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Special points of interest:

- > Police Reform Webinar
> Westchester FPP Graduation
> State Director's Memorandum
> Virtual Training Opportunities

Perspectives on Police Reform Webinar

DCJS recently hosted "Perspectives on Police Reform," part of the agency's ongoing Law Enforcement Webinar Series. The day-long presentation opened with a presentation by William J. Bratton, former commissioner of police departments in Boston, Los Angeles and New York City, who discussed the challenges facing police departments in the 21st Century. The webinar featured nationally recognized experts and New York State practitioners who discussed the benefits of reform, innovations in de-escalation techniques, the role of evidence-based policing in implementing reforms; and the importance of institutionalizing the principles of procedural justice into agencies' policies, procedures and culture. If you missed this event, watch the recording here.

Register Now! Friday, Oct. 30: SUNY Offers Key Educational and Vocational Resources

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DCJS has partnered with SUNY's University Center for Academic and Workforce Development to host a webinar at 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 30, detailing the services offered by Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC) and AT-TAIN Labs. Staff from County Re-entry Task Forces, Employment-Focused Services, Alter-

native to Incarceration (ATI) programs, Probation Departments and state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision are encouraged to attend. Click here to register.

More information can be found online.



State Directors Award for Outstanding Service by a Probation Officer

The Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives annually recognizes a probation officer or supervisor who has demonstrated exceptional service, commitment and professionalism that has significantly contributed to the field of community corrections. This year's recipient of the State Director's Outstanding Service by a Probation Officer Award is Probation Supervisor Amanda Shirback of the Niagara County Probation Department. The award recognized

Shirback's work with a high-risk/Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) caseload, which has resulted in multiple arrests and removal of weapons and illegal drugs from the county's streets. She has developed professional relationships with various law enforcement agencies and is recognized for her training in evidence-based, cognitive behavioral intervention.



Save the Date! 2020 Virtual Forum on Criminal Justice

Co-hosted by the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) and the International Community Corrections Association (ICCA), the 2020 Forum on Criminal Justice has gone virtual this year. The conference will highlight programs, research and policies to help justice practitioners, researchers and decision makers move the criminal justice system forward during challenging times.

Check [here](#), for registration information and an agenda.

Cognitive Behavioral Interventions (CBI) Delivery During COVID-19

DCJS-funded ATI programs across the state have continued to provide services since the beginning of the pandemic, making significant operational changes to meet the evolving needs of those they serve. Programs worked with their clients to ensure reliable methods of communication were established as they transitioned from their offices to a work from home model. Using technology, ATI programs continue to conduct assessments, enroll program participants and deliver cognitive behavioral intervention programming, with many clients completing CBI. Perhaps the best testament to the incredible work being done every day comes from the program participants themselves. A woman participating in the Nassau County's Woman's Opportunity Rehabilitation Center (WORC) program shared her experience: "The WORC Program is a big part of my life." The staff are "...some of the most in-

fluential women I've ever met." Participation in the program has helped her to maintain a productive schedule, explore new hobbies and plan for her future. The woman's immediate plans include pursuing education in real estate, moving into a new apartment and "Graduating the WORC program." In Wayne County, Erie Shores Judicial Services also has experienced success since making pandemic-necessary changes. The program has continued to deliver Interactive Journaling and according to Criminal Justice Specialist Robyn Mills, it has provided one participant with renewed focus and purpose. The participant begins each day with an "optimistic and positive attitude" and a willingness to "explore new ideas... to change his thinking process."

Probation Practice Tip—Leandra's Law



For additional information, please contact [Leonard Price](#) or [Michele Melendez](#).

SUNY's [Institute of Traffic Safety Management and Research](#) recently published a study on the state's Child Passenger Protection Act, commonly known as Leandra's Law, which took effect in late 2009. Made possible through funding from the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, the study analyzed Section 1192 (2-a) (b) of the state's

Vehicle and Traffic Law, which makes it a felony to drive under the influence with a child who is 15 or younger in the vehicle. From the law's effective date through 2019, police agencies issued 7,947 tickets for the felony charge. Based on that data, the Institute concluded that Leandra's Law is being implemented as intended. The

study also noted that more than half of drivers arrested for 1192 (2-a) (b) were convicted of a different subsection of VTL Section 1192 and subject to lesser penalties, which should be of concern to the state's Advisory Council on Impaired Driving in its efforts to reduce impaired driving behavior on New York's roadways.

