

# Texas Specialty Court CONNECTION

Connecting Courts. Supporting Success.



TEXAS SPECIALTY COURT CONNECTION NEWSLETTER

JULY 2026

## Project Manager's Message

As we continue to grow and strengthen the work of the Specialty Court Resource Center, our focus remains on building meaningful relationships with the courts and communities we serve.

In the coming months, our team will be visiting courts across the state – not as evaluators, but as partners committed to listening, learning, and identifying ways we can better support your success.

We are also launching weekly virtual office hours for courts that would like to ask questions, share ideas, or connect with colleagues across the state; a recurring calendar invitation has been sent, and we encourage you to join us whenever you can.

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**Need Assistance? We're Here to Help!**  
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## COURT OF THE MONTH — SAFPF RE-ENTRY DRUG COURT/ANGELINA COUNTY



This month, we would like to recognize **SAFPF re-entry drug court/Angelina County** for being the first court to respond to and complete the Specialty Court Resource Center's initial needs assessment survey. Your willingness to engage early in this process reflects your commitment to continuous improvement and collaboration, and your feedback will help shape the resources and support we provide to courts across Texas. Thank you for your partnership and for helping us build a stronger network of specialty courts statewide.

**VISIT THEIR WEBSITE HERE TO LEARN MORE >>**

## Data with Dr. Bills

I have received grant funding to conduct research concerning stress and burnout among Texas specialty court staff. This first-of-its-kind study will provide insight into how specialty court staff like you are faring on the job. The completely anonymous questionnaire will take only 15-20 minutes to complete. Your time and thoughtful responses are invaluable to producing quality research. Findings will inform recommendations to the state/other entities to improve resources and support available to you. They will also form the foundation for additional research and initiatives that can benefit you. I strongly encourage you and your peers to fill out the survey. I will send out several reminder emails to our listserv to take the survey; please ignore those once you have completed the survey (but do double-check with your colleagues to make sure they have taken it too!).

**Dr. Matthew Bills**  
Research Associate, SCRC

**CLICK HERE TO TAKE THE SURVEY >>**



## SCRC JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

**Launched our statewide court needs assessment initiative**, gathering valuable feedback from specialty courts to better understand challenges, identify resource gaps, and guide future support efforts.

**Expanded direct technical assistance and consultation services**, responding to court inquiries and connecting teams with resources, best practices, and solutions tailored to their unique program needs.

**Introduced new opportunities for engagement and collaboration**, including upcoming court site visits and weekly virtual office hours designed to foster communication, peer learning, and stronger partnerships across the specialty court community.

## Upcoming Event

**2026 All Rise Conference**  
July 20-23, 2026 / Nashville, TN  
www.allriseconference.org

**RISE 26**  
July 20-23, 2026 • Nashville, Tennessee

## COURT SUCCESS STORIES

### MODEL COURT SPOTLIGHT: EXCELLENCE IN PRACTICE

The Specialty Court Resource Center is proud to recognize three Texas specialty courts that achieved an outstanding 9 out of 10 green components on their BeST Practices Assessment, demonstrating exceptional alignment with nationally recognized best practices and a strong commitment to participant success.

Congratulations to **Bexar County Felony Drug Court**, **Grayson County Recovery Court**, and the **Williamson County DWI/Drug Court Program** for serving as models of excellence in the specialty court community.

We appreciate your leadership and look forward to sharing the innovative practices and strategies that continue to drive your success and inspire courts across the state.

