FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

19th Judicial Circuit Employees Honored

“I am very proud to announce that two Lake County adult probation officers were honored recently at this year’s annual fall conference of the Illinois Probation and Court Services Association (IPCSA),” said Chief Judge John Phillips. They are Principal Probation Officers Robert Zastany Jr. and Lori Carrier. “These two officers have worked in both our juvenile and our adult probation divisions, and they have continued to demonstrate their total commitment and substantial contributions to the criminal justice system and the people they serve.”

Robert Zastany Jr. was awarded the Robert E. Burdine Officer of the Year Award. This Award is presented to the line officer who, in the opinion of the Awards Committee, has exemplified the highest standards of the profession by the specific accomplishments and or contributions to his/her department. Robert Burdine, who the award was named for, served as Chief Probation Officer for Morgan County from 1985 until his untimely death in 1999.

Mr. Zastany Jr. was specifically recognized for his contributions as a Cognitive Restructuring Group (COG) Facilitator and Certified Trainer for Adult Probation. He has facilitated twenty-seven COG groups during his career and was recognized as COG Officer of the Year for 2013. In addition, he actively serves on a variety of division committees: Drug Testing, COG, and Caseload Explorer Committee.

Mr. Zastany Jr. has also shown his expertise in the field of probation by his involvement and trainings for various national organizations. This year he participated in the National Institute of Justice’s Corrections Advisory Panel in Washington DC in order to provide
feedback to the Department of Justice on future funding for community corrections. In July 2014, he co-facilitated training at the American Probation and Parole Association on Probation Officer Efficiency Through Mobility. He provided this same training at the Illinois Probation and Court Services Association’s fall conference. He is IPCSA’s committee chair for the technology committee and is responsible for the Association’s website.

Principal Probation Officer Lori Carrier received the Distinguished Service Award. This award is presented to an officer for dedication and commitment to his/her clients, peers, and the community. Ms. Carrier is a principal probation officer assigned to the Presentence Investigation Unit. She has worked in both juvenile and adult probation and has been actively involved in specialized programming such as facilitating Cognitive Restructuring Groups, providing Gender Specific Programming and development of a Peer Mentoring program for the Drug Court and Veteran’s Treatment and Assistance Court. She is also active with our Police Relations Committee and case planning training. Ms. Carrier is an active member of IPCSA and was on the planning committee for a past IPCSA fall conference.

Chief Judge Phillips stated that, “over 24 staff members of the 19th Judicial Circuit Adult and Juvenile Divisions have been recognized by IPCSA over the history of the organization for their significant achievements.” “We are grateful to have such a driven and dedicated staff representing the 19th Judicial Circuit and we congratulate all of them for their outstanding performance.”

Illinois Probation and Court Services Associations celebrated 45 years of dedicated service this year and annually recognize individuals for their outstanding contributions to the field of Probation and Court Services. There are specific categories of awards given annually to individuals and/or program development, as follows:

**The Innovative Leadership Award Offender Program Development Award** is presented annually to the program in Detention or Probation that exemplifies leadership in offender programming and development with demonstrated evidence of effective outcomes with clients. Lake County has received this award four times since its inception in 2004.

- 2004 – Group Reporting Project, Lake County Adult Probation
- 2006 – Offender Program Development, Jr.’s Challenge, 19th Judicial Circuit
S. William Ettinger Award for Field of Service – given in memory of Bill Ettinger to the individual who has exemplified the highest degree of dedication and service to the Association. Seven 19th Judicial Circuit employees have received this award.

Pauline Gansauer Award – given to a probation officer who has exemplified the highest standard of dedication to the profession. Six probation officers in both Juvenile and Adult Probation have received this award.

William C. Albertson Award – given to the probation officer who exemplified the highest standards of profession in the field of achievement. Seven Juvenile and Adult Probation Officers have received this award.

Robert E. Burdine Award – Officer of the Year Award – this award is given to the line officer who exemplified the highest standards of the profession by the specific accomplishments and/or contributions to his/her department. Four Adult Probation Officers have received this award.

Gene Hughes Award – given to an individual who exemplified the highest standards of professionalism. Three 19th Judicial Circuit employees have received this award.

Exemplary Service Award – this award is presented to an individual from the community who has served to further probation and court services through their dedication and commitment within the private sector. One individual in Lake County has received this award.

The annual meeting of the Illinois Probation and Court Services Association was held October 29-31 in Champaign.

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