

## CHAPTER 2011-33

### Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 400

An act relating to treatment-based drug court programs; amending s. 397.334, F.S.; requiring all offenders sentenced to a postadjudicatory drug court program who are drug court participants and who are the subject of a violation of probation or community control hearing under specified provisions to have the violation of probation or community control heard by the judge presiding over the drug court program; providing that treatment-based drug court programs may include postadjudicatory programs provided under specified provisions; amending s. 921.0026, F.S.; increasing the number of Criminal Punishment Code scoresheet total sentence points that a defendant may have and be eligible for a postadjudicatory treatment-based drug court program; amending s. 948.01, F.S.; increasing the number of Criminal Punishment Code scoresheet total sentence points that a defendant may have and be eligible for a postadjudicatory treatment-based drug court program; amending s. 948.06, F.S.; making defendants other than those who have violated probation or community control by a failed or suspect substance abuse test eligible for postadjudicatory treatment-based drug court programs; increasing the number of Criminal Punishment Code scoresheet total sentence points that a defendant may have and be eligible for a postadjudicatory treatment-based drug court program; amending s. 948.20, F.S.; increasing the number of Criminal Punishment Code scoresheet total sentence points that a defendant may have and be eligible for a postadjudicatory treatment-based drug court program; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsections (3) and (5) of section 397.334, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

397.334 Treatment-based drug court programs.—

(3)(a) Entry into any postadjudicatory treatment-based drug court program as a condition of probation or community control pursuant to s. 948.01, s. 948.06, or s. 948.20 must be based upon the sentencing court's assessment of the defendant's criminal history, substance abuse screening outcome, amenability to the services of the program, total sentence points, the recommendation of the state attorney and the victim, if any, and the defendant's agreement to enter the program.

(b) An offender who is sentenced to a postadjudicatory drug court program and who, while a drug court participant, is the subject of a violation of probation or community control under s. 948.06, ~~based solely upon a failed or suspect substance abuse test administered pursuant to s. 948.01 or s. 948.03~~, shall have the violation of probation or community control heard by

the judge presiding over the postadjudicatory drug court program. The judge shall dispose of any such violation, after a hearing on or admission of the violation, as he or she deems appropriate if the resulting sentence or conditions are lawful.

(5) Treatment-based drug court programs may include pretrial intervention programs as provided in ss. 948.08, 948.16, and 985.345, treatment-based drug court programs authorized in chapter 39, postadjudicatory programs as provided in ss. 948.01, 948.06, and 948.20, and review of the status of compliance or noncompliance of sentenced offenders through a treatment-based drug court program. While enrolled in a treatment-based drug court program, the participant is subject to a coordinated strategy developed by a drug court team under subsection (4). The coordinated strategy may include a protocol of sanctions that may be imposed upon the participant for noncompliance with program rules. The protocol of sanctions may include, but is not limited to, placement in a substance abuse treatment program offered by a licensed service provider as defined in s. 397.311 or in a jail-based treatment program or serving a period of secure detention under chapter 985 if a child or a period of incarceration within the time limits established for contempt of court if an adult. The coordinated strategy must be provided in writing to the participant before the participant agrees to enter into a treatment-based drug court program.

Section 2. Paragraph (m) of subsection (2) of section 921.0026, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

921.0026 Mitigating circumstances.—This section applies to any felony offense, except any capital felony, committed on or after October 1, 1998.

(2) Mitigating circumstances under which a departure from the lowest permissible sentence is reasonably justified include, but are not limited to:

(m) The defendant's offense is a nonviolent felony, the defendant's Criminal Punishment Code scoresheet total sentence points under s. 921.0024 are 60 ~~52~~ points or fewer, and the court determines that the defendant is amenable to the services of a postadjudicatory treatment-based drug court program and is otherwise qualified to participate in the program as part of the sentence. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "nonviolent felony" has the same meaning as provided in s. 948.08(6).

Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section 948.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

948.01 When court may place defendant on probation or into community control.—

(7)(a) Notwithstanding s. 921.0024 and effective for offenses committed on or after July 1, 2009, the sentencing court may place the defendant into a postadjudicatory treatment-based drug court program if the defendant's Criminal Punishment Code scoresheet total sentence points under s.

921.0024 are 60 ~~52~~ points or fewer, and the offense defendant is a nonviolent felony offender, the defendant is amenable to substance abuse treatment, and the defendant otherwise qualifies under s. 397.334(3). The satisfactory completion of the program shall be a condition of the defendant’s probation or community control. As used in this subsection, the term “nonviolent felony” means a third degree felony violation under chapter 810 or any other felony offense that is not a forcible felony as defined in s. 776.08.

Section 4. Paragraph (i) of subsection (2) of section 948.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

948.06 Violation of probation or community control; revocation; modification; continuance; failure to pay restitution or cost of supervision.—

(2)

(i)1. Notwithstanding s. 921.0024 and effective for offenses committed on or after July 1, 2009, the court may order the defendant to successfully complete a postadjudicatory treatment-based drug court program if:

a. The court finds or the offender admits that the offender has violated his or her community control or probation and ~~the violation was due only to a failed or suspect substance abuse test;~~

b. The offender’s Criminal Punishment Code scoresheet total sentence points under s. 921.0024 are 60 ~~52~~ points or fewer after including points for the violation;

c. The underlying offense is a nonviolent felony. As used in this subsection, the term “nonviolent felony” means a third degree felony violation under chapter 810 or any other felony offense that is not a forcible felony as defined in s. 776.08;

d. The court determines that the offender is amenable to the services of a postadjudicatory treatment-based drug court program;

e. The court has explained the purpose of the program to the offender and the offender has agreed to participate; and

f. The offender is otherwise qualified to participate in the program under the provisions of s. 397.334(3).

2. After the court orders the modification of community control or probation, the original sentencing court shall relinquish jurisdiction of the offender’s case to the postadjudicatory treatment-based drug court program until the offender is no longer active in the program, the case is returned to the sentencing court due to the offender’s termination from the program for failure to comply with the terms thereof, or the offender’s sentence is completed.

Section 5. Section 948.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

## 948.20 Drug offender probation.—

(1) If it appears to the court upon a hearing that the defendant is a chronic substance abuser whose criminal conduct is a violation of s. 893.13(2)(a) or (6)(a), or other nonviolent felony if such nonviolent felony is committed on or after July 1, 2009, and notwithstanding s. 921.0024 the defendant's Criminal Punishment Code scoresheet total sentence points are ~~60~~ 52 points or fewer, the court may either adjudge the defendant guilty or stay and withhold the adjudication of guilt. In either case, the court may also stay and withhold the imposition of sentence and place the defendant on drug offender probation or into a postadjudicatory treatment-based drug court program if the defendant otherwise qualifies. As used in this section, the term "nonviolent felony" means a third degree felony violation under chapter 810 or any other felony offense that is not a forcible felony as defined in s. 776.08.

~~(2)~~(1) The Department of Corrections shall develop and administer a drug offender probation program which emphasizes a combination of treatment and intensive community supervision approaches and which includes provision for supervision of offenders in accordance with a specific treatment plan. The program may include the use of graduated sanctions consistent with the conditions imposed by the court. Drug offender probation status shall include surveillance and random drug testing, and may include those measures normally associated with community control, except that specific treatment conditions and other treatment approaches necessary to monitor this population may be ordered.

~~(3)~~(2) Offenders placed on drug offender probation are subject to revocation of probation as provided in s. 948.06.

Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.

Approved by the Governor May 5, 2011.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 5, 2011.