

JB-CSSD CHRONICLE

A publication of the Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division (JB-CSSD)



March 2023

From JB-CSSD's Executive Director

I am very happy to share this quarters Chronicle with you highlighting some of the exceptional work going on in our pretrial services and adult probation units. I hope that you will take a few minutes to read through the chronicle and appreciate the information being provided to you by our Bail and Adult probation teams.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the staff who were recognized during the pretrial services annual event and the adult probation staff who as always, go above and beyond when it comes to community involvement and charitable giving around the holidays. Absolutely outstanding.

I hope that you will also take a moment to read the JB-CSSD getting it done section toward the end of this publication as well. This quarter we highlight Sharon Moye-Johnson from Pretrial Services and Isaiah Cannata from Adult Probation. As you will read, both of our colleagues are tremendous representers of the Branch and the work we do. Congratulations to Sharon and Isaiah for being recognized as standouts in their respective units.

Lastly, it is hard to believe that we are already heading into April of 2023 and the warm weather is right around the corner. How great is that? I would like to wish you all a happy and healthy spring and summer season with your families and friends and again, to thank each of you for the work you do and making JB-CSSD a leader in state government. I couldn't be prouder of you all and the work you do. Thank you.

Gary A. Roberge

Executive Director

Pretrial Services

Pretrial Services had the privilege of hosting their “Annual Pretrial Services” meeting in person on December 15, 2022, at our JB- CSSD Central Office located in Glastonbury, CT. The attendees included our Deputy Director, Regional and Program Management team, local office Supervisors and Leads from both Night Operations as well as our two Regions of Court- Based operations. All who attended the event were there to share in the accomplishments that Pretrial Services has achieved. This had been the first time since the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic that the Pretrial Division was able to conduct this meeting in person.

The agenda presentation by Deputy Director III Michael Hines, was concluded by an award ceremony in which several guests of honor were nominated and selected by their peers for outstanding work in Pretrial Services.

The 2022 Awards

Following Categories

Support Staff of the Year

Region 1: Edmond White – Meriden



Pictured: Deputy Director III, Michael Hines Support Staff of the Year Region 1: Edmond White

Support Staff of the Year

Region 2: Trevor Moye – Torrington



Pictured: Deputy Director III, Michael Hines Support Staff of the Year Region 2: Trevor Moye

Intake, Assessment, Referral (IAR) Specialist of the Year

Region 1: Desiree Dadio – Meriden



Pictured: Deputy Director III, Michael Hines IAR Specialist of the Year Region 1: Desiree Dadio

Intake, Assessment, Referral Specialist (IAR) of the Year

Region 2: Kevin Campfield – Bridgeport



Pictured: Deputy Director III, Michael Hines IAR Specialist of the Year Region 2: Kevin Campfield

Pretrial Services also recognizes annually, the achievements of two Supervisors who display excellent leadership and decision- making skills, while enhancing their office's ability to provide quality service. This year, members of the management team felt it most appropriate to honor all twelve supervisors in this category. While the past several years was a strain on many, our supervisors rose to all challenges they were presented with and met them with full professionalism.

Pretrial Supervisors of the Year 2022

Bridget Blake – Hartford

Bruce Ciesco – Manchester / Rockville Deanna Cloutier – New Britain De'Shone Dimbo – Bridgeport

Shawna Gonzales – Danielson / Norwich / New London

David Mangini – Danbury / Torrington

Laura Patrignelli – Derby / Milford

Victor Rinaldi – Waterbury

Robert Salzano – New Haven

Lisa Votto – Meriden / Middletown

Shereen Webley – Stamford

Rene Wiggins – Statewide Night Operations



L to R Upper Row: Robert Salzano, Lisa Votto, Bridget Blake, Rene Wiggins, Bruce Ciesco, De'Shone Dimbo

L to R Lower Row: David Mangini, Deanna Cloutier, Victor Rinaldi, Shereen Webley, Shawna Gonzales

Not Pictured above: Laura Patrignelli

Sharon Moye-Johnson

At our Annual Pretrial Services meeting, Sharon Moye-Johnson, retired Regional Manager for Pretrial Services and state employee for over thirty-three years, received the Ann McKenna Award.

