

# CSSD Chronicle

State of Connecticut Judicial Branch  
Court Support Services Division  
Friday, August 28, 2015



## JB/CSSD Receives American Correctional Association Golden Eagle Award



The **Golden Eagle Award** is the American Correctional Association's (ACA) top honor, and is presented at the summer *Congress of Correction* each year in recognition of the superior commitment to the accreditation process. The purpose of the ACA is to promote improvement in the management of correctional agencies through the administration of a voluntary accreditation program and the ongoing development and revision of relevant, professional standards.

The Golden Eagle Award is presented to a state agency in recognition of accrediting every component within their area of responsibility. The Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division was selected for this high achievement because Bridgeport Juvenile Detention Center, Hartford Juvenile Detention Center, juvenile probation services and adult probation services all have successfully received accreditation through the ACA.

The Golden Eagle Award was presented to the Judicial Branch in Indianapolis, Indiana at the 145<sup>th</sup> *Congress of Correction* on August 17, 2015. Patricia Nunez, Program Manager accepted the award on behalf of the Judicial Branch from Mary L. Livers, ACA President and Elias Diggins, ACA Standards Committee Chair.

The Golden Eagle Award reads: "**COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE AWARD**, *The American Correctional Association and the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections presents its highest honor for commitment to excellence to the State of*

*Connecticut Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division in recognition of an outstanding contribution to corrections by accrediting all programs within its jurisdiction August 2015-August 2018. Presented August 17, 2015.*"

This recognition is significant as the Golden Eagle award represents the highest commitment to excellence in correctional operations and the dedication of state agencies to enhance public safety and the well-being of those in their care. There are presently only three other states who have been awarded the Golden Eagle Award in recognition of their department of juvenile justice.

The ACA is a 145-year-old organization committed to the development of standards of best practice in the correctional field. The ACA is also an international organization representing correctional professionals across the globe.

In 1974, the ACA created the Commission on Accreditation to review compliance with national standards. The Commission evaluates 22 specific areas of correctional and community-based supervision of adults and juveniles. Each audit tool is geared specifically to the population being served and the type of service (Juvenile Detention, Juvenile Probation, Adult Probation, etc.), and requires compliance with hundreds of indicators.

The JB/CSSD juvenile detention cen-



*Deputy Superintendent Keisha Henry (center) receiving the Bridgeport Juvenile Detention re-accreditation certificate*



*Classification and Program Officer Kimberly Ellsworth (center) receiving the Hartford Juvenile Detention re-accreditation certificate*

ters were initially accredited in 2003 with subsequent successful re-accreditations in 2006, 2009, 2012, and 2015. Both Hartford and Bridgeport Juvenile Detention Centers attended the conference in Indianapolis this summer. Both facilities received their certificates of successful re-accreditation.

Adult probation services were initially accredited in 2006 with subsequent successful re-accreditations in 2009, 2012, and 2015. Adult services also attended the Indianapolis conference to accept their re-accreditation certificate.

Juvenile probation services were initially accredited in 2010 with subsequent re-accreditation in 2013. They are scheduled for re-accreditation in 2016.

JB/CSSD Executive Director Stephen Grant had high praise for those involved in the accreditation process and subsequent award. “I would like to give recognition to the hard work and impeccable oversight of maintaining accreditation to the following Executive Team members: Director Gary Roberge and Deputy Directors Eduardo Palmieri, Julia O’Leary and Karl Alston. I would also like to recognize and thank the following administrators who worked tirelessly to ensure compliance with the ACA standards: Natalie Latulippe, Chief Probation Officer II; Kimball Robbins, Juvenile Matters Supervisor II; Kelly Pirruccio, Juvenile Probation Officer II; Jennifer Alicea, Juvenile Detention Superintendent; Dave Chapman, Deputy Superintendent; and Keisha Henry, Deputy Superintendent.”



*(L to R) Chief Probation Officer II Natalie Latulippe, Deputy Director III Eduardo Palmieri, Program Manager Patricia Nunez, Deputy Superintendent Keisha Henry, and Classification and Program Officer Kimberly Ellsworth at the ACA 145<sup>th</sup> Congress of Correction in Indianapolis, Indiana*

Executive Director Grant went on to add, “Above all, I thank and congratulate all of the front line staff in the detention centers and probation, including the Adult Probation Officers, Chief Probation Officers,

Juvenile Probation Officers, Juvenile Matters Supervisors, Deputy Superintendents, Shift Supervisors, Juvenile Detention Officers, social workers, medical staff, Yale clinicians, education staff, food services, and maintenance for your daily dedication to ensuring the adults and juveniles in your care receive all of the support they need.”



*Natalie Latulippe, Chief Probation Officer II and Eduardo Palmieri, Deputy Director (center) accepting the Adult Probation re-accreditation certificate.*

For more information on the ACA Golden Eagle Award and the accreditation process, please contact Patricia Nunez, CSSD Program Manager at [Patricia.Nunez@jud.ct.gov](mailto:Patricia.Nunez@jud.ct.gov).

---

*The **CSSD Chronicle** is a regular publication of information and news about the Court Support Services Division. Questions or comments on this edition, or suggestions for future articles, can be directed to [Linda.Grzeika@jud.ct.gov](mailto:Linda.Grzeika@jud.ct.gov)*