



Wishing you and your family a safe and happy holiday season!



Welcome to eFocus, an electronic newsletter produced by the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (OPCA).

OPCA publishes this newsletter to further its goal of promoting public safety through probation services and other community corrections programs. We welcome your suggestions.

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eFocus, Issue Number 129, Dec 22, 2014  
New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)  
Michael C. Green, Executive Deputy Commissioner  
Robert M. Maccarone, Deputy Commissioner and OPCA Director  
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<http://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/opca>

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**1. YASI/CaseWorks Reports Updated and Available on the IJ Portal:** The YASI/CaseWorks upgrade was successfully implemented in November. With the upgrade, the technical team supporting OPCA focused on deploying a subset of the 36 YASI/CaseWorks reports available on the eJusticeNY Integrated Justice Portal (IJ Portal). This initial subset included the reports associated with County Profiles and with Client Assessments. The County Profile group consists of five reports that enable the user to view demographic information for assessments performed within a county or across the state. The Client Assessment group consists of seven reports that enable the user to view the number, type and status of assessments performed within a county or across the state.

The remaining 24 YASI/CaseWorks reports are slated for a deployment on Dec. 23. Included with this deployment are the following reports, which drill down into specific topics : Mental Health (11 reports), Alcohol and Drug (one report), Legal History (two reports), Family (three reports) and School (seven reports).

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2. Juvenile Justice Quarterly Report Revised: The Juvenile Justice Quarterly Report for the period January to June 2014 has been revised and now includes both the “Adjustment Rate including all Closed Cases” and “Adjustment Rate excluding Immediate Referrals.” The latter reflects the adjustment rates for juvenile delinquency matters that were opened by probation for adjustment services. Both rates will provide a more comprehensive picture of the adjustment rates within New York State.

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**3. Operation Return II Returns Four Probationer Absconders-** Operation Return II is a collaborative effort involving local, state and federal partners, including the U.S. Marshals Service, designed to locate, apprehend and return Sex Offender Registration Act (SORA) Level 2 or 3 probation sex offender absconders to the wanting jurisdiction in New York State for prosecution on the associated violation of probation (VOP), and to face any criminal charges. This effort began in June 2014 and since then, county Probation Departments have submitted 59 applications to Operation Return II. Of those 59 applications, five Level 2 or 3 sex offender probation absconders have been returned to wanting jurisdictions and detainer warrants have been lodged on three others. Also as a result of this initiative, three offenders have been confirmed as deceased and 19 have been confirmed as deported.

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4. Roadside Stop II Provides Information to Probation Departments - The state Office of Information Technology Services is moving forward with programming within the IJ Portal that will give police agencies a check-box option to notify Probation Departments of roadside stops when the police run a Department of Motor Vehicle check. The roadside stop notice will be sent to the appropriate Probation Department based upon the ORI number. Since this notice is not fingerprint-based, the Probation Department will need to confirm that the person stopped by the police was indeed the probationer before taking any additional action. This will serve as an additional field intelligence tool that will assist probation with holding probationers accountable. OPCA will advise departments when this capability is implemented.

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**5. Justice Mental Health Collaboration Program—Phase 2 Counties -** The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHC) met earlier this month in Onondaga, Albany and Orange counties. At each site, Representatives from county Probation Departments, mental health, police agencies, corrections agencies, treatment providers and other county agencies met to discuss implementation of justice and mental health collaboration. The JMHC is currently working with 10 counties across the state, providing sequential intercept mapping of the points where individuals with mental illness come into contact with the criminal justice system and technical assistance to improve/enhance system responses. The program also met in Niagara in November and Onondaga and in Orange counties in December to present the report compiled from mapping workshops earlier this fall and to plan for implementation. Other Phase II Counties are Erie and Niagara.

Onondaga County SIM Meeting



Albany County SIM Meeting



Orange County SIM Meeting



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6. GIVE (Gun Involved Violence Elimination) Symposium

DCJS hosted its first-ever symposium on evidence-based strategies to address gun violence in the communities served by 20 police departments in 17 counties that participate in the GIVE initiative. Held at the Gideon Putnam Hotel and Conference Center in Saratoga Springs, the symposium featured workshops on Problem Oriented Policing, Hot Spot Policing, Crime Prevention through Environmental Design, Focused Deterrence, and Procedural Justice. Law enforcement partners in each of the GIVE counties gave presentations about their local efforts to address this important issue, which included collaborative work being performed by Probation Departments. Community Corrections expert Ron Corbett, a lecturer from the University of Massachusetts/ Lowell, addressed the Community Supervision Breakout participants, which included probation and parole professionals, on procedural justice, which emphasizes engaging the community in meaningful ways to strengthen communication, build legitimacy and establish trust which leads to compliance, cooperation and empowerment.

