

## Connecticut's Community

### Re-Entry Strategy

BALLROOM B: Session I & II

**Steven Bettencourt**, *Chief Probation Officer, CSSD*

**Dan Braccio**, *Executive Director, Bridgeport Reentry Roundtable, Council of Churches*

**Rebecca Fleming**, *Deputy Director, Parole and Community Services, DOC*

**Lauren Powers**, *Deputy Warden, Northern Correctional Institution*

**Cheryl Cepelak**, *Director of Training and Organizational Development, DOC*

Criminal recidivism is a problem affecting all of Connecticut's citizens. This workshop introduces the state's reentry strategy, a collaborative effort by criminal justice agencies and community providers to address the factors that lead to criminal behavior and provide opportunities to assist offenders in successful transition from prison to their communities.

### Liability Issues:

#### The Role of the Attorney General's Office

ROOM 309: Session II & III

**Steven R. Strom, Esq.**, *Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General*

This session will cover the role of the Public Safety Department at the Office of the Attorney General, in representing state employees, including representing public defenders, prosecutors, probation officers, parole officers and employees of the Department of Correction, and UCONN Correctional Managed Health Care. Objectives will cover sources of prisoner/probationer/parolee rights and types of lawsuits that offenders file; what to do if you get sued; when you will be indemnified (or not) and how you can protect yourself from individual liability.

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This conference was produced as a collaboration between *OPM/Adult Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Unit* and the criminal justice agencies. We thank the state agencies' staff for the many hours dedicated to preparing the workshops. We would also like to extend a special thank you to **Donna Cupka from DOC** for her time and commitment in organizing workshops.

#### OPM Conference Staff

**Lisa Secondo**, Policy and Planning Manager

**Stephen Moniz**, Lead Planning Analyst

**Kelly Sinko**, Project Manager

**Carolyn Smith-Stokes**, Administrative Assistant

**Valeria Lacourciere**, Research Unit Intern

*\*The Power Point Presentations from all of the workshops will be posted on the OPM website\**

OFFICE OF POLICY & MANAGEMENT  
**Criminal Justice**  
Policy & Planning Division



## WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

### The State of Connecticut Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission

Presents the Fourth Annual

## Connecticut Criminal Justice Cross-Training Conference

August 20th, 2010  
8:15 AM to 4:30 PM

Southern Connecticut State University  
Michael J. Adanti Student Center  
345 Fitch Street  
New Haven, CT 06515

\* Free Parking in Lots 5 & 12 \*  
\* Admission Ticket Required \*  
\* Continental Breakfast and Lunch Included \*

## Collaborative Re-Entry Model for

### Mentally Ill Offenders

THEATER: Session I & II

**David Rentler, PsyD.**, *Supervising Psychologist, BOPP*

**Edward Kendall**, *Parole Supervisor, Mental Health Unit, DOC*

**Suzanne Ducate, MD**, *Director of Psychiatric Services, DOC*

**Vickie Alston, LCSW**, *Health Services Administrator, University of Connecticut Health Center*

**Erin Leavitt-Smith**, *Transition Services Manager, DMHAS*

**Michael Aiello**, *Program Manager II, CSSD*

**Rebeca Segui**, *Mental Health Probation Officer, CSSD*

The mentally ill offender often cycles through multiple criminal justice and public state agencies (e.g., Department of mental health; social services). Historically, once an offender enters the criminal justice system, there is little if any collaboration and communication between the various agencies prior to, during, or after the offender's incarceration. As a result, efforts to maintain continuity of mental health care, address criminogenic risks and needs, and effectively transition offenders back into the community are hindered. Using an interactive case study of a mentally ill offender, participants will learn the specific roles and interactions of the CT Department of Correction, Board of Pardons and Paroles, Correctional Mental Health Staff, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Parole Field and Community Services, and Probation Department, working together to establish a continuous, seamless, case management transition plan using evidence based practices to inform treatment planning and supervision for community reentry.

#### Prosecutors: Factors in Decision-Making

ROOM 308: Session I & II

**Michael Gailor, Esq.**, *Executive Assistant State's Attorney*

The Division of Criminal Justice Workshop will focus on: the makeup of the agency and the interrelationship between the Office of the Chief State's Attorney and the State's Attorneys; prosecutorial discretion in the charging function and plea negotiations.

## OPM Data Analysis and Trends

ROOM 309: Session I ROOM 308: Session III

**John Forbes**, *Assistant Director*, CJPPD, OPM  
**Ivan Kuzyk**, *Planning Specialist*, CJPPD, OPM

This workshop will focus on the use of data, gathered from state criminal justice agencies, to explain, analyze, and predict how the criminal justice system operates in the state. The presenters, from OPM and the CT Statistical Analysis Center (SAC), work regularly with the Department of Correction, the Board of Pardons and Parole, and Court Support Services Division to produce regular reports and analysis on a range of topics including prison population forecasting, offenders' recidivism, risk assessment, and program evaluation.

## Public Defender System

ROOM 311: Session I & II

**John Cizik, Jr.**, *Assistant Training Director*, Office of the Chief Public Defender

**Karen A. Goodrow, Esq.**, *Director of the Connecticut Innocence Project*, Office of the Chief Public Defender

This workshop will present an overview of the Division and the specialized units. It will discuss the implications on the Division of the recent Criminal Justice Reforms. There will be discussion of the Connecticut Innocence Project including the process of screening the inmate claims of actual innocence and the interaction with the State Forensic Lab and the Division of Criminal Justice, and process of working with potential and actual exonerees.