The Ann McKenna Award was established in memory of Ann McKenna, who worked for the State of Connecticut for twenty-four years, largely with the Bail Commission, now Pretrial Services. Throughout her years of service, Ann quickly became someone people could rely on. She worked tirelessly for the benefit of the clients and her coworkers. Ann was well liked by everyone. Her positive attitude and smile were contagious. Ann had a generous spirit and genuinely cared for people. In her husband's words, Ann was a saint. The award is given to those who embody similar qualities that Ann McKenna lived her life by, both in and out of work.



Sharon, like Ann, has represented excellence in her work, collaboration with colleagues, support of staff, and care of clients. Her dedication and generosity have gone beyond her time with the Branch, as she has continued to support community efforts with her family. She is remembered as a valued member of the JB-CSSD Community for her efforts, smile, and impeccable style.

As she has settled into retirement, Sharon is wished a long, happy, and healthy life with her family and friends.

Treatment Pathway Program (TPP)

The Treatment Pathway Program (TPP) is a collaboration between the Connecticut Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division (JB-CSSD), Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), the Division of Criminal Justice (DOJ), the Department of Correction (DOC) and community-based treatment providers to respond to non-violent pretrial offenders with substance use disorders.

TPP uses evidence-based practices and was created as a collaborative response to the increased number of low risk and nonviolent offenders with opioid-related needs. The overall goals of the TPP are to provide rapid identification, diversion, and access to behavioral health to care for a certain category of pretrial detainees before being fully booked into jails. The TPP targets pretrial defendants suffering from addiction and who otherwise are not likely to be released via bond or another diversion mechanism. By virtue of lengthier criminal history and more complex clinical needs, this target population is inherently higher risk than might otherwise be considered for diversion programs. Testing the viability of a diversion mechanism for higher risk detainees is a key innovation of the project, as is the desire to provide access to stabilizing care as quickly as possible.

The objectives of the TPP are to: (1) Redirect persons charged with less serious, non-violent drug or drug-related crimes, who have substance use disorders, and held in lieu of bond, toward treatment and away from incarceration; (2) Provide a meaningful treatment opportunity to defendants who are suffering with addiction and may have little or no access to treatment in the community; (3) Improve court appearance rates; (4) Decrease the re-arrest rates occurring between arraignment and disposition; and, (5) Reduce the incarcerated population.

Initial outcomes from the first sites: Bridgeport, Torrington, Waterbury, and New London yielded positive results which led to the application and award of a Federal Grant by the Bureau of Justice in 2019. Since then, TPP has gained attention by colleagues locally and across the United States where some locations are looking to replicate the model. In 2022, with the help of DMHAS funding through the McKinsley Grant, JB-CSSD expanded TPP to four additional locations: Danielson, New Britain, New Haven, and Manchester.

Farewell Tyrone Abrahamian, former Deputy Director III Adult Probation Services

Tyrone Abrahamian was first hired as an APO Trainee in February of 1998. He worked in the Manchester Adult Probation office until he transferred to Hartford. Tyrone was then promoted within the Hartford office to the position of CPO I in 2004, managing various specialized units such as: Mental Health (MH), Women Offender Case Management (WOCM), Domestic Violence (DV) and mainstream caseloads. Tyrone worked as a CPO I for 10 years in the Hartford office until he was promoted to the CPO II position in 2014 where he managed the entire office. After 4 years as a CPO II, Tyrone was promoted to the position of RM in 2018 where he managed the

