

Allegheny County Adult Probation



**2008
Annual Report**

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MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY ADULT PROBATION AND PAROLE

Allegheny County Adult Probation and Parole is charged by the Court of Common Pleas with the responsibility of providing effective community-based alternatives to incarceration, improving public safety, partnering with community and law enforcement resources and promoting positive behavioral change from offenders.

The core beliefs supporting the Mission are:

Through individual assessment, direction and assistance, most offenders can and will become contributing members of our community.

That offenders can and will be held accountable for the harm they cause to individuals as well as to the community at large.

Recognizing our responsibility for public safety, a comprehensive system of community corrections, including incarceration and re-entry, will be developed and supported.

The strengths and resources of our community are vital to the success of our offenders.

That excellence in the quality of Court services requires sensitivity to racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity



MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR RIELAND



James Rieland, Director

The 2008 Adult Probation Department annual report illustrates the continuing commitment of the adult probation department to improve public safety and promote positive behavioral change from offenders placed under our supervision. In the following pages you will read about how adult probation staff, dedicated to the department's mission, carry out these important goals everyday.

In 2008, we have moved forward with plans to enhance probation and parole supervision practices in Allegheny County. The probation department has implemented a risk assessment tool that identifies offenders requiring more intense case management, thereby increasing the likelihood of their success. We currently have nine Probation Officers being trained as instructors in the use of an advanced risk/need assessment tool in order to further develop assessment skills in all of our Probation Officers.

This has been the second year for the "Charm School" female mentoring initiative that provides a seven-week basic life skills curriculum promoting positive behavioral change. Drug and DUI Courts continue to produce successful outcomes for the offenders sentenced to the programs; this year 81 offenders graduated from the Drug and DUI court programs. The use of electronic monitoring continues to grow and 97% of those being monitored on the ankle bracelet complete the program without committing a new criminal offense. Furthermore, the Electronic Monitoring program collected over \$1.1 million dollars in monitoring fees.

During the year, 14 Probation Officers were sworn-in and three Support Staff members were hired. In addition, the department received grant funding from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to open a Day Reporting Center on the South Side of Pittsburgh. The Day Reporting Center will provide educational programming, life skills preparation, job readiness instruction, drug and alcohol assessment, counseling, community service component and other opportunities for offenders to become contributing members of the community while maintaining crime-free behavior.

The following sections of this report provide additional details of the work of our probation staff in the community-based field offices and specialized units. As you read the report, you will see that the combined efforts of the adult probation department are focused on making probation and parole a positive and productive experience for the community and the offender.

ADULT PROBATION FACT SHEET

Number of Probation Officers:	111
Number of Managers and Supervisors	24
Number of Support Staff	38

CASELOAD AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2008

Probation	11983
Parole	1254
Intermediate Punishment	1370
ARD (Supervised by Pre-Trial Services)	4989
Probation without Verdict	435
TOTAL	20031



SUPERVISION FOR:

OFFENSE GRADE	Male Offenders	Female Offenders	SUB-TOTAL BY OFFENSE TYPE	PERCENT BY OFFENSE TYPE
Felony	4287	1153	5440	27.16%
Misdemeanor	9812	3465	13277	66.28%
Other	864	450	1314	6.56%
Sub-Total By Gender	14963	5068		
Percent By Gender	74.7	25.3		

RACE/ORIGIN	Male Offenders	Female Offenders	SUB-TOTAL BY RACE/ORIGIN	PERCENT BY RACE/ORIGIN
White	9243	3213	12456	62.18%
Black or African American	5590	1824	7414	37.01%
Hispanic or Latino Origin	72	11	83	0.42%
American Indian or Alaska Native	5	0	5	0.02%
Asian	53	20	73	0.37%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0		0
Two or more races	0	0		0
Not Known	0	0		0
Other	0	0		0
Sub-Total By Gender	14963	5068		
Percent By Gender	74.7	25.3		

<u>AVERAGE CASELOADS BY UNIT:</u>	
Unit	Caseload
McKeesport Community Based Office	150
North Side Community Based Office	160
Central Community Based Office	130
South Hills Community Based Office	210
Wilkinsburg Community Based Office	138
Electronic Monitoring	38
Intensive Drug Unit	73
Forensic	123
Domestic Violence	97
Sex Offender Unit	89
DUI Unit	386
Minimal Supervision	1615
Intermediate Supervision Caseload	638
Interstate/Inter-County Unit	293/912

COMMUNITY BASED OFFICES

Community Based Offices have been in existence at the Adult Probation Office since 1976 and have undergone many transformations over the years. Their purpose has always been to provide the maximum degree of supervision possible to the convicted offender, commensurate with the available resources, and targeted at the protection of the community, in addition to the proactive rehabilitation of the offender.

The original five offices are located in McKeesport, North Side, South Side, Central Pittsburgh, and Wilkinsburg.

