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In this Issue:

- 1. MAYSI-2 Statewide Training and Implementation**
- 2. RFK National Resource Center – Dennis M. Mondoro Probation and Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Project**
- 3. YASI Collaborative Case Works (CCW) Training and Coaching**
- 4. Tioga County Probation Department Receives Donation from Local Business Owner to Support At-Risk Youth**
- 5. Decision Points: Impaired Driving**
- 6. County Re-Entry Task Force Enhanced Service Coordination Webinar**
- 7. New York City Probation Department’s NeON Program Makes Headlines**
- 8. Impaired Drivers System (IDS)**
- 9. Interstate Workgroup**
- 10. New York State Probation Officers Association Board Members Take Oath**
- 11. 2020 DCJS Law Enforcement Symposium Call for Presentations**
- 12. Recent State Director’s Memoranda**
- 13. OPCA Training Updates and Schedule**
- 14. Officer Wellness Tip**
- 15. Practice Tip**
- 16. Quick Fact**

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**1. MAYSI-2 Statewide Training and Screening Implementation**

DCJS Regulation Part 356 has been amended and includes changes necessary for implementation of the state’s Raise the Age law. Among the changes was the provision for screening youth charged with juvenile delinquency offenses to help probation officers identify those youth in need of further assessment and evaluation by licensed clinicians. Over the past year, the Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (OPCA) has provided technical assistance to probation departments so they can collaborate with mental health practitioners and develop plans that outline how service referrals will occur when youth in need of assessment, evaluation, and services are identified. The

development of these referral networks was the precursor to training probation officers in the use of the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI-2). Through a contract with the University of Massachusetts, OPCA has provided six web-based trainings to nearly 300 probation officers in the use of MAYSI-2 in preparation for the implementation of statewide screening next month. The MAYSI-2 will be completed by youth and scored by probation officers. Eventually, the instrument will be included in the Caseload Explorer Assessment and Case Planning Suite, and scored automatically, but the screen will still be completed by youth. Probation departments using MAYSI-2 will receive the MAYSI-2 Administration & Referral Protocol Manual at no cost. In addition, Jonathan Clayfield, Senior Project Director of the Implementation Science & Practice Advances Research Center at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, who provided the training to probation officers, will provide technical assistance until early 2021. Probation departments that are using the GAINS SS instrument in collaboration with Columbia University as part of the e-connect project may continue to do so.

For more information, email [OPCARTATA@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:OPCARTATA@dcjs.ny.gov).

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2. RFK National Resource Center – Dennis M. Mondoro Probation and Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Project

Dutchess County is one of three jurisdictions selected nationally to receive training and technical assistance in probation system review and reform from the Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice. Through a two-year partnership with the Center, the county will work to improve outcomes for “youth placed on community supervision, particularly those with co-occurring disorders, in the interest of reducing delinquent behavior and promoting public safety.” To accomplish this goal, the RFK National Resource Center will rely on a proven framework, detailed in the Center’s seminal publication [*Probation System Review Guidebook, 3rd Edition*](#), and will build on its successful and extensive history of community supervision transformation. The project is designed to achieve the following objectives:

- Create or enhance a comprehensive juvenile justice system improvement plan.
- Identify opportunities in each jurisdiction for improved community supervision/probation performance based on best practice standards that address the needs of both youth with and without trauma and behavioral health diagnoses.
- Implement the improvement plans in each jurisdiction with the endorsement of local leadership, thus ensuring sustainable and measurable practice enhancement.

Congratulations to the Dutchess County Office of Probation and Community Corrections for being selected for this prestigious program!