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**7. Field Visits to Probation Departments in Rensselaer and Saratoga Counties**

DCJS Deputy Commissioner and Director Robert Maccarone and Probation Executive Deputy Director John Adams recently visited Probation Departments in the Capital Region to meet with staff, probation directors and county representatives. Director Maccarone discussed the new supervision rule to include merit credit and juvenile contact substitution components, real-time video reporting technology, Caseload Explorer topics, and the positive impact of probation's work on public safety through such efforts as DNA collection and use of evidence-based practices. He also reinforced the importance of procedural justice, treating individuals under probation with respect in building trust, credibility and compliance.

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8. OPCA Trainings

OSST/Peace Officer/Fundamentals of Probation Practice 2015: OSST/Peace Officer/Fundamentals of Probation Practice 2015: The Spring and Fall classes of the OSST/Peace Officer/Fundamentals of Probation Practice (FPP) training for 2015 will be held March 2 through 6, March 16 through 20 and March 23 and 27, and Oct. 5 through 9, Oct. 19 through 23 and Oct. 26 through 30. The course is designed to provide state-of-the-art training to new probation officers. It provides required training along with an overview of the

procedures and legal requirements involved in the work of probation with the goal to reduce offender recidivism. The official announcement and registration form for the spring class will be distributed early in the New Year. Anyone interested in becoming an FPP trainer should contact Patricia Clements at patricia.clements@dcjs.ny.gov or 518-485-0905.

Offender Workforce Development Specialist (OWDS) program dates for 2015: OPCA will be offering the OWDS training program on March 9 through 13, April 27 through -May 1 and June 15 through 19. The 180-hour OWDS training program will be presented in Albany and will provide Probation Departments with an excellent opportunity to develop trained specialists in offender employment practices, including preparing for, obtaining and retaining employment. In addition to the NIC OWDS 180-hour certified curriculum, participants will be trained in leading the 20-hour Ready, Set, Work! (RSW!) job readiness groups. All graduates of the training are expected to facilitate RSW! groups in their agency and/or community and to report outcomes to DCJS on a regular basis. For more information, please contact Cynthia Blair at cynthia.blair@dcjs.ny.gov or 518-485-5145.

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9. Recent 2014 State Director’s Memoranda

SDM 2014-6 Leandra’s Law Semi Annual Report—Issued Nov. 26, 2014

All State Director’s Memoranda are available online via the IJ Portal. To access them, log on to the IJ Portal, and click on Resources, Reference Library, Probation and Director’s Memoranda.

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10. Awards, Events, Additional Trainings and News

“ The American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) 2015 Winter Training Institute is scheduled for Jan. 11 through 14 in Tampa, Fla. For more information, visit http://www.appa-net.org/institutes/2015_tampa/attendee/index.htm

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11. Practice Tip 1: According to State Director’s Memorandum # 2013-5, “all probationer-involved homicides, as well as homicides reported to have been committed by individuals engaged in community corrections programs must be reported to OPCA as Critical Incidents.” - OPCA has received a number of Critical Incident Reports, including the arrest of 21 probationers charged with homicide, through Dec. 1.

Practice Tip 2: Please remember that for interstate transfers into New York State, a Notice of Arrival (NOA) must be submitted within five business days of the sending states Notice of Departure submission in ICOTS. This NOA should reflect that either the offender has arrived on their scheduled report date or that the offender has failed to report on their scheduled report date.

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12. Quick Fact 1: The Department of Motor Vehicles has released the New York State Alcohol-Related Motor Vehicle Crashes Summary for 2013. The number of fatalities increased last year, from 358 deaths to 387.

For more information, visit <http://dmv.ny.gov/statistic/2013alcohol.pdf>

Quick Fact 2: Since the implementation of “Leandra’s Law” in 2009 through Nov. 18, 2014, 4,234 individuals have been arrested for Aggravated DWI (driving under the influence with a child under 16 years of age in the vehicle.)

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