



Robert G. Montgomery, Judge

Franklin County Probate Court

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NEWS RELEASE

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FRANKLIN COUNTY PROBATE COURT CREATES INNOVATIVE MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Columbus, Ohio – Franklin County Probate Judge [Robert G. Montgomery](#) announced that yesterday the Court conducted its first Outpatient Commitment Court (OCC) case for its newly developed program. The OCC is a cooperative program between the Franklin County ADAMH Board and the Probate Court, which provides necessary support to mentally ill patients, allowing them to remain in the community, versus being institutionalized through the involuntary inpatient civil mental commitment process.

The OCC hopes to not only help people address their mental illness, but also will save Franklin County and the State of Ohio thousands of dollars currently being spent on repeated involuntary civil commitment proceedings. Judge Montgomery said: “This program will help stop the ‘revolving door’ cycle of repeat hearings and increase patients’ self-determination by allowing them more input into their own care and treatment. This will help achieve better outcomes for the patient and save a great deal of time and money.”

Judge Montgomery continued: "This program has a real chance to provide significant help to mentally ill people in our community who need treatment and support. I can't thank the ADAMH Board and its president, David Royer, enough for providing the resources to the Probate Court for its own dedicated Assertive Care Team (ACT). Without this support, the patients' chance of recovery and reintegration into the community would be significantly diminished. In short, it felt good to do my part in helping people help themselves."

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