Torrington, Bristol, New Haven and Meriden offices. Shortly afterwards, Tyrone was promoted once again to the position of Deputy Director III in October 2019. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic hit a short 5 months after taking the position. When asked about becoming the Deputy Director right before COVID-19, Tyrone said “it was a very challenging time! But with a great team behind me, and comprehensive field management plans, we were able to manage operations and maintain a high level of community supervision.” After 25 years with Adult Probation, Tyrone retired in June of 2022. However, his dedication to JB-CSSD prompted him to remain in a temporary capacity in order to assist the new Deputy Director in transitioning into his role. We want to thank Tyrone for all of his hard work and dedication to JB-CSSD and Adult Probation Services, and we wish him a happy and healthy retirement as he transitions into the next chapter of his life.

Welcome Mark White, new Deputy Director III Adult Probation Services

Mark White was appointed to the position of Deputy Director III of Adult Probation Services on July 29th, 2022. Mark brings a great deal of experience, knowledge, and technical expertise to this position. Mark previously worked as the First Deputy Commissioner for the Division of Criminal Justice in the State of New York, overseeing probation and parole services. In that role, Mark was responsible for the daily administration of the agency’s operations and assisted in formulating and implementing criminal justice / public safety policy and procedure. Prior to becoming the First Deputy, Mark served as the Deputy Commissioner for the Office of Youth Justice and was responsible for juvenile probation, alternatives to detention and placement, juvenile residential care systems and re-entry services. Prior to working in the State of New York, Mark worked with us in the Judicial Branch for approximately 18 years. Mark began his career as a Bail Commissioner and then a Juvenile Probation Officer, Juvenile Probation Supervisor and finally a Regional Manager of Juvenile Services. Mark has been, and will continue to be, an excellent addition to the executive management team. We want to welcome Mark back to JB-CSSD and we wish him continued success in his new role.

Adult Probation Services Graduation Ceremony 2022

A class of 40 newly appointed Adult Probation Officers from throughout the state completed over 200 hours of pre-services training to prepare them for duty.

Highlighted training courses included:

- Ethics and Professional Relationships
- Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI)
- Women's Risk Needs Assessment (WRNA)
- Fundamentals of Risk Based Supervision
- Case Management and Supervision Strategies
- Motivational Interviewing and Client Engagement
- Mental Health and Co-Occurring Disorders
- Substance Abuse and Co-Occurring Disorders
- Orientation to Officer Safety Training Basic Office and Field Safety
- Finding Calm in the Chaos: Decreasing Stress through Mindfulness
- Foundations in Cultural Competency

The graduation ceremony was held on September 23, 2022, to memorialize the completion of the training.



Pictured: On December 2, 2022, a new class of 40 Adult Probation Officer Trainees began their pre-service training.

Every Tool is Valuable

The Norwalk OAP RBS Experience

I wanted to share my experience with the RBS training program, as the program continues to advance, to help other offices.

One of the greatest concerns beforehand amongst staff, including myself, was the amount of time dedicated to the training. However, having concerns does not necessarily equal resistance. When we acknowledge the amount of time saved from the training being completed virtually, we recognize that it is not nearly as time-consuming as it may appear. Another concern amongst some staff is the recording of the sessions. Recording sessions is not natural for many of us and it is understandable that someone may not be comfortable with it. Clients walk in our offices every day and provide us with information about relationships, leisure, employment, mental health, substance abuse because they trust and hope that we can use this information to assist them in behavioral changes and ultimately move away from the criminal justice system. Providing this information, especially during the early stages, is likely uncomfortable for most clients. RBS requires the same of us. It requires us to be a bit uncomfortable for the greater good of the client. It's a reasonable sacrifice. Ultimately, when we meet with our clients, we want to have a plethora of tools, i.e., active listening, motivational interviewing, RBS, etc. at our disposal and utilize those tools, based upon the individual client and their presenting needs.

