

WHAT IS DIVERSION?

Ramsey County's Felony Diversion Program is a voluntary program for justice-involved people who are facing felony charges. The goals of the program are to provide:

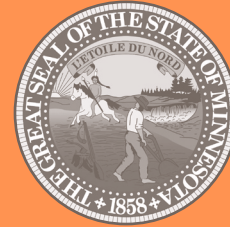
An opportunity to restore the victim or community from the harm caused by the act.

Case management to participants in the program to identify and address individual needs, such as: skill building, education, and other services needed to avoid future justice-system involvement.

A path for avoiding a criminal record

Participants work directly with the diversion team to successfully complete the conditions of their diversion agreement as an alternative to the traditional court process.

*In partnership with the
Ramsey County Attorney's Office
and the Second Judicial District
Office of the Public Defender*



JUSTICE POINT

RAMSEY COUNTY DIVERSION

Contact our Diversion Team

612.355.5004
888.684.4346 (fax)
diversionRC@justicepoint.org

justicepoint.org/minnesota

612.355.5004

Second Chance Initiative

JUSTICE POINT

JusticePoint
2300 Myrtle Avenue, Suite 140
St. Paul, MN 55114

JusticePoint, Inc. is a subsidiary of The Difference Principle, Inc.

justicepoint.org/minnesota

SECOND CHANCE DIVERSION INITIATIVE

Ramsey County's Felony Diversion program is comprised of a team of staff members from JusticePoint, the Ramsey County Attorney's Office, and the Ramsey County Public Defender's Office who work together to help program participants successfully navigate the diversion process.

While on diversion, participants are involved in ongoing case management with JusticePoint's Case Managers and the Program Navigator from the Public Defender's Office. The Program Navigator works with participants to find resources, access services, and provide additional support. JusticePoint Case Managers supervise participant progress and adherence to case plans, respond to questions/concerns, and make referrals to appropriate community resources for chemical dependency, mental health, housing, employment, and other needs identified by the participant and the diversion team.

THE PROCESS

Before being placed on diversion, JusticePoint will complete a screening and/or assessment with potential participants. This process helps the diversion team develop an appropriate case plan with the participant. Program conditions are dependent on each participant's risk level, needs, and individual circumstances. Diversion conditions will include targeted interventions to decrease recidivism and participants may attend meetings with the Diversion team, depending upon their individual needs and/or progress in the program.

**Meetings may be held remotely or via Zoom*

POTENTIAL GOALS

Every diversion participant will need to remain law-abiding and maintain contact with their Case Manager. Each participant will have an individualized case plan and potential goals may include meeting with the Program Navigator, completing assigned community work service hours, restitution, participating in restorative justice activities, retaining employment or education, completing a chemical health assessment and complying with recommendations, attending mental health programming, and/or attending cognitive skills programming. Participants will be given between six and 12 months to complete their goals and have their case successfully dismissed.

MAINTAINING CONTACT

During the term of the diversion contract, participants must maintain contact with their JusticePoint case manager. Maintaining regular contact is integral to successful completion of the Diversion program.

SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION

While on diversion, the case is still pending and may appear on a background check. Once program goals are successfully completed, the case will be dismissed (for post-charge diversion cases) or not charged (for pre-charge diversion cases).

Once the case is dismissed, the participant's record will remain clear of convictions for the diverted offense (though the case may still appear on a background check).

EXPUNGEMENT

Successful completion of this program may lead to the case record being sealed, otherwise known as expungement. To get the record expunged, it is necessary to maintain a clear record for one year after successful completion of the Diversion program. The Ramsey County Attorney's Office can assist in getting records sealed. For more information, visit helpsealmyrecord.org

Ramsey County also offers diversion for misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor cases. Eligibility is determined by individual City Attorney's Offices. Interested parties can ask for more information at their initial court appearance.

You may also contact JusticePoint at 612.355.5004 or diversionRC@justicepoint.org for assistance.