



Welcome to eFocus, an electronic newsletter produced by the New York State 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.

~~~~~  
e-Focus, Issue Number 125, May 23, 2014  
New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)  
Michael C. Green, Executive Deputy Commissioner  
Robert M. Maccarone, Deputy Commissioner and OPCA Director  
Patricia M. Clements, e-Focus Editor  
<http://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/opca>  
~~~~~

In this Issue:

1. **Probation Departments Pilot Real-Time Video Reporting**
2. **Project MORE, Inc. Kicks Off Opening of Specialized Program for Women**
3. **Justice/Mental Health Collaboration Program Advances**
4. **OPCA Training**
5. **Recent 2014 State Director's Memoranda**
6. **Awards, Events, Additional Trainings and News**
7. **Practice Tip**
8. **Quick Fact**

~~~~~  
1. **Probation Departments Pilot Real-Time Video Reporting**  
Probation departments in Albany, Delaware, Onondaga and Ulster counties have implemented a 90-day pilot program for the use of Real-Time Video Reporting. Real-Time Video Reporting (RTVR) involves reporting by probationers to their probation officers via audio-visual communication technology in real time. The RTVR pilot will involve low- and medium-risk probationers and is designed to enhance the supervision process, not replace required in-person contacts. Departments participating in the pilot program will provide feedback to OPCA that will result in the refinement of forms and guidance for all probation departments.  
~~~~~