We began RBS training in August 2022. Prior to the training, CPO I Jason Grady and I met with Melissa Torres (RBS supervisor) and Maureen Aquino (Regional Manager). Melissa offered us a clear understanding of what to expect and worked with us on a schedule for the office. The office had a lot of support during the training. Melissa and her team were receptive to the office needs by way of check-in meetings with Maureen, Jason, and I to discuss concerns and provide clarity on the next steps. They worked with us on individualized plans for officers; allowing us to play a role in those plans.

The sessions were very organized and always began on time. The lessons were clear and they were patient/knowledgeable enough to answer any staff questions along the way. "Homework" assignments were appropriate, allowed for enough time and they were available to answer any questions between sessions, promptly. As a supervisor, it provided an opportunity to gain some insight on individual clients that I didn't have previously. Maureen also participated in the sessions with us, which was awesome too.

Norwalk OAP completed our final session of RBS in February 2023. The hope is that our staff and other trained staff throughout the agency will utilize RBS more going forward and code it appropriately, so that the agency may be able to provide statistical data regarding its effectiveness over time. I can say confidently that the RBS team gave this office everything that is needed to effectively utilize RBS going forward and I am appreciative of both their efforts and the efforts of the staff in this office to maximize the RBS experience we had.

Domestic Violence Screening Instrument Revised

Adult probation services is piloting a revised version of the Domestic Violence Screening Instrument- Revised (DVSI-R2) in four locations, Meriden, Middletown, New Britain, and New Haven. The DVSI-R2 is a validated, actuarial (data-based) instrument that measures a domestic violence offender's likelihood to commit another domestic violence offense. The piloted version has excluded, while still being predictive of domestic violence recidivism, items that have been found to not be predictive of future domestic violence, ambiguous, and inadvertently biased. We would like to thank the adult probation officers participating in the pilot.

Prospective Risk Evaluation of Delinquency in CT-Youth Assessment

JB-CSSD began using a home-grown juvenile risk assessment, the PrediCT (Prospective Risk Evaluation for Delinquency in Connecticut). This empirically grounded and validated juvenile justice risk assessment and case management tool was developed with input from juvenile probation officers (JPOs) to assess major juvenile justice risk domains. Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) professors met with the identified adult probation staff to review the current juvenile probation client risk assessment instrument, the PrediCT, and make any necessary changes to adapt the instrument to assess the risk needs of the 18-to-24-year-old probation population. Adult probation staff statewide have been completing the PrediCT-YA assessments with 18–24-year-old male clients throughout the state since September 2022 as one of the steps towards validation of the tool. The goal is to also determine which risk assessment (the LSI-R or PrediCT-YA) is more effective at predicting recidivism, and violent crime, and guiding supervision, and case management. We would like to recognize the hard work that each participant has been putting into this project and thank them for the participation.

Adult Probation Services American Correctional Association (ACA)

Adult Probation Services first became accredited by the American Correctional Association (ACA) in 2006 and we have been re-accredited every three years. This most recent re-accreditation audit was not without its challenges given how the COVID-19 pandemic affected our staff both personally and professionally. But despite these challenges, our staff continued to do excellent work and demonstrated a great deal of dedication to their clients. In June of 2022, we had the opportunity to display that dedication when two auditors from the ACA came to Central Office to conduct our re-accreditation audit. The process of preparing for these audits is very labor intensive and involves multiple business units within JB-CSSD as well as the Adult Probation field offices. These audits are conducted over a two-day period and consist of an intense review of our documentation and policies as well as in-person office visits and interviews with our staff and clients. The auditors reviewed 162 standards, 6 of which were mandatory, and found Adult Probation Services to be in 100% compliance. The auditor's recommendation was that we be

