

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT GOVERNING OPERATION OF RENEW-CAMDEN

I. MISSION STATEMENT

By this signed document, the U.S. District Court, U.S. Probation Office (“Probation”), Office of the Federal Public Defender (“Federal Defenders”), and Office of the U.S. Attorney (“USAO”) for the District of New Jersey (collectively the “ReNew-Camden Team”) commit to providing an evidence-based reentry court in the Camden vicinage (“ReNew-Camden”) for certain individuals on Federal Supervised Release. This collaborative program will focus on federal offenders with a moderately high risk of reoffending who are reentering communities in the greater Camden area (the “participants”). The program will provide participants with community-based resources, early intervention and heightened judicial supervision. Its incentives, treatment, and sanctions are designed to change participants’ behaviors, encourage rehabilitation, reduce recidivism, and improve the safety of our communities.

II. RENEW-CAMDEN PROGRAM OVERVIEW

ReNew-Camden is a reentry court that serves individuals on Federal Supervised Release who are reentering communities in the greater Camden area. Participants must be at moderately high risk of reoffending, typically receiving a score of 5, 6, 7, or 8 on the Risk Predictor Index administered by Probation, but without serious mental health or drug treatment needs. Each participant’s involvement in ReNew-Camden will be governed by a written Contract signed by the participant, representatives from Probation, and the presiding U.S. Magistrate and District Judges. The Contract, as set forth in Attachment A, articulates expectations and obligations of all participants and members of the ReNew-Camden Team.

Participation in ReNew-Camden is voluntary and lasts until a participant has successfully completed 52 weeks. During this time, participants will pursue goals set forth in individual reentry supervision plans, with the support of their probation

officer and other ReNew-Camden Team personnel. The probation officer will report participants' progress to the other members of the ReNew-Camden Team during bi-weekly pre-court meetings. The ReNew-Camden Team will then collectively decide what support and incentives to offer each participant. If there is a violation of the conditions of the program, the ReNew-Camden Team will collectively decide what, if any, sanctions are appropriate. Participants will appear in court every two weeks to discuss their progress with the Judge or Judges overseeing the program, who will identify the support the participants will receive and impose sanctions if necessary.

Participants earn credit for every two-week period of satisfactory performance. Participants will not receive credit for any two-week period of unsatisfactory performance, though it will sometimes be possible to earn back credit. Probation will recommend to the U.S. District Court Judge with jurisdiction over a participant's supervised release that a participant who successfully completes the program receives a one-year reduction in his/her term of supervision at the time of graduation from ReNew-Camden. The decision to grant the one year reduction is within the sole discretion of the U.S. District Court Judge with jurisdiction over a participant's supervised release.

More detailed protocols governing the operation of ReNew-Camden are outlined in the ReNew-Camden Protocols, set forth in Attachment B.

III. REnew-CAMDEN TEAM MEMBERS

The Court

The Honorable Karen M. Williams, U.S. Magistrate Judge, and the Honorable Noel L. Hillman, U.S. District Judge, will jointly lead the ReNew-Camden Team and preside over court sessions either jointly or individually. They will also lead bi-weekly pre-court meetings. Topics discussed at the pre-court meetings include: general policy matters; consideration of potential candidates for the program; and the appropriate support, incentives and/or sanctions for each participant. Judge Williams and Judge Hillman will then preside over court

sessions either jointly or individually, addressing each participant and providing support, encouragement and/or sanctions. Both Judges will also be available for any emergency supervision issues that must be resolved between regularly-scheduled ReNew-Camden court sessions.

U.S. Probation

Probation's responsibilities will include: identifying potential candidates for participation in the Court; reviewing potential candidates with the other members of the ReNew-Camden Team, who will collectively approve a candidate's participation; reviewing the ReNew-Camden Contract with potential participants; creating individualized supervision plans for each participant; and providing appropriate supervision and referrals to participants in conjunction with the ReNew-Camden Team, including, but not limited to, health and welfare services, educational and job placement, drug treatment as well as mental health and family counseling.

