

**A MESSAGE
FROM THE SOLICITOR,**

The Ninth Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office takes a strong position in prosecuting those who threaten our community and break our laws. We recognize, however, that first-time offenders of magistrate/municipal alcohol crimes may sincerely wish to turn their lives around and not return to the criminal justice system. Those individuals ready for change, have an opportunity through the Alcohol Education Program. While in the Alcohol Education Program participants will be required to participate in a series of requirements including substance abuse education or counseling sessions, random drug screens and community service.

In return for compliance with all program requirements, successful participants will be eligible to have all data from the criminal arrest removed from their record. This program can allow a fresh start towards a responsible and productive life in our community.

Scarlett A. Wilson
Ninth Circuit Solicitor

**Ninth Circuit Solicitor's Diversion
Services Program**

Charleston County
101 Meeting Street, 2nd Floor
Charleston, SC 29401
p: 843-958-1930 fax: 843-958-1931

Berkeley County
300-B California Avenue
Moncks Corner, SC 29461
p: 843-719-4387 fax: 843-719-4382

www.scsolicitor9.org/aep.php

ALCOHOL EDUCATION PROGRAM

For persons 17 - 20 years of age.



What is Alcohol Education Program?

The Alcohol Education Program (AEP) is a diversion program under the supervision of the Ninth Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office. The AEP program is designed for first-time offenders of magistrate/municipal court alcohol offenses. This system allows the defendant to be diverted from court and enter into a program consisting of education/counseling, community service and guidance. Successful completion of the program requirements will allow the defendant to process an Order for the Destruction of Arrest Record on the charge. The goal of this program is to give first-time offenders and educational opportunity to change illegal behavior.

Offenders may participate in this program only once.

Solicitor Scarlett A. Wilson
Ninth Circuit Solicitor's Office
101 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC 29401

Alcohol Education Program

AEP Eligible Criminal Charges Are:

- Minor in Possession of Beer or Wine
- Minor in Possession of Alcohol or Liquor
- Open Container
- Public Disorderly Conduct
- Littering (alcohol related only)
- Possession of a False ID
- Other alcohol offenses similar in nature

NOTE:

Driving Under the Influence (DUI), is not eligible.

Who is eligible for AEP?

- Applicants between the ages of 17-20 at the time of the arrest.
- Applicants with no prior criminal convictions.
- Applicants who are likely to respond quickly to rehabilitative treatment.
- Applicants who are unlikely to be involved in further criminal activity.
- Applicants who have not completed an AEP program before.

Items Needed for Application

- \$150 Application Fee
- Current Picture ID
- Social Security Card
- Application 1 of 2 ways:
 1. Online: www.scsolicitor9.org/aep.php
 2. Apply in person Monday- Friday 9-5:00

**Out of area and out-of-state supervision is possible.
See an AEP Staff member for details.**

AEP Referral Process

- You must appear at your required court.
- You may request AEP when in court.
- The court will forward the referral to the Solicitor's AEP office. The magistrate or municipal court will also give you a copy of the AEP referral to bring with you to your application.
- You must apply within 10 days of your court date.
- You must apply to the county where the criminal charge occurred.
- Once application is submitted, you have 10 days to send a copy of your Current ID or Driver's License and a copy of your Social Security card to divservices@scsolicitor9.org
- Once your completed application is received, you will be notified within 14 days whether or not you are accepted.

Participation and Program Requirements

- The total amount is \$250.
(Application fee is \$150)
(Participation fee is \$100)
- Complete required education as assigned.
(Counseling fees may vary.)
- Submit to random drug testing.
- Complete assigned driving program.
- Complete community service as assigned.
- Have no new criminal violations while enrolled in AEP.
- Have no other pending violations while enrolled in AEP.