2. **Project MORE, Inc. Kicks Off Opening of Specialized Program for Women**
Project MORE, Inc. hosted an open house in April for the newly funded Women's Reporting Center in Dutchess County. Project MORE's Women's Reporting Center is one of a few programs of its kind; its goal is to address the needs of women inmates boarded out of Dutchess County, women who are under pretrial supervision, sentenced and/or under consideration for probation violation. The program uses evidence-based, cognitive behavior intervention programming, employment development and temporary housing to address the needs of women offenders and reduce the need for confinement. The program began in January and has already enrolled more than 30 women.
~~~~~

3. **Justice/Mental Health Collaboration Program Advances**

Sequential Intercept Mapping workshops have been completed in each of the five counties participating in Phase One of the Justice/Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHC): Westchester, Schenectady, Rensselaer, Monroe and Nassau. A training curriculum for specialized probation caseloads managing individuals with mental illness has been developed and training is scheduled for late September 2014. Training of police in the 40-hour Emotionally Disturbed Persons Response Team curriculum has been completed in Westchester and Schenectady counties, and training for Rensselaer and Nassau counties is being scheduled. In June, OPCA will conduct one-day training in the Schenectady County-based Peer Advocacy Support Model; nearly 30 individuals including probation officers and mental health and peer advocates from the Phase One counties will participate. The state's Office of Mental Health, in cooperation with OPCA, also has conducted a two-day training for jail teams from the five Phase One counties, as well as Albany County, in jail screening, assessment, treatment, peer advocacy and discharge planning.

Earlier this month, a conference call was conducted with the JMHC Phase Two county probation departments – Albany, Erie, Niagara, Onondaga and Orange counties – in preparation for the strategic partner meetings that will follow. Probation Directors and Commissioners involved with JMHC grant have been key leaders in the implementation of the program in their respective counties.

The JMHC is made possible through a grant awarded by the federal Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance and is designed to promote collaboration between criminal justice and mental health agencies in utilizing evidence-based responses for individuals with serious mental illness who come into contact with criminal justice system. The state Office of Mental Health is a key partner in this effort, working in collaboration with county jails to implement additional strategies to address this important issue.



#### 4. OPCA Trainings

**Women's Risk-Need Assessment Training:** OPCA recently hosted a five-day training for trainers on the application of the Women's Risk Need Assessment (WRNA) in Albany. The University of Cincinnati developed and validated the WRNA, a women-specific instrument to accurately identify the needs of women in the criminal justice system. At the training, a University of Cincinnati trainer instructed 14 representatives from ATI programs and probation departments on the use of this instrument. Individuals who completed the training will now be able to teach others how to use the assessment.

**Fundamentals of Probation Practice Orientation for Supervisors:** In response to a request from the Statewide Training Committee, OPCA will once again be offering Fundamentals of Probation Practice (FPP) Orientation for Supervisors, which was last offered in 2008, to newly promoted probation staff. The FPP Orientations will be held in Monroe, Oneida, Suffolk and Albany counties for probation supervisors, senior probation officers, staff development officers or any other veteran probation staff who has not previously attended the FPP. The one-day sessions also will include information about the FPP training that is being offered to newly hired probation officers. Trainings are as follows: Monday, Aug. 26 in Monroe County; Tuesday, Aug. 27 in Oneida Co; Tuesday, Sept. 9 in Suffolk County; and Thursday, Sept. 18 in Albany County. An announcement and application will be sent to all departments during June and July. For more information, contact Patty Clements at [Patricia.Clements@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:Patricia.Clements@dcjs.ny.gov) or (518) 485-0905.

**IID Manufacturers' Conference:** On June 26, the Fifth Annual Ignition Interlock Device (IID) Qualified Manufacturers' Conference will be held at the Alfred E. Smith Building in Albany. For more information, please contact Shaina Kern at [Shaina.Kern@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:Shaina.Kern@dcjs.ny.gov) or (518) 485-8855.

**ATI Reporting Requirements Instruction:** OPCA provided important reporting information and instruction to ATI programs during two live meetings held in April. The instructional live meetings were conducted to advise currently funded ATI programs of contractually obligated

reporting requirements. The webinar provided new reporting information applicable to ATI programs funded via the new RFP, Re-application, 200%, SATSO and Residential Stabilization Centers, with the exception of pretrial programs. Pretrial programs will be required to submit case-specific information on individuals admitted and discharged each quarter, using the electronic DCJS ATI Case-Specific Report form.

