The background of the slide is a dark blue image. On the left, there are several tall bookshelves filled with books. On the right, there is a large, white scale of justice. A thin red horizontal line is positioned above the main title.

# Developing a Reentry Program

The Honorable Carol Jackson,  
Chief Judge  
Eastern District of Missouri

# Why Reentry Courts?

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- **Most courts focus on high risk substance abusing offenders**
- **Drug and Crime Linked:**
  - % Reporting Use at Time of Offense
    - **violent crime: 28% state offenders ; 24% federal**
    - **property crime: 39% state; 14% federal**
    - **drug trafficking: 42% state; 34% federal**
  - **Costs: \$107 Billion for Drug-Related Crime**
- **State drug courts have proven to be effective in reducing both substance use and crime**

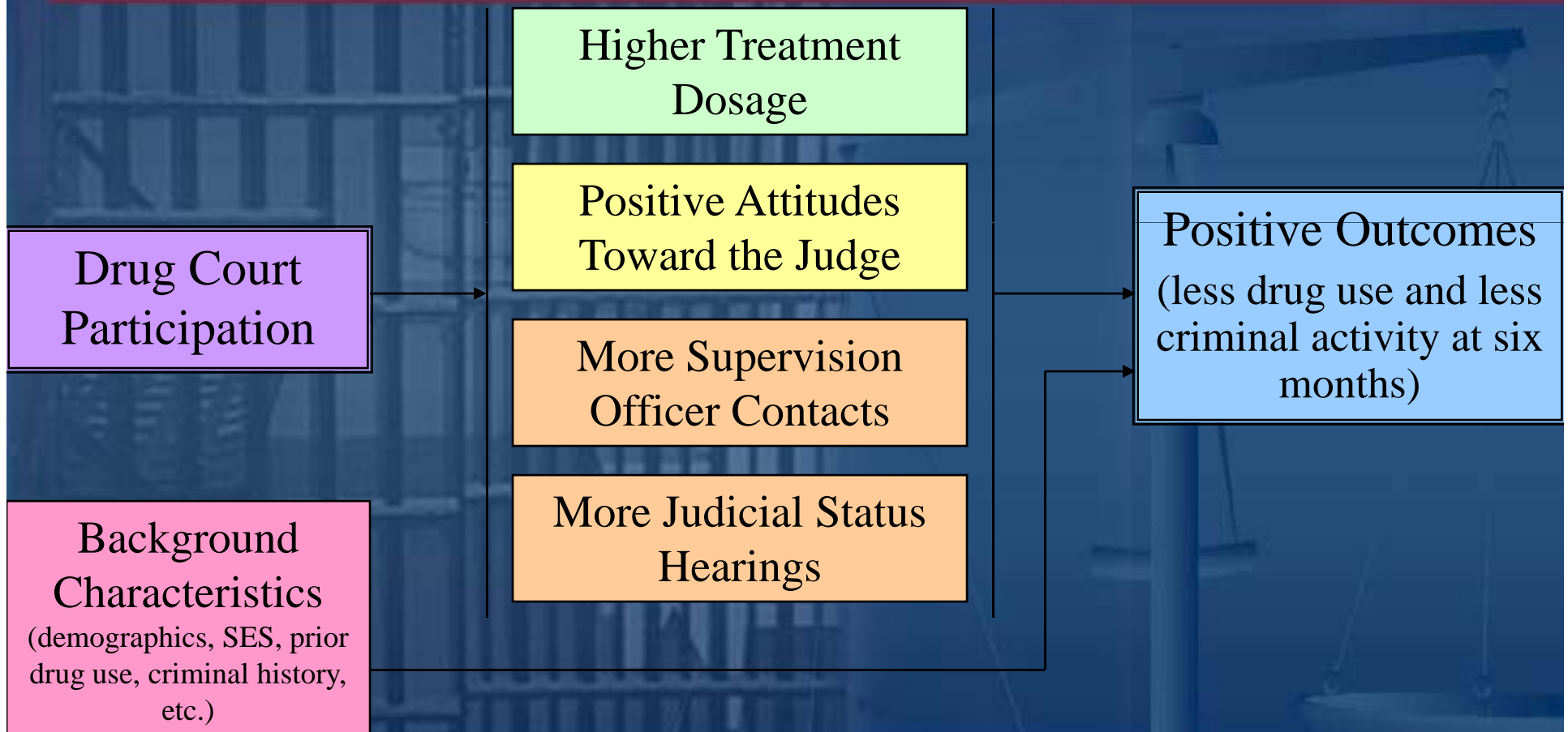
# Why Reentry Court in Eastern District of Missouri?

