

## San Mateo County DUI Court One Year Anniversary

September 18, 2018 marks the one-year anniversary of the Driving under the Influence (DUI) Court, a collaboration among the San Mateo County Superior Court, District Attorney's Office, Private Defender Program, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services and the Probation Department. The purpose of DUI Court is to reduce repeat alcohol-related incidents, accidents, injuries and death. The collaborative also secured the services of SCRAM of CA to provide electronic monitoring through a Continuous Alcohol Monitoring Device (CAM) for participants in DUI Court. CAM devices typically monitor a participant's "sober day." This is a full 24-hour period where a participant is being continuously monitored for alcohol and has no confirmed consumption or tamper violation.

The DUI Court team, comprised of dedicated staff from the partner agencies mentioned above work very closely with all participants to identify services that will aid in their treatment and recovery from alcohol addiction. It is projected that DUI Court has generated about \$1.5M savings in incarceration costs.

Since its inception, there have been approximately 240 referrals, 52 of which were issued a CAM device. Overall, 80% of DUI Court participants that were issued CAM devices successfully complied by not having any alcohol-related violations during their program enrolment. To date, SCRAM of CA has delivered a total of 4,927 sober days to San Mateo County.

On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Judge Grandsaert had the honor of transitioning the first successful DUI Court participant off of the intensive supervision phase of the program. The participant continued on to court probation and will be considered to have "graduated" once his outstanding program requirements are completed (namely the Multiple Offender Program). The participant was allowed to transition after only 5 months instead of the full 6 due to his stellar program participation and compliance.

### **Client Success Story**

*John Doe*, a DUI Court participant placed in the program in February 2018, had never been on any form of supervised probation and whose only objective was not to go to jail. During his initial probation meetings, he was evasive and anxious, as he was still heavily involved in his addiction. His addiction was so severe, that he reported to probation under the influence of alcohol. He was ultimately reassessed for his treatment needs, placed on a CAM device and enrolled in intensive outpatient treatment. He has since maintained compliance with program rules as well as his conditions of probation. He has been clean and sober for approximately five months and he admits that this is the longest period of clean/sober time that he has experienced in a very long time, and he feels amazing. He also admits he is now present for his 4-year-old son and his wife. This participant continuously expresses gratitude to probation and the entire DUI Court team for helping him turn his life around.