



# Friends of New Hampshire Drug Courts

*Drug Courts Work – They Transform Lives*

Ed Rajsteter, President  
Bill Howell, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Cheryle Pacapelli, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Edward O'Reilly, Treasurer  
Don Perlee, Secretary

Contact: Edward Rajsteter  
President, Board of Directors  
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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **FRIENDS OF NH DRUG COURTS WELCOMES NEW LEADERS**

**CONCORD, NH** – The Friends of the New Hampshire Drug Courts elected officers and ratified six new board members at its 2017 Annual Meeting.

Members last month elected Ed Rajsteter as president, Bill Howell as 1<sup>st</sup> vice-president, Cheryle Pacapelli as 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president, Edward O'Reilly as treasurer, and Don Perlee as secretary.

Rajsteter retired after working more than 40 years in the financial services industry. A former member of the Friends of the Grafton County Drug Court, he lives in North Haverhill.

Howell is founder and principal of the Howell Valuation LLC in Exeter. A CPA and business valuation expert, Howell has extensive experience in senior financial management. He lives in Stratham.

Pacapelli has been providing peer recovery services for more than 17 years and works at Harbor Homes as project director for Peer Recovery Supports-Facilitating Organization. She co-owns Stepping Stones House, a transitional living house for men in recovery. She is in long-term recovery and lives in Salisbury.

#### Honorary Board Members

U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen, U.S. Senator Maggie Hassan, Former U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte  
Congresswoman Anne Kuster, Former Congressman Frank Guinta, Executive Councilor Joseph Kenny  
Robert Gasser, Bonnie Reid Martin and Linda Saunders Paquette

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*The Friends of New Hampshire Drug Courts is a tax-exempt nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization*



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O'Reilly retired from the Manchester Fire Department as district fire chief in 2014. A Manchester resident, he is a CPA and serves on the finance committee for the Parish of the Transfiguration.

Perlee retired from local government management where he worked as chief financial officer and business administrator for several New Jersey cities. They include serving 14 years as business administrator for Perth Amboy, N.J. He lives in Lyman.

The Friends also confirmed Pacapelli and five other directors who joined the board since its first Annual Meeting in 2016. They are:

- Dee Belanger of Keene, liaison to Cheshire County Drug Court;
- Lynn Fuller of Farmington, founder of Circle of Hope family support group, has two sons who graduated from Strafford County Drug Court, and represents Strafford County Drug Court;
- The Rev. John J. Mahoney Jr. of Manchester, a canon lawyer, mental health counselor, director of clinical service at Catholic Charities NH, who represents Hillsborough County–North Drug Court;
- Kathryn Marchocki, communications specialist and journalist from Mont Vernon; and
- Nancy Russell of Etna, an attorney with a background in nursing.

The Friends of the NH Drug Courts is the nation's first, statewide non-profit agency formed to support established and developing drug courts in the New Hampshire. The state now has seven drug courts. The organization raises corporate and community support for drug courts and assists in their operations through incentive programs, classes and forums.

For more information, see [www.friendsofnhdrugcourts.org](http://www.friendsofnhdrugcourts.org).

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