In preparation for the biweekly pre-court ReNew-Camden Team meetings, Probation will prepare and circulate to the other ReNew-Camden Team members written reports summarizing each participant's progress. Probation will also track the support plans, credit, incentives awarded and sanctions imposed on participants over the course of their participation in ReNew-Camden.

When urgent problems in supervision arise, Probation will work with the Court, the Federal Defenders, and the USAO in order to intervene immediately and address issues with the participant. Probation will record the team efforts in a ReNew-Camden progress report.

Probation will retain all ReNew-Camden program documents, including the signed Contract and progress reports.

United States Attorney's Office

The USAO will participate in each pre-court ReNew-Camden Team meeting, and engage in collaborative decision making with other members of the ReNew-Camden Team about the appropriate support, incentives and sanctions for

participants. The USAO will also attend each ReNew-Camden court session. When urgent problems in supervision arise, the USAO will be available as needed to collaborate with other ReNew-Camden Team members on resolving the issues.

The USAO will also assist in: identifying additional services and employment opportunities for participants; facilitating participants' enrollment in these services and job applications; facilitating participants' applications for identification; and coordinating ReNew-Camden volunteers from the greater Camden community in support of these efforts.

Federal Public Defender's Office

The Federal Defenders will participate in each pre-court ReNew-Camden Team meeting, and engage in collaborative decision making with other members of the ReNew-Camden Team about the appropriate support, incentives and sanctions for participants. The Federal Defenders will also attend each ReNew-Camden court session. When urgent problems in supervision arise, the Federal Defenders will be available as needed to collaborate with other ReNew-Camden Team members to resolve the issues.

IV. EVALUATION

An appropriate academic unit of Rutgers University–Camden will undertake an evaluation of ReNew-Camden during the program's first two years of operation. The evaluation will be conducted by a doctoral student under the supervision of a dean or similarly ranked academic officer within the relevant academic school or component.

The evaluator will work with the ReNew-Camden Team to ensure that participants are selected and records maintained to best facilitate a reliable evaluation, without compromising the mission of ReNew-Camden.

The evaluator will have access to all participant files and written materials needed to conduct the evaluation. Participants will sign release forms giving their consent for the release of information about them to ReNew-Camden and its

evaluators. The evaluator will also be permitted to attend pre-court meetings and court sessions, and to interview participants and members of the ReNew-Camden Team. The evaluator will provide to all members of the ReNew-Camden Team informal, interim guidance on a semi-annual basis. He or she will also produce a final written report summarizing the evaluation's findings.

V. LEGAL SERVICES RELATED TO ReNEW-CAMDEN PLAN GOALS

The Law Clinic at Rutgers University School of Law - Camden agrees to provide free civil and municipal legal services to participants in order to facilitate achievement of ReNew-Camden individual plan goals. Participants will have the option to retain law student interns supervised by a licensed New Jersey attorney. The particular legal services provided each participant will be based on the recommendations of the ReNew-Camden Team and determined on a case-by-case basis. Law student interns and their supervising attorney will attend and participate in ReNew-Camden Team meetings. In order to receive these free legal services, participants will be required to waive confidentiality related to these legal services in so far as any information acquired in the course of the representation relates to a violation of the terms of participation in ReNew-Camden. The disclosure of confidential information acquired in the course of representation by the Clinic will be limited to the ReNew-Camden Team and/or the supervising District Court Judge/Sentencing Judge, and as otherwise required by the New Jersey Rules of Professional Conduct.

VI. SIGNATURES

By signing below, the following agency representatives approve the foregoing Interagency Agreement Governing ReNew-Camden's Operation:

_____ day of _____, 2015.

The Honorable Jerome B. Simandle, Chief United States District Judge

_____ day of _____, 2015.

Wilfredo Torres, Chief Probation Officer, District of New Jersey

_____ day of _____, 2015.

Richard C. Coughlin, Federal Public Defender, District of New Jersey

_____ day of _____, 2015.

Paul J. Fishman, United States Attorney, District of New Jersey