



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.

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New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)  
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**1. New Probation Case Record Management Rule takes effect**

Regulatory amendments that amend the existing rule governing probation case record management took effect January 8, 2014. The overarching goal of these amendments is to promote consistent professional standards to govern the administration and delivery of probation services in the area of case records management in New York State. Provisions include the establishment and dissemination of local policies and procedures, improving professional communication for public safety and/or case management purposes, facilitating probation research and addressing other areas of public concern. For more information please refer to State Directors Memorandum #2013-16, which can be found in the eJustice Integrated Justice Portal (IJ Portal).

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2. Roadside Stop Phase II in Development

On May 14, 2013, phase one of the Roadside Stop project went into operation, providing police officers with the probation/parole status of the owner/operator of a motor vehicle subject to a traffic stop. The DMV/DCJS inquiry will let the officer know if the individual is on probation, the county, and the offense(s) that are contained in his or her criminal history, include charges related to violence and/or weapons. As of January 24, 2014 there have been 130,352 probation hits recorded. Most searches are returning only one suspect which allows those using it to feel confident that the person whom they are inquiring about is likely the probationer. Since these searches are not fingerprint based, the results returned will include a disclaimer that the subject should not be searched, detained or arrested based

solely on that information. Further, the disclaimer will request that the police officer contact the supervising agency should the subject be arrested for a new offense. Phase two of Roadside Stop will provide notification to Probation whenever a person under supervision is the subject of a roadside stop. Roadside Stop will provide timely information to the police officer, enhance offender accountability and provide electronic notification to the supervising probation and parole officer. This will allow probation departments to further investigate the circumstances of the stop, enforce travel permits and increase probation compliance.

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**3. Justice Mental Health Collaboration Grant Program Implementation**

The NYS DCJS Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHC) is being implemented in five Phase 1 sites, including Monroe, Nassau, Rensselaer, Schenectady and Westchester counties. OPCA is working closely with nationally recognized consultant Policy Research Associates (PRA) in conducting the Sequential Intercept Mapping for all five pilot sites. The day and a half-long mapping exercise engages criminal justice and mental health professionals in each of the county pilot sites to identify opportunities in the criminal justice process, from arrest through disposition and re-entry, to screen, evaluate and engage individuals with mental illness in treatment and more effective supervision and case management. To date, sequential intercept mapping has been conducted in Rensselaer, Schenectady and Westchester counties, identifying gaps and producing action steps to implement effective practices to reach better outcomes for individuals with mental illness who become involved in the criminal justice system. Action plans were delivered to Westchester County on Jan. 29 and to Schenectady County on Jan. 30. Mapping exercises are currently scheduled in Monroe and Nassau counties. Training and technical assistance are offered to counties including training in the Emotionally Disturbed Persons Response Teams (EDPRT) Model for police, probation and correction officers, training in the specialized probation/mental health supervision and case management model, peer advocacy support programs, re-entry and screening for mental illness at the post-arrest, jail detention, and community supervision intercepts. OPCA's partner in the JMHC Grant Program is the NYS Office of Mental Health, which is providing funding and technical assistance to the five pilot sites to work more effectively with individuals with mental illness who are incarcerated in county jails.

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4. 23 programs to receive ATI Funding – DCJS announced that 23 programs across New York State will share more than \$5 million in grant funding to support alternatives to incarceration (ATI), alternatives to jail detention and programs for individuals incarcerated in local jails, all of which are designed to reduce crime and avoid further victimization. The funding was granted based upon a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) released in July 2013. The RFP detailed several key objectives that grantees were to consider when submitting responses, including matching services and supervision at the earliest point in an individual's case through risk and needs assessments; delivering high-quality cognitive behavioral therapy and offender workforce development programs; targeting communities that had a demonstrated need but lacked adequate services; providing more service options for jail detainees and offenders sentenced to jail and implementing an evaluation system to ensure program effectiveness. Visit the DCJS website at www.criminaljustice.ny.gov for a list of the programs.

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**5. OPCA Trainings**

On **Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014**, from 1:00-2:30 p.m., Robyn Robertson, President of the Traffic Injury Research Foundation of Ottawa, Canada, in collaboration with OPCA, will present a live meeting on the topic of Female DWI Offenders. Women represented 22 percent of DWI arrests in New York in 2011 and 24.3 percent of alcohol-related crashes that resulted in a fatality or personal injury in 2012. This increasing problem has led to new research on female DWI offenders which can be useful in the supervision of this population. This meeting

will cover the current state of knowledge related to female drunk driving offenders including current statistics, characteristics of female offenders and suggested interventions for working with this population. The meeting will also look at recent research in the field and suggested best practices that have emerged for probation officers as well as for treatment providers. Please contact Maureen McKeown at (518) 485-9941 or [maureen.mckeown@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:maureen.mckeown@dcjs.ny.gov) with any questions.

On Dec. 16, 2013, OPCA presented a Live Meeting titled "DMV Data Access for Probation Officers". The meeting was presented by Lt. Rachael Van Deusen of NYSP ITS, Rich Cirino of DMV and Maureen McKeown of OPCA. More than 200 professionals logged into the meeting. A recording can be found on the IJ Portal by clicking on the Resources tab, Reference Library and then on the Probation link. Any questions about this training can be directed to Maureen McKeown at (518) 485-9941 or [Maureen.McKeown@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:Maureen.McKeown@dcjs.ny.gov) at.