## Racial and Ethnic Disparity In the Criminal Justice System

ROOM 306: Session I & II

**Atty. Maureen Price-Boreland**, *Commission member*

**Atty. Preston Tisdale**, *Commission member*

**Atty. Deborah Fuller**, *Commission staff*

**Ms. Aileen Keays**, *Commission staff*

This session, which is presented by representatives of the Connecticut Commission on Racial and Ethnic Disparity in the Criminal Justice System, will give an overview

of racial and ethnic disparity in Connecticut's criminal justice system. It will include highlights of research on the causes of disparity and a discussion of some steps that can be taken to reduce disproportionate minority involvement with the criminal justice system. Topics to be addressed include: national and local statistics, definitions of disparity and discrimination, economic inequality, the effect of the war on drugs, alternatives to arrest and pretrial release decisions.

## Partnerships to Increase Community Success

ROOM 301: Session I & II

**Tracy Hartshorn**, *Counselor Supervisor*, DOC

**Melanie Sparks**, *Fiscal Administrative Officer*, DOC

**Jazmin Molina**, *Counselor Supervisor*, DOC

**Liz Dupont-Diehl**, *Contracted Provider* (Bridgeport Reentry Roundtable Chair)

Research indicates that a number of factors influence the probability of someone having a successful community integration. Criminal Justice agencies and community providers offer this joint presentation on "Identification Documents and Employment" to illustrate how collaborative initiatives can increase efficiency and improve services for offenders as they transition from prison to home.

## Collaborative Partners Assisting Crime Victims During the Offender Re-Entry Process

ROOM 201: Session I

**Linda J. Cimino**, *Director*, OVS

**Susanne Pakele**, *Victim Services Supervisor*, OVS

**Stephanie Headley**, *Director of Victim Advocacy*, CONNSACS

**Erika Tindill, Esq.**, *Executive Director*, CCADV

This session will inform the audience on the following:

- The most significant needs of crime victims when their offenders are released to probation or parole supervision.
- Victims' rights - including information, notification, participation, safety/protection and restitution, among others - that are relevant to offender re-entry into the community.
- How criminal justice agencies can collaborate with

crime victims and survivors, victim assistance agencies, and advocates to best identify and meet the needs of crime victims during the re-entry process.

## Interagency Data and Information Sharing

ROOM 305: Session I & III

**Celia Siefert**, *Manager of Administrative Services II*, CSSD

**Karl Lewis**, *Correctional Deputy Warden*, DOC

**Dennis Kwasnick**, *Parole Officer II*, BOPP

**Maryann Normandeau**, *Technical Analyst*, DOC

This workshop will provide an overview of the Judicial Branch's Court Support Services Division, the Board of Pardons and Paroles, and the Department of Correction's efforts to share data with various criminal justice agencies. Specifically, the data sharing efforts with the following computer systems will be covered: the Judicial Electronic Bridge (JEB), CSSD's Case Management Information System, DNA databank, Contractor Data Collection System, Violation of probations in PRAWN and on the Internet, the Sentencing transcript database, the Parole Casenotes system, and video conferencing between the agencies.

## Risk Assessment Strategy

ROOM 201: Session II & III

**Brian Coco**, *Chief Probation Officer*, CSSD

**Natalie Latulippe**, *Chief Probation Officer*, CSSD

**Steve Clapp**, *Correctional Counselor Supervisor*, DOC

**Rich Sparaco**, *Parole Manager*, BOPP

**Jennifer Bennett**, *Parole Manager*, DOC Parole and Community Services Division

This workshop will provide an overview of Court Support Services Division, the Board of Pardons and Paroles and the Department of Correction risk assessments tools that assist in guiding an offender throughout the criminal justice system. This workshop will give an overview of what risk assessment tools are being utilized as well as shared among the agencies. Overviews of the Level of Service Inventory Revised (LSI-R), Adult Substance Abuse User Survey Revised (ASUS-R), Treatment and Program Assessment Instrument (TPAI), and Connecticut Salient Factor Score (CT-SFS) will be given. These and other

tools that will be discussed are the tools used to transition an offender from the courts to the community and from incarceration to the community and back. These points of contact with an offender through these assessments provide essential information on the offender for enhancing public safety and reinforcing productive community membership.

## Juvenile System: Raise-the-Age Transition Issues

ROOM 305: Session II

**Francis J. Carino, Esq.**, *Supervisory Assistant State's Attorney*, Office of Chief State's Attorney

**Christine Rappillo, Esq.**, *Director of Juvenile Delinquency Defense*, Office of the Chief Public Defender

Public Act 09-7 raised the age of juvenile jurisdiction in Connecticut from 16 years to 17 on January 1, 2010. The law makes many changes to the way all juvenile cases are handled. Because the Public Act did not include all offenses committed by 16 year olds, there has been some confusion surrounding the implementation. This workshop will include an overview of PA 09-7, a discussion of the challenges created by some sections of the legislation and an update on how implementation is proceeding.

## Office of the Victim Advocate

ROOM 301: Session III

**Michelle Cruz, Esq.**, *State of Connecticut Victim Advocate*

**Merit Lajoie**, *Victim Survivor and Complaint Officer*, OVA

The Office of the Victim Advocate (OVA), an independent state agency whose charge it is to identify gaps in services to crime victims and assist crime victims to ensure their voices is heard. The OVA responds to all crime victims throughout Connecticut. The OVA will present on the issues involving victim safety that often comes up in our daily work at the OVA and how the OVA can assist victims when their offender has been incarcerated and may be released. Other areas that will be covered are: the possibility early release options for inmates, victim participation in release decisions (ie. parole, and furlough) and how best to empower victims when faced with the pending release of an offender.