Virtual Training Opportunities

Restorative Justice: Introduction to Contemporary Approaches and Research on Effectiveness

Thursday, Nov. 5: The Justice Research and Statistics Association will host a webinar on restorative justice, a practice based on the premise that crime is a violation of people and relationships and therefore, it is important to repair the harm caused by a criminal act. Restorative justice brings together offenders, their victims and often, other individuals with the goal of having offenders understand and acknowledge that their criminal behavior was harmful to others and aims to repair that harm to the fullest extent possible. The prac-

tice uses a variety of different approaches and can be an alternative to traditional justice system case processing, or part of the case's adjudication within the system. The webinar will present an overview of the different restorative justice applications being used in the field along with an introduction to research on restorative justice effectiveness.

Click [here](#) to register.

Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (DRAI) Training

Friday, Nov. 20: The Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) will offer a virtual training on how to complete the Detention Risk Assessment

Instrument system (DRAI), which assesses youth based on current circumstances and risk factors and provides recommendations on how to handle youth with various risk levels. Appropriate use of the DRAI is critical to reducing unnecessary detention admission while promoting public safety. The training is geared toward staff who are new to DRAI, as well as current DRAI users in need of refresher training.

Send an email to ocfs.sm.drai@ocfs.ny.gov to register.



Vocation, Education and Advocacy Interactive Resource Map

The Vocation/Education, Employment and Re-Entry Unit has developed a new on a new interactive resource map, which contains more than 400 locations of education, re-entry, employment and advocacy programs. A webinar showcasing its functionality will be scheduled in the coming weeks. Watch your email for additional information.

Caseload Explorer (CE) Check-In

DCJS expedited the implementation of Caseload Explorer (CE) "Check-In" in late March 2020 to support web-based reporting by individuals under probation supervision, at no additional expense to probation departments. At that time, AutoMon Inc. conducted statewide training for probation officers and staff on implementing and using the Check-In product. The most recent CE Check-In report indicated that 40 probation departments were actively using the system and effectively leveraging the power of electronic reporting and communication during these challenging times. A recording of the training is available [here](#).

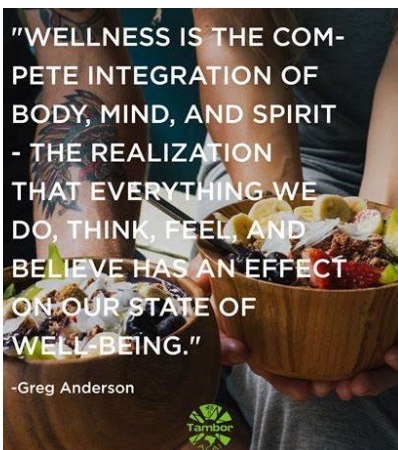
CE Activity by the Numbers: (April to September)

- 126,659 web check-ins
- 173,323 text message reminders and 138,026 email reminders sent to probationers
- 92,377 text messages received from probationers
- 85,755 text messages sent by probation officers

Monroe County receives grant for services to justice-involved youth

A partnership between Monroe County's Raise the Age/Special Projects Supervisor Adam Phillips and a team from the county Department of Human Services and county Mental Health has resulted in a grant award, by the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, of more than \$620,000 to assist with a new specialized mental health/substance abuse caseload. A specialized probation officer will collaborate with juvenile justice and mental health coordinators in the county to identify and streamline case management and services to youth with mental illness or mental illness and substance use to provide targeted assessment, treatment and follow-up. The target population will include youth diverted from Family Court, those with adjudicated cases and placed in juvenile detention who are involved with probation.

Probation Practice – Officer Wellness Tip



Emotional Intelligence Awareness is one of the many important causes recognized during the month of October. Understanding the value of emotions and their impact on actions is critical to preventing an unproductive and stressful work environment.