The recording of the Live Meeting Why Gender Matters is now available through the IJ Portal. The material covered in this presentation is a basic overview of the reasons for the increase in women in the criminal justice system, their general profile and most common pathways into the criminal justice system. This training is just the first step in a series of more in-depth training on the risk and needs of women in the criminal justice system. We would like to thank the University of Cincinnati for its slides that were adopted for this presentation.

The **Probation Executive Leadership Program** is an advanced leadership training session for new probation directors and those likely to become agency directors. OPCA offered the 2014 Executive Leadership Training to seven new Probation Directors on Feb. 5 and 6 in Albany. Questions about this training can be directed to Patricia Clements at (518) 485-0905 or [Patricia.Clements@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:Patricia.Clements@dcjs.ny.gov) at.

The next **OSST/Peace Officer/Fundamentals of Probation Practice Course** to be held in Albany during the first week of March. The course is designed to provide state of the art training to new probation officers. It provides required training along with an overview of the procedures and legal requirements involved in the work of probation with the goal to reduce offender recidivism. The course announcement and registration form is available on the DCJS Training Calendar <http://calendar.dcjs.ny.gov/> . Questions about this training can be directed to Patricia Clements at (518) 485-0905 or [Patricia.Clements@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:Patricia.Clements@dcjs.ny.gov) .

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## 6. Recent 2013 State Director's Memoranda

### **SDM #2013-16 Notice of Adoption/Rulemaking - Amendments to Part 348 of Title 9 NYCRR**

*All State Director's Memoranda are posted to the eJusticeNY Integrated Justice Portal (IJ Portal). To access them, log on to the IJ Portal, click on Resources, Reference Library, Probation and finally, Director's Memoranda.*

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## 7. Awards, Events, Additional Trainings and News

### **Governor Cuomo signs Flexible Probation Terms Legislation-- S. 4664-A/A. 4582-B on January 10, 2014.**

In his memorandum dated Jan. 10, 2014, the Governor stated the following about the bill: "This bill gives judges greater discretion in determining the length of a probationary sentence for certain felony and misdemeanor offenses. It will improve public safety by enabling probation departments to more efficiently and effectively provide supervision to probationers who need it, rather than expending supervision resources on low risk offenders who may not require supervision for such a lengthy period of time." To view the full bill visit

[http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?default\\_fld=%0D%0A&bn=S4664A&term=2013&Summary=Y&Actions=Y&Votes=Y&Text=Y](http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?default_fld=%0D%0A&bn=S4664A&term=2013&Summary=Y&Actions=Y&Votes=Y&Text=Y)

A new section has been added to the probation suite of the Integrated Justice Portal: Specialized Supervision. This area provides a collection of information, tools and resources useful to the specialized supervision of DWI offenders, domestic violence offenders, and sex offenders. If anyone has any suggestions of additional resources for inclusion, please e-mail them to [Maureen.McKeown@DCJS.ny.gov](mailto:Maureen.McKeown@DCJS.ny.gov).

**February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month-** New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) invites you and your staff to recognize Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month. This year's campaign, "*Send a Candy Heart*," highlights the responsibility we all have to speak up when we hear or see abusive behavior. In February we can commit to moving forward with the effort to help eradicate teen dating violence in our communities and our state. For more information visit [http://opdv.ny.gov/public\\_awareness/campaigns/tdvcampaigns/index.html](http://opdv.ny.gov/public_awareness/campaigns/tdvcampaigns/index.html)

**The Institute for Traffic Safety Management and Research (ITSMR) has released its 2012 reports**

Among the reports released are "*Alcohol-Related Motor Vehicle Crashes*", "*Motorcycle Crashes*", and "*Motor Vehicle Crash, Fatality and Injury Data*". The data shows that in 2012 294,757 crashes resulted in a fatality, personal injury or property damage. 15,832 of these crashes involved pedestrians, 6,137 involved bicycles and 5,916 involved motorcycles. The number one cause of motorcycle crashes is unsafe speed, but the number one cause of motor vehicle crashes is driver inattention or distraction. There were 8,633 crashes that resulted in a fatality, injury or property damage that were attributed to alcohol use by the driver. The most common time for alcohol related crashes was between Midnight and 3AM, with the most crashes occurring on Saturday and Sunday. Full versions of the reports can be requested by e-mailing [institute@itsmr.org](mailto:institute@itsmr.org). Fact sheets with info-graphics for previous years' data can be found at [www.itsmr.org](http://www.itsmr.org)

**Probation Officer Jason Jones Stops a Subway Assault**

On January 29, Brownsville NeON PO Jason Jones was riding the A train in Far Rockaway when he noticed that a woman was being pursued by an agitated man. When he saw the man throw a punch at her, Jason sprang into action, drawing his weapon and ordering the man to the ground. You can see footage of Jason in action in a [story from WCBS](#) (the story incorrectly identifies Jason as a state probation officer). Jason's bravery and professionalism exemplifies DOP's highest ideals - kudos! OPCA joins the NYCDOP in commending Officer Jones.

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- 8. **Practice Tip:** For sex offender probation absconders, it is helpful to use the 48 hour form to notify and update the sex offender registry. It may assist with locating the probationer. In terms of entering data into the Integrated Justice Portal for the DP-30, DP-30A or SORA reports (non-CE counties) please enter a "0" in the text box if you do not have any of that type of case in order to avoid an error message that will occur if you leave the fields blank.

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- 9. **Quick Fact:** In the U.S. alone, approximately 1 in 3 adolescent girls is a victim of interpersonal violence. Teens often experience dynamics similar to adult domestic violence—an intimate partner using a variety of tactics to maintain power and control over them.

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