To access a recording of the live meeting, log onto the eJusticeNY Integrated Justice Portal (IJ Portal), click on Resources, Reference Library, Probation and Training. For more information, please contact Yvonne J. Behan at [Yvonne.behan@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:Yvonne.behan@dcjs.ny.gov) or (518) 485-5153.

**13-A Classification ATI Funding:** Applications were recently provided to counties for the renewal of ATI funding via Article 13-A. This funding provides localities the opportunity to annually examine their criminal justice and jail populations and to conduct planning for effective ATI programs that reduce unnecessary reliance on incarceration while protecting community safety. Applications are due to DCJS via the Grants Management System (GMS) by Friday, May 30, 2014.

**Northpointe Trains ATI, Probation Professionals on NYCOMPAS:** Northpointe, the developers of the Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions, is training more than 150 ATI and Probation professionals on the use of the NYCOMPAS that has been validated on the state's Probation Population. Trainings focused on full NYCOMPAS and pre-trial NYCOMPAS, as well as a train-the-trainer session. Upcoming classes are scheduled for Wednesday, June 4 in Suffolk County and Thursday, June 5 in Ulster County. Another train-the-trainer session will be held Monday, June 9 through Thursday, June 12 in Albany. For more information, please contact Nicole Aldi at [Nicole.Aldi@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:Nicole.Aldi@dcjs.ny.gov) or (518) 485-8457.

**The National Institute of Corrections (NIC) Training:** ATI, Probation, Re-Entry and state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) professionals are being offered the opportunity to be trained in NIC's cognitive behavioral intervention program, Thinking for Change (T4C), which will be facilitated by NIC trainers. These sessions will run throughout the summer with three cohorts of people completing a blended model of training that consists of six Virtual Instructor Led Training (VILT) sessions and a two-day Instructor Led Training (ILT). Plans for an early 2015 Training for Trainers is being planned.

**DMV Relicensing Live Meeting:** The state Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will be conducting a Live Meeting on DMV Relicensing from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 10. This training will be useful for all probation officers, particularly specialized DWI probation officers, as well as IID conditional discharge monitors.

Use this link to attend: [Join the June 10th Live Meeting Now!](https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/dcjs/join?id=June_10_OPCA&role=attend&pw=Attendee_061014) If you experience any problems logging into the Live Meeting event using this link, copy and paste the entire URL below into the address bar of your web browser. Be sure to copy the entire link:

[https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/dcjs/join?id=June\\_10\\_OPCA&role=attend&pw=Attendee\\_061014](https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/dcjs/join?id=June_10_OPCA&role=attend&pw=Attendee_061014)

\*It is important that you accept the default settings for the Meeting ID and Meeting Key when joining the training session.

\*This session will also be made available via Internet audio broadcast. If your PC has a sound card and speakers installed, you will be able to listen to the audio portion of the presentation directly through your PC. If you do not have a sound card and speakers attached to your PC, you will need to dial in using the toll-free teleconferencing information listed below.

*NOTE: New Phone Number and Pass Code!*

Audio Portion for attendees that do not have sound card and speakers installed with their PC:

- 1) Dial 1-866-394-2346
- 2) Participant Passcode: 5148663596#

DOWNLOAD INSTRUCTIONS

Attending PCs will require a one-time download and installation. The Live Meeting Windows console needs only one installation for all future meetings attended from the same PC. This download/install is automatic for first-time Live Meeting attendees at the time they connect. [Live Meeting 2007 Auto Install & System Compatibility Test](#)

To avoid potential download-related delays at start time, please take a moment to **prepare your PC in advance** by copying and pasting the URL listed below into your Internet browser: <http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90703>

If you have permission to install software from the Internet on your computer, choose the "Recommended (15 MB)" installation option. If you cannot install software on your computer, select the "Use Web Console (Fastest)" installation option.  
Web Console (Fastest) option has limited functionality. (Not recommended)

**Live Meeting Technical Assistance:** When installing the Windows client, attending the Live Meeting session, or at **any time**, users can call **Live Meeting Technical Support** at **866-493-2825** for assistance.

For more information, please contact OPCA Community Correction Representative Maureen McKeown at [maureen.mckeown@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:maureen.mckeown@dcjs.ny.gov) or (518) 485-9941.

**Probation/Mental Health Peer Training:** The Justice/Mental Health Collaboration Program will conduct a one-day training program on Wednesday, June 18 for the pilot county teams that will implement the *Probation, Mental Health and Peer Specialist Supervision Support Group (Probation/Mental Health Peer Training)*. For more information, please contact Valerie Chakedis, Ed.D., JMHP Consultant, at [Valerie.Chakedis@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:Valerie.Chakedis@dcjs.ny.gov) or (518) 549-8963.

