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PRESS ADVISORY

US Drug Czar to be Featured Speaker at 13th Family Treatment Court Graduation Ceremony

Kerlikowske to Speak as 11 Mothers Graduate to Lives without Drugs and *with* their Children

WHAT: Family Treatment Court Recognition Ceremony

WHEN: Tuesday, May 15, 2012, 11: 00 AM- 1:00 PM

WHERE: Moultrie Courthouse, Hearing Room JM-8
500 Indiana Avenue, NW

WHO: **Gil Kerlikowske, Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy**
Chief Judge Lee Satterfield, DC Superior Court
Judge Zoe Bush, Presiding Judge, Family Court
Magistrate Judge Pamela Gray, Family Treatment Court judge

- Family Treatment Court has a comprehensive substance abuse treatment program for mothers and female guardians of children who are the subject of a child neglect allegations. Those who participate stipulate to the allegations of neglect. The program is fifteen months long.
- The first six months of treatment take place in a treatment facility in which the women reside along with up to four of their children, who are either ten or younger.
- The treatment facility provides on-site services as well as community-based services, including: substance abuse education and treatment, relapse prevention, parenting classes, counseling, and childcare.
- If the participants successfully complete the residential phase, they participate in a formal recognition ceremony and proceed to the community-based after care phase.

NOTE: *Director Kerlikowske and the judges will be available for interviews. Mothers and children may also be available for interviews, with their permission. Cameras and recorders must be cleared in advance.*

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