



**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
*District of Rhode Island*

**NOTICE REGARDING THE COURT'S  
DEFERRED SENTENCING PROGRAM**

The United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island is pleased to announce the establishment of a Deferred Sentencing Program. The program is designed to offer an alternative to traditional conviction, sentencing, and incarceration by providing eligible defendants with a framework of supervision and services in lieu of incarceration to help them make informed decisions, engage in positive behavior, and reduce the risk of recidivism.

Participation in the Deferred Sentencing Program is at the discretion of the presiding judge, and defendants will be placed in the program on a case-by-case basis after a careful analysis to determine suitability for the program. After the entry of a guilty plea, the presiding judge may refer a defendant to the United States Probation Office ("Probation") to be evaluated for participation in the Program. After reviewing Probation's report and hearing from the parties, the presiding judge may accept a defendant into the Deferred Sentencing Program for a period ranging from six months to a year. Sentencing is postponed until successful completion of the program or such time as a defendant demonstrates an inability or unwillingness to complete the program.

During this period, a team of individuals consisting of the presiding judge, prosecutor, defense counsel, and probation officers will participate in monthly meetings with the program participants to monitor conduct and to provide direction, advice, and counseling. This collaborative process of supervision provides a greater level of support and understanding of the personal factors that affect a particular defendant.

Upon successful completion of the Deferred Sentencing Program, the presiding judge will impose a non-custodial sentence.

February 5, 2016

DAVID A. DIMARZIO  
Clerk of Court