



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
1 COURTHOUSE WAY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02210

Sarah Allison Thornton
CLERK OF COURT

PRESS RELEASE
DECEMBER 10, 2010

Congressman Richard E. Neal and Springfield Mayor Dominic J. Sarno will address graduates of the RESTART program of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts on December 13, 2010 at 3:00 p.m in the Hampden Courtroom on the third floor of the United States Courthouse, 300 State Street in Springfield, Massachusetts. United States District Judge Michael A. Ponsor and the graduates will make brief remarks. A reception will follow the event.

“From their inception, the goal of the RESTART program has been to offer nontraditional alternatives and intense supervision in order to lower recidivism rates. Providing individuals with a real opportunity for change, combined with a heightened sense of accountability, has resulted in encouraging and positive results,” said Chief Judge Mark L. Wolf. “The graduates are the most tangible example of how effective alternative rehabilitation methods can be to incarceration. Their successes and the innovative treatment methods applied by RESTART have made this a national model, being replicated around the country.”

RESTART (**R**eentry: **E**mpowering **S**uccessful **T**odays **A**nd **R**esponsible **T**omorrows) is a voluntary program for high risk ex-offenders presently on supervised release. Successful completion of the program results in a one year reduction in the time that a participant is sentenced to supervised release. In order to graduate from RESTART a participant must have 52 weeks of compliance in the program and supervised release. Compliance consists of several components.

The RESTART team has worked hard to develop relationships with traditional probationary resources and to cultivate new partnerships from non-traditional areas. The following agencies have enthusiastically offered support services to our participants:

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission
Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles
ADCARE
Behavioral Health Network

Massachusetts Department of Revenue
Future Works/Career Point
Center for Human Development

Please contact John Stuckenbruck, Division Manager, U.S. District Court, at 413-785-6802 to confirm attendance and coordinate logistics.