## John's Class



#### Welcome

You have chosen to participate in Salt Lake Criminal Justice's Services "John's Class" as part of your plea and abeyance for a solicitation charge. This revolving ten-week class focuses on developing healthy relationship skills. We recognize the apprehension and concern many participants face upon beginning this class. We see our role as facilitators not to blame or judge, but to help participants turn what began as a negative experience into an opportunity for personal reflection and change.

## **Completion Requirements**

The court requires that you **pay your fine in full**, with either a cashier's check or money order made out to Salt Lake County Treasurer. You may do so in this building's east end offices, between 9:00-5:30, Monday-Friday.

By state law, you must **complete a Chain of Custody HIV test** and have your results forwarded to the court. Only Salt Lake Valley Health Department at 610 South 200 East (534-4666) offers this specific test, by appointment only.

You must **deliver your course completion certificate** to the court where your judgment was passed, which you may receive at your last class, if requested in advance from Chris at 799-8404, or in the day reporting center the following day.

You must **comply with any other conditions** set by your judge.

#### **Class Expectations**

Participants must attend ten class sessions, participate, and complete and be prepared to discuss the weekly homework assignment. The interactive format of this class relies heavily on class members sharing their perceptions and experiences to gain insight from each other. While not collected, class members need to bring their completed assignments with them each week.

We expect that all class participants will **follow our agreements**, which we cover when new members join.

Each session runs from 5:30-7:30 p.m. and class members must attend the entire two hours.

Participants must **arrive before 5:40**, after which time the door is locked. Continual disruptions interrupt the flow of our class discussion and out of respect for all participants, we do not make exceptions.

Participants must **sign in** to receive credit for each class.

# **Missed Classes**

You must **make up any missed classes**, which will occur approximately ten weeks later. Please call Debra at 891-1344 or visit our website at <a href="www.umojatraining.com">www.umojatraining.com</a> and click on "JOP Schedule" to verify that the session you need will be held on the expected date. Keep track of the classes that you attend on the sticker provided in your folder.

We will cancel class if two facilitators cannot be present. You will receive credit if you sign-in; the sheet will be in the room if open or on the door. Please provide us with a phone number if you need advance notification. Class will be cancelled around most major holidays.

#### John's Class



#### Case Dismissal, Record Expungement, and Probationary Periods

Every ten weeks, Salt Lake City prosecutor Sim Gill attends class to answer questions about court procedures, probationary periods, and record expungement.

Most class members opt to take the John's Class on a Plea and Abeyance, which means they plead guilty to the charged offense under the agreement that they will not be convicted if they meet their judge's terms of probation. These terms are summarized on the sentencing form provided by the court, or a print out of your court docket can be requested from the court clerk. Conditions include those listed above under "Completion Requirements," and others possibly ordered by your judge, such as community service, an additional fine, no new violations during probation, etc.

To begin the process of getting this offense dismissed, class members must deliver their course completion certificate to the court clerk at the court in which they were tried, confirm that the court has received the results of their HIV test, and fulfill any additional requirements set by the judge.

Class members then **notify the city prosecutor**, **or their lawyer**, **and ask him or her to file a motion to dismiss their case**. If your case was tried in Salt Lake City, Sim Gill's office (349 S 200 E, Ste 500) will file this motion for no charge once you fulfill your sentencing conditions. To start this process, contact him by phone at 535-7990 or by email at <a href="mailto:simarjit@slc.gov">simarjit@slc.gov</a> and leave your name, case number, judge's name, and a confidential phone number.

Thirty days after the motion to dismiss has been signed by your judge, you can **begin expungement procedures at the Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI)** at 3888 W 5400 South (965-4445, hours 8-5). For \$10, you will receive a copy of your record; make sure this offense is listed. At the same time, pick up an expungement form and, once completed, take it to the city prosecutor's office to be signed. You then leave the signed form at the court for your judge's signature. Three weeks later, you can return to BCI and rerun your record to ensure that this offense has been expunged.

If your case was tried in Salt Lake City, and if you complete the terms of your sentence, the City Prosecutor's office usually **offers an early end to your probationary period**. Contact Sim Gill with any questions.