



FROM THE COURT OF JUDGE PAUL J. GALLAGHER

NEWS

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SUMMIT COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT AWARDED FINAL CERTIFICATION

The Domestic Violence Court of the Summit County Court of Common Pleas has earned final certification from the Ohio Supreme Court's Commission on Specialized Dockets.

Specialized court dockets are dedicated to offenders charged with specific types of offenses that use a combination of holding offenders accountable for their actions while also addressing the underlying causes of their behavior.

Judge Gallagher stated, "The first felony Domestic Violence Court in the State of Ohio began in my courtroom on October 3, 2011. I am proud of the successes of the court and especially upon receiving our final certification."

The Summit County Domestic Violence Court is a collaborative effort involving the Summit County Probation Department, Summit County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Battered Women's Shelter of Summit and Medina Counties, the Victim Assistance Program and Summit Psychological Associates, Inc. To date, 141 offenders have been placed upon the Court's specialized docket.

Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh congratulated Judge Paul Gallagher and remarked "At a time when Ray Rice's violence in an elevator sparked national debate to end domestic violence, the certification of the first felony Domestic Violence Court in the State of Ohio demonstrates Summit County continues to lead the State in justice programs to protect victims and end violence."