 3 days.