

# Superior Court of Rhode Island

JOSEPH A. MONTALBANO  
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE

Providence

March 19, 2026

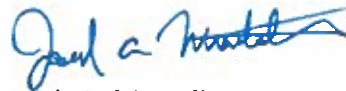
Honorable Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903

**ATTN: Senator David Tikoian**

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing in support of Senator Tikoian's Bill No. 3099, which would change the name of the Superior Court Drug Court to the Superior Court Recovery Court. As an Associate Justice of the Superior Court I have become keenly aware of the many challenges defendants struggling with substance abuse face as they navigate the criminal justice system. Those who have successfully graduated from the Superior Court Drug Court are to be commended for their hard work and dedication to their recovery. Changing the name of the Drug Court to the Recovery Court would remove any stigma attached to the word "Drug," and more accurately describe the goals of this Specialty Court, which has been a model to the rest of the country in its mission and effectiveness.

Sincerely,



Joseph A. Montalbano  
Associate Justice  
Rhode Island Superior Court

JAM/cmm