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- 11<sup>th</sup> largest caseload of drug crimes
- 75% of offenders on supervision have a drug treatment and testing condition
- 2<sup>nd</sup> highest risk caseload in the country, based on RPI scores

# National Institute of Justice Study

## Preliminary Model of Why Drug Courts Work



# Ten Key Components

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1. **Integrate alcohol/drug treatment with justice system.**
2. **Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights.**
3. **Eligible participants are identified and placed in the program as soon as possible.**
4. **Provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitation services.**
5. **Abstinence is monitored by frequent testing.**

# Ten Key Components

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6. A coordinated strategy governs responses to participant's compliance.
7. Ongoing judicial interaction with each participant is essential.
8. Monitoring and Evaluation measure the achievement and effectiveness of the program.
9. Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective program components.
10. Forging partnerships among courts, public agencies and community-based organizations generates support and increases effectiveness.



# Drug Court Staffing

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- Regular meeting of the team to review offender compliance and progress
- Allows team to present a coordinated response to offender behavior.
- Participants: Judge, Prosecutor, Defense Counsel, Treatment Provider, Probation Officer

# Court Sessions

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- **Purpose**
  - Keep participant engaged in treatment
  - Reinforce positive behavior changes
  - Sanction noncompliant behavior
  - Provide positive social support



# Impact of Court Appearances

	High Risk	High Risk	Low Risk	Low Risk
	Biweekly	Standard	Biweekly	As Needed
Graduation from treatment	75%	56%	75%	72%
Days of Use in Past 30 Days	8	9.5	3.5	4.3
Average Days of Intoxication in Past 30 Days	1.4	2.67	2.0	1.3

# Court Responses to Behavior

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- Let participants know what is expected
- Use of Phase Progression to reinforce behavior
- Participant Handbook outlines expectations and consequences
- Courtroom as Theater – view others

# The Carrot Is Mightier Than the Stick

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- Those in reinforcement contingency stayed longer in treatment than those in punishment
- Effects of punishment are transitory-change ends when punishment ends
- Punishment most effective when used with positive reinforcement

# Effective Reinforcement

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The systematic use of reinforcement is the most powerful tool in strengthening or teaching new behavior.

The effective use of reinforcement involves selecting and administering appropriate reinforcers.

# Example Reinforcers

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- Specific praise/feedback on performance
- Group recognition
- Less frequent meetings with staff
- Badges, ribbons, certificates
- Gift certificates

# EFFECTIVE SOCIAL REINFORCEMENT

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Immediately tell the offender that you like the type of behavior or speech just exhibited.

Explain why you like what the client said or did (provide specific reasons).

Encourage the client to think about why the behavior is desirable, and what kinds of short and long term benefits can be derived through continued use of this behavior.



# Punishment

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**If punishment is used alone, then another maladaptive behavior is likely to fill the gap.**

**Therefore, it is important to reinforce a competing response.**

# GUIDELINES FOR EFFECTIVE DISAPPROVAL

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Immediately tell the offender that you did not like the behavior/speech just exhibited.

Explain why you did not like what the offender said or did (provide specific reasons).

Encourage the client to think about why the behavior is undesirable, and what kinds of short and long term consequences would occur if they continue this behavior.