

## Court Programs

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The Staten Island Justice Center seeks to improve public safety and reduce the use of incarceration. The Justice Center provides judges, prosecutors, and defense attorneys with alternative community sentencing options that hold individuals accountable in a way that is meaningful, proportionate, and restorative. The goal is to connect participants to services that help them to avoid future contact with the justice system, and promote swift case resolutions that bolster public confidence in justice. Each year, more than 1,800 individuals receive services through the Staten Island Justice Center.

### **Supervised Release Program**

The Supervised Release Program provides an alternative to pre-trial detention for individuals charged with misdemeanors and non-violent felonies. Upon referral to Supervised Release, each participant is connected with a case manager. The program offers supervision and case management for eligible defendants in lieu of bail, as well as referrals to voluntary community-based and on-site programming, such as job training, drug treatment, and mental health counseling. The program serves more than 300 individuals each year.

### **Alternatives to Incarceration**

The Justice Center provides judges in the Richmond County Criminal Court with the following of alternative sentencing options:

- **Driver Accountability Program**

This 90-minute group takes a restorative approach to addressing risky driving benefits. Participants discuss what constitutes risky driving and why, and then identify driving behaviors they are committed to changing and the concrete steps they will take to do so. In its second year, the Driver Accountability Program served 432 individuals.

- **Theft Accountability Program**

The Theft Accountability Program is a 90-minute group for misdemeanor theft cases that explores the social, economic, legal, and emotional causes and consequences of theft. The program encourages participants to reflect on their decisions and to make better choices moving forward. The Theft Accountability Program is rooted in cognitive behavioral therapy, which focuses on modifying emotions, behaviors, and thoughts. This program serves 294 individuals each year.

- **Community Service**

The Staten Island community service program is a sentencing option that restores the community through restitution projects. The program seeks to help beautify and strengthen Staten Island, to keep individuals integrated in their communities, and to hold people accountable for their actions. Every year, more than 300 defendants are referred for community service.

- **Young Adult ATI**

The Justice Center works in collaboration with the court to craft individualized sentencing options for adolescents and young adults ages

16 to 24. The Justice Center offers a number of short- and medium-term social service options, including referrals to on-site and community-based services (including job training, counseling, and GED classes). Case managers monitor participation and provide the court with compliance reports as needed. Through these services, the Justice Center seeks to address the underlying causes of young peoples' involvement in the criminal justice system, reducing the likelihood of recidivism and increasing community safety. More than 200 young adults participate in the alternative-to-incarceration program each year.

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**For More Information**

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