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### 3. YASI Collaborative Case Works (CCW) Training and Coaching

In late 2019, OPCA embarked on an initiative to provide probation professionals with high-quality assessment and case planning. Working in partnership with Orbis Partners, OPCA has trained more than 300 probation professionals in the Collaborative Case Work (CCW) model during the first phase of this initiative. Phases 2 and 3 are currently underway and will work to build capacity through the development of coaches, who will provide sustainability of the critical assessment and case planning skills. A total of 38 probation officers from 30 probation department have committed to become CCW coaches. Once trained, they will have the skills to employ the assessment review protocol within their departments, and benefit from individualized feedback sessions with Orbis “master coaches.” This opportunity will provide for fidelity and sustainability of this training across New York State.

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4. Tioga County Probation Department Receives Donation from Local Business Owner to Support At-Risk Youth

Upstate Shredding–Weitsman Recycling CEO Adam Weitsman, an entrepreneur and philanthropist, recently donated \$2,500 to the Tioga County Probation Department to support the department’s new “Decision Points” program, an evidence-based initiative that aims to encourage youth on probation to make better life choices.

The program targets youth ranging in age from 14 to 17. Tioga County Probation Director Joy Bennett noted the donation will fund pizza and soda for the teens participating in the program.

Check out [this story](#) to learn more.



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### 5. Decision Points—Impaired Driving

Statewide, nearly 19,000 individuals are currently under supervision for driving while intoxicated, 1,700 for driving while ability impaired and 2,500 for aggravated unlicensed operation, with many of those individuals unlicensed due to a prior impaired driving conviction. In total, these individuals represent 26 percent of the total probation population in the state. Evidence-based strategies to effectively manage this population are critical, given the risk to traffic safety these individuals pose, and the significant portion of probation department workloads which they represent.

To that end, OPCA recently facilitated a webinar outlining the Decision Points-Driving Under the Influence Program. Decision Points authors Dr. Julia Taymans and Dr. Steven Swisher provided an overview of the program, which was specifically developed to address the underlying issues related to impaired driving and assist individuals in addressing the challenges involved in transforming deeply rooted attitudes and habits, and to provide long-term solutions to reduce the risk of recidivism. The five-lesson program can be delivered by probation professionals and combines aspects of cognitive skill training and cognitive re-structuring. The program’s open entry/exit feature provides flexibility for

both probation departments and participants. Nearly 160 probation professionals participated in the [webinar](#).

OPCA is currently assessing if probation departments are interested in having their staff trained to facilitate the Decision Points-Driving Under the Influence Program. A three-day facilitator training will be scheduled in Albany in the coming months; a formal application and additional details will follow.

For more information, please contact Community Correction Representative 2 Michele Melendez at [Michele.Melendez-McKearin@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:Michele.Melendez-McKearin@dcjs.ny.gov) or (518) 457-7277.

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6. County Re-Entry Task Forces Enhanced Service Coordination Webinar

The 20 County Re-Entry Task Forces funded by DCJS provide quality service planning and coordination to address both stabilization and criminogenic needs of more than 5,000 individuals under supervision each year. Task Forces operate in Albany, Bronx, Broome, Dutchess, Erie, Kings, Monroe, Nassau, New York, Niagara, Oneida, Onondaga, Orange, Queens, Rensselaer, Rockland, Schenectady, Suffolk, Ulster, and Westchester counties and partner with agencies in those counties and the state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision to strengthen community-based resources to help individuals transition from prison back to their communities. In addition to coordinating services, Task Forces provide cognitive behavioral interventions and employment readiness programming, both of which have shown to reduce recidivism. To support this work, OPCA recently hosted an “Enhanced Service Coordination” webinar for County Re-Entry Task Force professionals.

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## **7. New York City Probation Department’s NeON Program Makes Headlines**

The South Bronx NeON – short for Neighborhood Opportunity Network and one of seven neighborhood probation offices located in communities with high rates of supervision – was recently featured in the [Philadelphia Inquirer](#). In addition to drug testing and court-ordered reporting, the NeON offices offer free photography classes and GED courses, sewing circles and anti-violence initiatives, food giveaways and a clothing closet, all open to those on probation as well as their neighbors. The South Bronx NeON has a poet-in-residence; other sites run music programs in collaboration with Carnegie Hall.

