



United States District Court  
Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division  
219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604

## NOTICE

**U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, will be accepting recommendations for the Sentencing Options that Achieve Results (SOAR) program beginning March 30, 2026, through April 17, 2026**

Beginning March 30 through April 17, 2026, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois will be accepting recommendations from attorneys of record to the Sentencing Options that Achieve Results (SOAR) program. The link for applications will be made available on the Northern District of Illinois U.S. District Court's website.

To be eligible for recommendation, a defendant must have a federal criminal case pending in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois; must have been released on bond; and must reside in the Northern District of Illinois. Defendants with any prior felony convictions should not apply. Defendants with no violent conviction history, no sex offense history, and whose pending federal offense was not violent and/or sexual in nature may be recommended. Only those under consideration for the program will be contacted by the SOAR Court team by May 31, 2026. Acceptance into the SOAR program is by agreement of the SOAR Court team of Assistant U.S. Attorneys, Federal Defenders, and U.S. Pretrial Services Office.

SOAR participants meet in bi-monthly court sessions with members of the SOAR Court Team to discuss participants' progress in establishing sobriety, stability, constructive employment, education and a crime-free and productive lifestyle. Participation in the SOAR program lasts from eighteen to twenty-four months. Successful completion of the program results in either the imposition of a non-custodial sentence, reduction to a misdemeanor conviction, or possible dismissal of the criminal charges.

Date of notice: March 23, 2026