~~~~~

5. Recent 2014 State Director's Memoranda

SDM #2014-2 "Leandra's Law" — Reform and Ignition Interlock Program Plan Updates.

All State Director's Memoranda are posted to the IJ Portal. To access them, log on to the IJ Portal, click on Resources, Reference Library, Probation and Director's Memoranda.

~~~~~

## 6 Awards, Events, Additional Trainings and News

Congratulations to the Chemung County Probation Department as they celebrate their 100th anniversary. Chemung County Probation also has the distinction of having had the longest tenured Probation Director in the state: Edward J. Pariso served in that role for 28 years, from 1966 to 1994, beginning at the age of 27.

The Probation Team of the state's Advisory Council on Impaired Driving met in April for the first time since the recent reconvening of the council.. Twenty-two team members, including representatives from OPCA and the DCJS Office of Public Safety, probation departments from across the state and DOCCS, attended the meeting. Productive discussions were had on topics related to DWI probationer supervision and goals were set for the next meeting to be held in July 2014. The group will help to review and produce upcoming guidance documents on a variety of topics. For more information or to offer suggested topics for the council to discuss, please contact Community Correction Representative Maureen McKeown at [Maureen.McKeown@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:Maureen.McKeown@dcjs.ny.gov) or (518) 485-9941.

**Health Reform and Public Safety: New Opportunities, Better Outcomes:** This three-hour broadcast scheduled to begin at noon on Wednesday, June 18 is designed to inform and increase awareness around the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) to

enhance collaboration between the criminal justice and healthcare systems. Register now using this link: <http://nicic.gov/training/sib201406>

**Interstate Custody and Military Families:** Battered Women's Justice Project (BWJP) is pleased to announce a webinar on interstate custody issues and how they affect military families, scheduled for 11:30 a.m. To 1 p.m. (Central Time) on Thursday, May 29. Every day survivors of intimate partner violence, both those who are connected to the military and those who aren't, decide to leave their abusers. For many, this often involves seeking custody of their children. For military families, more than one state may be involved in divorce proceedings and custody decisions since military service members may reside in one state, maintain legal residence in another, and deploy temporarily to yet another or to a foreign country.

The webinar will be presented by Darren Mitchell, J.D. and Deborah Goelman, J.D., co-executive directors of the Legal Resource Center on Violence against Women. [Click here for registration details](#)

**LGBTQ Resources:** The New York State Domestic Violence Advisory Council has identified its Focus Topic for 2014 as LGBTQ Domestic Violence Victims and Perpetrators. The elevated frequency of Domestic Violence among LGBTQ populations is among the topics discussed in the publication [LGBT Health and Human Services Needs in New York State](#). Additional information regarding Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender health resources is available from the state Department of Health at <http://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/aids/consumers/lgbt/index.htm>

**Gang Violence Collateral Damage: Silent Victims:** This training, sponsored by the New York State Crime Victims' Task Force and hosted by Grace Smith House, is scheduled for Monday, June 16 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and will address the needs of victims and will help the participants understand the gang culture and its relation to domestic and sexual violence.

The training will be held in the Kondysar Presentation Room, Room 2023 (second floor) in the Hancock Building at Marist College, 3399 North Road in Poughkeepsie. The training is presented by the three state agencies: the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, Office of Victim Services and Commission of Correction.

The cost of the program is \$25 per person and includes a continental breakfast; vouchers for payment will be accepted and payment must be received by June 9. Proceeds will benefit the Annual Crime Victims' Brick Memorial Ceremony. For more information, please contact [Debra.Darby@opdv.ny.gov](mailto:Debra.Darby@opdv.ny.gov).

REMINDER: Nominations for this year's "[State Director's Award for Outstanding Collaboration between Probation and Social Services](#)", [State Director's Award for Probation/DSS Collaboration](#) and [NYSPOA Conference Scholarship](#) memo and application are due by **Sunday, June 15, 2014**. The recipients of these awards will be honored at the 2014 NYS Probation Officers Association (NYSPOA) Conference, which is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 6 through Friday, Aug. 8 at The Conference and Event Center at Niagara Falls, 101 Old Fort St., Niagara Falls. For more information about the conference, visit [www.nyspoa.com](http://www.nyspoa.com)

~~~~~

7. **Practice Tip:** When answering question #9 in a full NYCOMPAS assessment, you should consider "Time Served" in the total number of times the individual has served a jail/prison sentence.

~~~~~

8. **Quick Fact:** 50 percent of individual who completed the Ready, Set, Work (RSW!) groups found employment within 90 days of completion of the program.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

eFocus is the property of the Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives. Articles may be reprinted with attribution. For more information on any of the topics mentioned above, to report any difficulties you may have experienced receiving this e-mail or if you have information you would like posted in the next issue, please contact Patty Clements at [Patricia.Clements@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:Patricia.Clements@dcjs.ny.gov) or (518) 485-0905.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

eFocus is distributed to thousands of community corrections professionals across New York State. You may receive more than one copy if your name and e-mail address appear on different criminal justice and community corrections mailing lists. If so, please e-mail Patty Clements with the name you would like removed from distribution.