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8. Impaired Drivers System (IDS)

The [Impaired Driver System](#) is a web-based tracking and reporting application developed by the state Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) in collaboration with the state Department of Motor Vehicles. The Impaired Driver System significantly improves the quality of information and

efficiency of transfer of information by automating processes previously handled manually via DMV's DS-449, MV-2025 and MV-2026 paper forms. Impaired Driver Program (IDP) Directors and clinical providers have immediate electronic access to clients' records regarding IDP enrollment and clinical screening, assessment and treatment. In addition, the system allows electronic access to a client's Abstract of Driving Record in real-time. The IDS system was developed using grant funding from the New York State Governor's Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC) through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Probation departments statewide have access to the IDS and the system can be used during the investigation and supervision stages to verify prior and current treatment involvement and the issuance of the state DMV forms noted above. For more information, please review *State Directors Memorandum: 2017-17- Impaired Drivers System* available through the eJusticeNY Integrated Justice Portal (IJ Portal) or contact Michele Melendez (michele.melendez-mckearin@dcjs.ny.gov) or Leonard Price (leonard.price@dcjs.ny.gov).

9. Interstate Workgroup

OPCA recently formed a workgroup to review and recommend changes to Part 349 of Title 9 New York Codes, Rules and Regulations, which governs the transfer of probationers within New York State. The workgroup will review the following sections: §349.1 Definitions, §349.2 Objective, §349.3 General Requirements for the Transfer of Supervision for all Probationers, §349.4 Requirements for the Intrastate Transfer of Supervision, §349.5 Requirements for the Temporary Transfer of Supervision of Probations, §349.6 Administrative Appeal and §349.7 Restitution and other Financial Obligation and make recommendations to OPCA for consideration and/or rule revision.

10. New York State Probation Officers Association Board Members Take Oath



DCJS Deputy Commissioner and Probation Director Robert M. Maccarone (left) recently administered the oath of office to the new officers of the New York State Probation Officers Association. Taking the oath from left to right are Gladys Larson, President; Russ Zocco, Vice President; Laura Provost, Treasurer; and Pamela Cole, Secretary.

11. 2020 DCJS Law Enforcement Symposium Call for Presentations

DCJS is currently soliciting presentations for its 2020 Law Enforcement Symposium, scheduled for Sept. 30 through Oct. 2, in Albany. Presentations must be submitted to DCJS [using this link](#) by May 15, 2020 to be considered.

The symposium brings together law enforcement professionals, practitioners, academics and researchers who have innovative ideas and evidence-based programs that can be shared with the criminal justice community. Check out [this video](#) to hear from professionals who attended last year's Symposium. In addition, many presentations from last year's event are available on [YouTube](#).

Presenters whose submissions are accepted will be contacted directly by DCJS staff, who will provide logistics for their attendance. While DCJS cannot pay honorariums, the agency will reimburse for reasonable travel costs associated with participation in the event.

For more information about the submission process or event, email dcjsLawEnforcementSymposium@dcjs.ny.gov.

12. State Director's Memoranda

The following State Director's Memoranda are available through the IJ Portal:

Resources > Reference > Library > Probation > Director's Memoranda

- **SDM #2019-8: December 24, 2019 – PINS Reform 2020 Effective January 1, 2020**
- **SDM #2020-1: February 7, 2020 – Supervision Strategies to Manage the High-Risk Probationer**

13. OPCA Training Updates and Schedule

<i>Training Type</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Application Deadline</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Girls Circle	Albany, New York	March 24-25	March 13, 2020	Click Here
Regional DVSI-R Training	Rochester, New York	March 27	March 13, 2020	Click Here

14. Officer Wellness Tip

Do you look at a computer or phone before going to bed? These screens contain blue lights that can trick your brain into thinking it's daytime. Consider a new habit such as taking a bath or reading a paper book before bedtime. ~WellNYS.GOER.NY.GOV

