

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MADISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI  
TWENTIETH CIRCUIT COURT DISTRICT DRUG COURT

**F I L L E D**  
MADISON COUNTY

DEC 03 2020

ORDER REGARDING DRUG COURT VEHICLE USAGE

ANITA WRAY, CIRCUIT CLERK

BY  D.C.

HAVING BEEN ADVISED that the Madison County automotive insurance policy does provide coverage for the County in the event a non-employee is driving a county owned vehicle with permission, this Court finds it necessary to issue the following Drug Court Vehicle Usage Policy. The Court issues this written policy in an effort to maintain the efficiency of the Drug Court and put in writing the unwritten policy and procedure that has been in effect since 2011. The Drug Court owns one vehicle and intends to purchase another. (Hereinafter “Drug Court Vehicles”) Both vehicles will have been purchased with Drug Court funds through the administration of those funds by the Madison County Board of Supervisors. As such, Madison County holds the title for said vehicle(s). Both vehicles are exclusively used by the Drug Court Team in their official capacities. (The Mississippi Intervention Court Rules refer to the interdisciplinary staff and stake holders as the “Drug Court Team”) The Drug Court Team consists of several county employees and a law enforcement officer employed by the Mississippi Department of Corrections and assigned to the Twentieth Circuit Drug Court. The Twentieth Judicial District covers Madison and Rankin counties. This Court hereby gives permission to the MDOC officer assigned to The Twentieth Circuit Drug Court to operate the Drug Court Vehicles. All other Drug Court Team members have the Court’s permission to operate the Drug Court vehicles as directed the Drug Court Coordinator.

The MDOC officer is a necessary Drug Court Team member as established by Mississippi Intervention Court Rule 12(a). As such, when serving in this position he/she is expected to transport Drug Court Participants to treatment facilities within Madison and Rankin counties as well as other counties. If a Drug Court participant is arrested in another county outside the

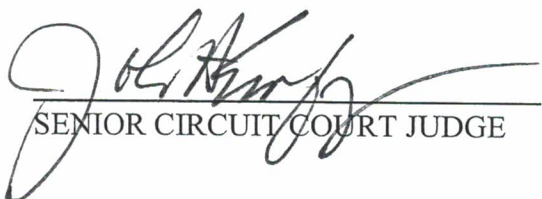
Twentieth Circuit, then the MDOC officer is required to transport that participant back to the Twentieth Circuit. If the Drug Court participant is sanctioned by the Court, the MDOC officer may be required to transport the participant to jail. Drug Court Team members identified above are also required to make impromptu home visits to conduct curfew checks and house checks on Drug Court participants in the Twentieth District and possibly in surrounding counties. Each Drug Court Team member is often required to travel back and forth to Court regarding Drug Court matters such as pleas, revocations, and other matters. The MDOC officer is also tasked with finding participants and executing bench warrants issued by the Drug Court.

All of the above- mentioned duties often take place after normal work hours; therefore, it is necessary for the Drug Court Team members identified above to take Drug Court vehicles home at night for the above-mentioned reasons. All curfew checks and most random house checks occur after 10:00 p.m.

The Court hereby determines that the Drug Court Team, including the MDOC Officer assigned to this Drug Court, may take vehicles, purchased by and for the Drug Court, home at night for the above-mentioned reasons. As some of the participants may be in custody at the time of transport, the Drug Court vehicles shall be adapted with all necessary security equipment as determined by the MDOC officer. The vehicles shall remain “unmarked” for security reasons.

No employee on administrative leave or disciplinary suspension may operate a Drug Court owned vehicle. No Drug Court Team member shall use the vehicle assigned to Drug Court for solely personal use.

SO ORDERED AND ADJUDGED, this the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of December, 2020

  
SENIOR CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

  
SPECIAL CIRCUIT JUDGE, DRUG COURT