awarded re- accreditation. During our exit interview, the auditors spoke about how impressed they were by the fact that documentation was collected from each field office which to them, was a clear indicator of everyone's involvement. In addition, they spoke about their office visits and the dedication, commitment, enthusiasm, and professionalism of our staff. In August, Accreditation Manager Tami Ford represented Adult Probation Services at the panel hearing before ACA Commission members. The purpose of this panel hearing is to answer additional questions about our agency as well as our audit process. At the conclusion of the panel hearing, CT Adult Probation Services was awarded re-accreditation for the next three years. It is important to note that by seeking accreditation through an organization such as ACA, we subject ourselves to a high level of scrutiny by national experts. The process of accreditation helps us establish measurable performance outcomes and gives us an opportunity to identify our strengths and weaknesses. This most recent award of re-accreditation confirmed JB-CSSD Adult Probation Services continues to provide excellent service to our judges, our clients, and the citizens of Connecticut.



Pictured: Adult Probation Services Accreditation Manager Tami Ford with ACA Committee members Jerry Hebert, Jennifer Gaffney, and Darlene Smith at the ACA Conference in New Orleans, LA.

Adult Probation Services 10th Annual Christmas Party for Children of Incarcerated Parents

By Hartford Adult Probation Chief Probation Officer II Carmen Correa

Staff from the Hartford Adult Probation office attended the '10th Annual Children of Incarcerated Parents' Christmas party on December 21, 2022. I became aware of this event while attending the Re-Entry round table. Within the office, we collected more than 150 toys for the event. When the founder, Giselle Jacobs, came to the office to collect the toys, she was overwhelmed and appreciative of the number of toys we collected and donated. In addition, she invited probation staff to attend the event as volunteers. Hartford Adult Probation staff members Monica Alvarenga, Melanie Griffin, Catalina Rosado, Todd Porter, and I participated in the event. The event hosted

about 200 guests. We assisted by decorating the hall, unloading the toys from the van, and setting up the toys. I was also asked to speak on behalf of the office, which I hesitantly accepted and shared, Probation's investment in supporting their incarcerated family members upon release by engaging them with community resources and services at the onset of their Probation. Ms. Jacobs was grateful for our time and donation and shared Adult Probation support and involvement with the attendees. It was nice to witness the community celebrating and supporting the children impacted by a family member incarcerated during the holidays.



Adult Probation Services Derby 5K Cancer Awareness

Staff from the Derby Adult Probation Services office participated in the Pounding the Pavement for Pink 5K, which has been held on the first Saturday in October for the last 12 years in Seymour, CT. It is an amazing event in which they celebrate breast cancer survivors while hosting a certified course 5K event. There were 3,000 runners and walkers with over 150 breast cancer survivors who participated. There are many ways in which we celebrate and recognize the breast cancer survivors. The first top 10 breast cancer survivors to cross the finish line are given awards and goodie bags. Also, along the route and through a good portion of Seymour there are banners that are hung up the beginning of October in Honor or Memory of those who have fought. There is also a breast cancer survivors breakfast the morning of the event. Each breast cancer survivor is given a survivor's sash and a swag bag of goodies. Both teams and individuals participate. Last year, over 2,400 people participated in the race and there were 104 teams as well as individuals. The 5K event

is full of HOPE and STRENGTH and is a celebration of the heroes, those who have survived a breast cancer diagnosis, and those who fought to the end.

“I am super thankful for all the support that our Derby office has given me. When you hear that dreaded word “cancer” your life changes forever. In 2021, I had multiple biopsies, countless scans and 3 surgeries. I am super thankful for all the support that our Derby office has given me, and I could not ask for a better group of coworkers. We all make a great team! Next year the walk is October 7, 2023, so feel free to add it your calendar now to save the date!” -Cheryl Curran



Waterbury State’s Attorney Community Resource Fair



Staff from the Waterbury Office of Adult Probation participated in the Waterbury State’s Attorney Community Resource Fair in May of 2022. This resource fair was the first of its kind for the City of Waterbury. It is intended to be a one-stop shop for residents to receive free health screenings, free

toiletry distribution, free gift cards to local eateries, and children's activities. In addition, people can receive information about education, employment, housing assistance, behavioral health, substance abuse, food pantry, re-entry, and many more community services. For many, these resources are vital to support their journey in personal growth and continued development.

