

News from the Adult Probation Division: Fact Sheet

Last update: April 27, 2016

The Adult Probation division is responsible to the Court for investigating and supervising adult offenders and alleged offenders. Written investigative reports are provided to the Court at the pretrial stage, sentencing stage, and during supervision. If an offender is sentenced to pretrial or probation supervision, the conditions imposed by the Court are monitored by probation officers and include office visits, home and work contacts, facilitation of treatment, urinalysis testing, public service work, and criminal record checks.

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- The Veteran's Treatment and Assistance Court (VTAC) Mentor Program of the 19th Judicial Circuit was recognized in 2015 with an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties. The award is presented to honor innovative and effective county government programs that enhance services to its county residence. The Mentor Program was established shortly after the launching of the Lake County's Veterans Treatment and Assistance Court in 2011. The purpose of the program is to provide veteran offenders with encouragement from peer support while going through the court process. An Adult Probation Officer oversees the program and works closely with the veteran mentors in providing services for court involved veterans.
 - In April 2015, a Lake County Adult Probation Assistant Director coordinated a one-day workshop as part of a technical assistance workshop through SAMSHA's Behavioral Health Treatment Court Collaborative. The Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIMS) is used as a focal point for states and communities to assess available resources, determine if there are gaps in services, and plan for community change. Fifty community partners, (stakeholders that cross over multiple systems, including mental health, substance abuse, law enforcement, pretrial services, courts, jails, community corrections, housing, health, social services, peers, family members, and many others) participated in this workshop. Sequential Intercept Mapping is used to develop a map that illustrates how people with behavioral health needs come in contact with and flow through the criminal justice system. Through the workshop, facilitators and participants identify opportunities for linkage to services and for prevention of further penetration into the criminal justice system. A follow-up meeting was held in December 2015. As a result of this workshop, community partners have referenced findings of the SIMS in a variety of community initiatives.
 - Adult Probation Officers participate in the Lake County Detectives monthly meetings and the Lake County Task Force monthly meeting to coordinate efforts in reducing recidivism and compliance with community supervision.
 - Adult Probation Officers met with Mundelein Police Department's Explorer Program and provided overview of what Probation Field Officers do in the community.
 - In December 2015, an Adult Probation Unit manager met with Kendall County Probation and provided an overview of current technologies used by Lake County Adult Probation when monitoring compliance with conditions of probation.
 - During 2015, Lake County Adult Probation's Assistant Probation Officers assigned to the Public Service Unit coordinated special community projects that resulted in completion of over 166,487 hours.
 - Several Lake County Adult Probation Officers are actively involved in the Illinois Probation and Court Services Association and are involved in various committees such as the Executive Committee, Technology Committee, Membership Committee, Elections Committee, Pretrial Services Committee, Substance Abuse Committee and the Programs Committee. Many probation officers chair these committees.
 - Five Adult Probation Officers participated in Mentor Training offered by Court Administration, 19th Judicial Circuit Court.
 - An Adult Probation officer graduated from the Lake County Academy's eLEAD program in December 2015.
 - A Probation Officer presented on Probation Officer Efficiency Through Mobility at the 2015 CTA Corrections Technology Institute in Daytona, FL.
 - The Adult Probation Division hosted another successful probation relations luncheon. In 2015 we provided lunch and programming to the Lake County Public Defender's Office.
 - Probation, through the probation relations committee, participated for the second time in the Law Enforcement Exhibition held at Westfield mall in Vernon hills. The Probation Relations Committee expanded the presence of

probation at the exhibit in an attempt to educate the community of probations efforts to promote safety in Lake County in supervising those on probation.

- In 2015, probation coordinated with Lisa Connelly from the Lake County States Attorney's Office to help with the alternative prosecution program. The Adult Probation Division is facilitating urinalysis and DNA testing for those offenders placed on the program. Additionally, the Adult Probation Division is providing meeting space on a monthly basis for the community panel that interviews perspective participants.
- An Adult Probation Officer participated in a discussion group titled: The Future of Criminal Justice Reform & Probation. Specifically participating on a panel to discuss, "How does probation work on a daily basis?"
- Lake County Adult Probation has a college credit internship program. During 2015 this program awarded twenty-three interns the ability to intern in various positions in the division.
- An Adult Probation Officer was selected as an Associate for the Women's Addiction Leadership Institute (WASLI).
- As part of a principal project, Adult Probation Officers assist with enhancement of employment opportunities for offenders and work with a variety of community agencies in placing individuals in jobs. The officers research and provide employment opportunities to unemployed offenders. In addition, they assist with GED opportunities and provide staff with a monthly newsletter to keep job opportunities available for officers to disseminate to probationer.
- In 2015, another Adult Probation Officer was added to our intake unit which has improved customer service with individuals placed on Adult Probation.
- A Pretrial Probation Officer was re-certified as a Pretrial Services Professional through NAPSA in 2015.
- In 2015, Lake Count Adult Probation Officers provided eighteen Community Outreach Presentations (COPS) for 220 individuals on probation regarding a variety of program issues such as relapse prevention, budgeting, behavior modification, gambling, Women First, employment opportunities and Thinking Reports (Cognitive Outreach Group).
- In 2015, our Group Reporting Program conducted 4,738 field contact with probationers off site at various Group Reporting satellite locations.
- In addition to our Veteran's Mentor Program, a probation officer developed a similar mentoring program for gender specific clients.
- In 2015, bilingual Probation Officers facilitated two Cognitive Outreach Groups for Spanish speaking individuals sentenced to probation.
- In 2015, a Probation Officer, in collaboration with the Lake County Coroner's Office, facilitated five Youthful Offender Programs. The program is a court ordered condition, geared towards a person that under the age of 21 years old at the time of the offense. The offender will receive a supervised tour and presentation at the Lake County Coroner's office, by a deputy coroner, showing the effects of what could happen if they continue to operate a vehicle under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.
- Lake County Adult Probation officers have developed and implemented Interstate Day Reporting Program for low risk transfer cases through Interstate Compact.
- In 2015, Adult Probation Officers completed approximately 1,800 hours of training to enhance their knowledge and the quality of work in supervising individuals sentenced to probation.