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## 15. Practice Tip

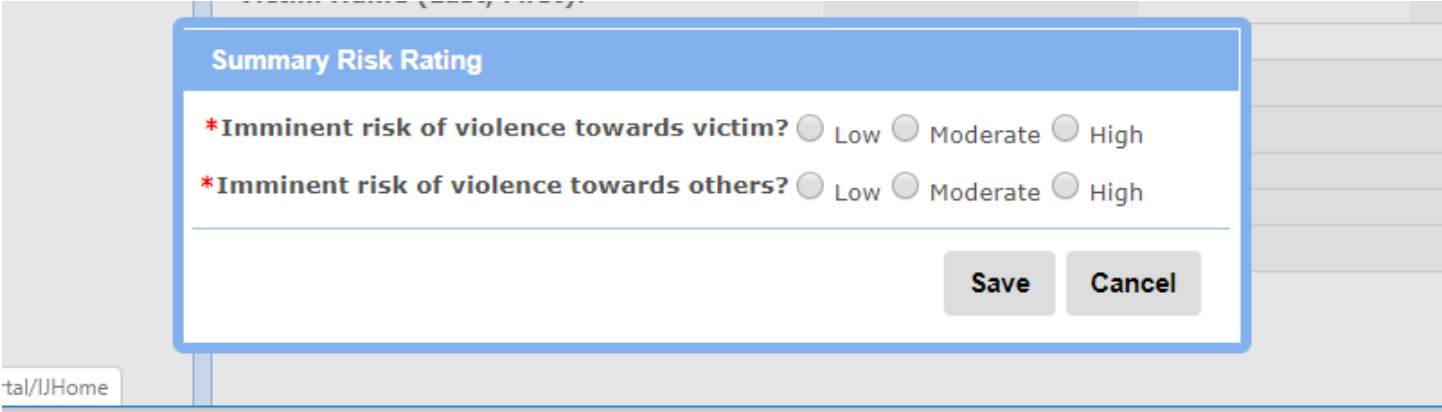
When completing the DVSI-R screen in the IJ Portal be sure to click on the Actions Tab to access the *Edit Summary Risk Rating* part of the screen (examples follow). This allows officers to include their professional judgment to increase the level of risk based on the *Imminent Risk of Violence* toward a victim and/or others. The DVSI-R screen is not complete or valid unless these two additional questions have been answered by the screener.

The screenshot shows the DVSI-R interface with the 'Actions' dropdown menu open. The menu items are:

- Create Screening**: create new screening
- Edit**: edit the screening questionnaire
- Edit Overall Comments**: edit the overall screening comments
- Edit Information**: edit the screening information
- Edit Summary Risk Rating**: edit the summary risk rating (highlighted)
- Delete**: delete this screening
- Print**: print this screening
- Print without Comments**: print this screening without comments

The background form shows the following fields:

|                                           |       |              |  |
|-------------------------------------------|-------|--------------|--|
| Name:                                     |       | NYSID:       |  |
| Date of Birth:                            |       | SSN:         |  |
| Race / Ethnicity:                         |       | Gender:      |  |
| Agency:                                   |       | Location:    |  |
| Screening Information:                    |       | Screener:    |  |
| Status:                                   | outed | Case Status: |  |
| Case ID:                                  |       | GA #:        |  |
| Docket #:                                 |       | F.R.C. Name: |  |
| Current Case:                             |       |              |  |
| Victim Name:                              |       |              |  |
| Level:                                    |       |              |  |
| Score:                                    | 4     |              |  |
| Imminent risk of violence towards victim? |       |              |  |
| Imminent risk of violence towards others? |       |              |  |
| Overall Comments:                         |       |              |  |



For more information, please email [David.Lewis@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:David.Lewis@dcjs.ny.gov).



**16. Quick Fact**

Forty-five probation departments in New York State achieved 100 percent of the annual in-service training requirements for probation officers: 21-hours on ongoing, continuing education and/or training each year.



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