Click [here](#) for tips on making your workplace whole.

Recent State Director's Memorandum

The following State Director's Memoranda are posted to the IJ Portal: Resources > Reference Library > Probation > Director's Memoranda

- **State Director's Memorandum #2020-10: September 24, 2020 – ICAOS Rule 5.101-2 and Waiver of VOP Hearing Form**
- **State Director's Memorandum #2020-11: October 26, 2020 — DWI Conviction and Sentence Report**

Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (OPCA) Training Updates and Schedule

Please feel free to contact the training unit via [email](#) with any suggestions or questions you may have.

After months of hard work, the OPCA Training Unit converted Weeks 3 and 4 of the Fundamentals of Probation Practice Academy from in-person training to a virtual platform, allowing Unit staff to resume teaching the Fundamentals class that began earlier this year, prior to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

A total of 33 new probation officers from 17 counties are set to graduate on Friday, Oct. 30, during a virtual ceremony. The Training Unit is evaluating the possibility of providing Basic and Advanced Motivational Interviewing, Thinking for a Change (T4C), Decision Points –

DWI, and Peer Support and Officer Wellness virtually as well. Additional information will be shared as it becomes available.

Westchester Fundamentals of Probation Practice Graduation

The Westchester County Probation Department graduated 15 new probation officers – nine from Westchester, five from Rockland and one from Putnam – from its Fundamentals of Probation Practice Academy last month. The class, originally scheduled to begin in April, was

postponed to September due to COVID-19. The class was taught in person with social distancing, mask wearing, cleaning and disinfecting protocols; a daily COVID-19 screening; and outdoor group activities when the weather permitted. Trainees completed 25 modules on topics such as

case planning, evidence-based programs and services, specialized supervision, probation supervision procedures and staff well-being.

Congratulations to all!



Research in Brief

College Counseling Program: Bottom Line

Bottom Line Counseling program, which promotes four-year college enrollment and completion, was rated “promising” after a randomized controlled trial. Participants had a significantly greater likelihood of enrolling in a four-year college, or any college, and were more likely to be continuously enrolled. The research is available [here](#)



Click [here](#), for more information on the National Institute of Justice CrimeSolutions research database.

Family Court Representation in the Virtual Age

COVID-19 has impacted the way in which judges, advocates and litigants address the nuanced issues that arise daily in a Family Court setting. The Office for Justice Initiatives within the Office of Court Administration, in partnership with the Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children, hosted a webinar series with the generous support of the [Redlich Horwitz Foundation](#). Albany County Family Court Judge Rich-

ard Rivera and Jaya L. Connors, assistant professor of law and director of the Family Violence Litigation Clinic at the Justice Center at Albany Law School, discussed the dynamics and future of virtual representation as they related to domestic violence and juvenile delinquency and person in need of supervision case. Click [here](#) to view the recording or [here](#) for a copy of the transcript.

Probation Practice Tip -- Youth Assessment Screening Instrument (YASI)

NYS Empire Plaza lit up displaying NY Tough.



Internet Explorer must be used for the Youth Assessment Screening Instrument (YASI) Caseworks platform. The application will not function in Chrome, Safari, Edge, Firefox, etc.

All issues should be directed to Orbis Partners Inc.: Support@Orbispartners.com, 888-682-7720 (option 3) or 613-236-0773 (option 3).

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www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/opca

Did you know that New York State hosted the first-ever Women's Rights Convention at Seneca Falls in 1848, organized by Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton?

On November 6, 1917 – 69 years later – women in New York State secured the right to vote. Three years after that, the 19th Amendment was ratified, granting women across the United States the right to vote. This summer, New York State unveiled a seven-foot bronze statue of eminent abolitionist and suffragist Sojourner Truth at the Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park in Ulster County to commemorate the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage. In support of the sculpture installation, the state Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation has [updated its website](#) to include information and videos on Sojourner Truth, Vinnie Bagwell's sculpture, the women's suffrage movement, and current voter registration information.



Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul, Chair of the NYS Women's Suffrage Commission, unveiled a seven-foot bronze statue of eminent abolitionist and suffragist Sojourner Truth at the Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park.