Adult Probation Supporting Bristol CT Police Department



The Bristol CT Police Department was so appreciative of the support and great food they received from the Bristol, Waterbury, New Britain, and Torrington Adult Probation Offices during such a difficult time. #backtheblue

Adult Probation Services 2022 Promotions CPO I & CPO II

In 2022 there were a significant number of retirements that impacted adult probation operations across all staffing levels. As a result of this reduction in our work force there are many new Chief Probation Officer I's and Chief Probation Officer II's.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following individuals for assuming these new roles with JB-CSSD:

Chief Probation Officer I

Antonio Dias
Brenden Morgan
Bronwyn Schnitzler
Cynthia Jamison
Dana Kahn
Deanna Recchia
John Baldwin
John Mastrony
John Watts
Kim Crayco
Matthew Maiorano
Megan O'Shea
Melissa Chin-Hing
Melissa Torres
Richard Green
Rui Rainho
Steven Exarhoulias
Vanessa Marandino

Chief Probation Officer II

Alexandra Modica
Amy Amico
Carmen Lisa Correa
Christopher Stoppa
Rosangela Almonte
Kelli Sequeira
Lisa Cato
Phillip Schuff

Robert LaPlant

Jennifer Gonzalez-Rodriguez

Getting it Done

Hello again,

I am very excited to share with you the second “Getting It Done” section of the Chronicle. Each Chronicle will highlight someone that is going above and beyond and getting it done for the Judicial Branch, our clients, their families, and the communities we serve.

This month I am honored to recognize retired Pretrial Services Regional Manager Sharon Moye-Johnson and Adult Probation Officer II Isaiah Cannata.



Pictured: APO II Isaiah Cannata and CPO II Ulysses Serpa

Sharon Moye-Johnson is being recognized for going above and beyond and getting it done for the Branch over her 34-year career with the Judicial Branch. Sharon held a number of different positions for our pretrial services unit over the years and retired as a Regional Manager. In each position Sharon worked, she served with distinction and the utmost professionalism. Sharon could always be counted on to go above and beyond to assist the judges with whom she worked, the clients, their families and our communities. Sharon gave a 110% to her work as that who she is and there are thousands of people better off today because of Sharon and her time with the Branch.

I am honored to call Sharon a colleague but more importantly a friend. Sharon is one of the kindest and most sincere people that I know, and she will be missed. I would like to congratulate Sharon on an outstanding career and wish her well in her retirement and what lies ahead. Thank you Sharon and please stay in touch with your JB-CSSD family.

Isaiah Cannata has been with the Judicial Branch for four years as an Adult Probation Officer and works out of our Bridgeport office.

During a recent TPP meeting, Isaiah was talking about a client he picked up that morning to get to court as he was concerned for her wellbeing. He found out the client was homeless so he transported her to court and made sure she was connected with her attorney so she wouldn't miss her court appearance. Isaiah had submitted a negative progress report for his client and wanted her incarcerated for her own safety which did occur. Pretrial Services Deputy Director III Mike Hines was impressed with Isaiah's work and commented that it is all too often that we see cases about probation in the paper when things go bad, but very seldom is there a positive story about what we do to save people's lives or get them back on the right track. This is just one example of how Isaiah goes above and beyond. Isaiah has said that he believes the best probation work is done when out in the field which is evident by the amount of field and home visits that he completes on the monthly basis. Isaiah completed 38 total field and home visits in December, 59 total field and home visits in January, and 49 total field and home visits in February. Isaiah is a major asset to the Bridgeport TPP Team, Bridgeport office and Adult Probation Services as a whole. Outstanding work Isaiah and congratulations on being recognized as going above and beyond in this quarter's chronicle!!

Who will be recognized in next Chronicle? We shall see! Thank you everybody for your attention to this information.

Please take good care.

Gary