These community sites provide probationary/parole supervision for approximately 6658 convicted offenders, including specialized caseloads of Domestic Violence (average caseload: 97 per Probation Officer) and Mental Health (average caseload: 123 per Probation Officer). These specialized caseloads also play an active role in the Mental Health (Judge John Zottola presiding) and Domestic Violence (Administrative Judge Donna Jo McDaniel presiding) Courts of Allegheny County Criminal Court Division. Representatives from Erie, Cumberland, Cambria, Chester, Dauphin, Fayette counties as well as Washington D.C., and legislative representatives from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania observed Mental Health Court during 2008 as a prototype. Mental Health Court was also taped for a documentary by Frontline and is expected to be aired in the spring of 2009. Community Based Office regular caseload sizes vary from 138 to 210 offenders per Probation Officer, in addition to a Minimum Supervision caseload (located in McKeesport) consisting of 1615 non-reporting, low risk offenders.

In 2007, Community Based Offices established three “sub-offices,” known as Hubs, located throughout Allegheny County. These sub offices provide Probation Officers with a setting in which to meet with offenders and allows for greater collaboration with various law enforcement agencies. The sub offices allow Probation Officers to foster a strong presence in the communities, a presence that is greatly appreciated by victims and citizens alike. The sub offices are located in the following communities:

- The East Hills Hub office is utilized by the Wilkinsburg Community Based Office and is shared with agents from the FBI, ATF, security personnel, Pennsylvania State parole agents and local police. This hub services the East Hills, Wilkinsburg, Homewood, and Verona areas.
- The second hub station is located in the Brackenridge area and is located at a Salvation Army site and is utilized by the North Side Community Based Office.
- The third hub is located in Clairton, Pa., at the Clairton Police Station and serves the Mon Valley area.

It should be noted that during 2008, the Community Based Probation Officers began utilizing the Proxy Scale scoring process, which is based upon the offender's current age, the age of the offender at the time of their first arrest, and the number of times an offender has been arrested. The primary objective of the Proxy score is to determine the potential of the offender to recidivate, and to aid the Probation Officer in determining the best level of supervision for an offender to avoid recidivism. Continued work with the Proxy Scale scoring process will include the Level of Service Inventory – Revised (LSI-R) assessment tool to be implemented during a Probation Officer's initial interview with an offender.

For the continued efficiency and timeliness of the Allegheny County Jail (ACJ) Gagnon I (stage one hearings), the North Side Community Based Office began utilizing video conferencing. This process takes place at the Juvenile Court North Side Community-Based office (E. Ohio St.) where the Adult Probation Officer is positioned in front of a TV monitor which has a camera built into the screen and dialogue takes place between the Probation Officer (located on the North Side), and the Hearing Officer, Public Defender and the offender who are located at the ACJ. This procedure has proven to be a “time saver” in that the Probation Officer no longer has to drive to the ACJ, go through the arduous process of entering the ACJ, and then wait for their individual cases to be heard by the Hearing Officer and Public Defender. The Wilkinsburg and Central Community Based Offices have also begun video conferencing their (Gagnon I) ACJ violation hearings utilizing the equipment at the local Juvenile Court Community-Based offices near them. This process will continue and soon include the remaining Community Based offices.

Due to the increasing caseload numbers in the Community-Based offices, additional POs have been placed at the McKeesport, North Side, Central and Wilkinsburg offices. An additional Probation Officer will be added to the staff at the South Hills office in June 2009, following their relocation to a new site. This is a proactive attempt to help reduce caseload sizes and provide Probation Officers with more time to assess and assist

offender's re-entry into the community as constructive, tax-paying members of society. Community Based Probation Officers have increased their visibility in the community by conducting fieldwork every Tuesday and Thursday. The adoption of a standardized office schedule has created a more consistent atmosphere within the agency. This is beneficial to both Probation Officers and the offenders in routine matters such as interoffice transfers as each Community Based Office operates on the same schedule. The staff for these offices is composed of five supervisors; five Support Staff members and 44 Probation Officers.

It should be noted that the Intensive Drug Unit (IDU) is also a part of the Community Based Offices and is comprised of one Supervisor, one Support Staff, and ten Probation Officers. Probation Officer caseload size averages 75 offenders. Bar raids with law enforcement officials and police "ride alongs" are primarily conducted by this unit. Please refer to IDU section for additional information. The standard work for all six of the Community Based Offices includes monthly contacts (or more as needed) with offenders, random urinalysis and oral swabs, referrals for drug/alcohol/mental health/anger management/ domestic violence/GED/ and employment are made by the Probation Officers as well as consistent restitution and costs payments.

As many of the offenders we service are in need of "basic life skills" and front-end assessments prior to being referred to educational and/or employment programs, a pilot-mentoring program (Charm School) was established in 2007. Various topics addressing transitional issues for positive change are discussed and taught to a class of female offenders over a seven- week period. Seven women graduated in 2007 and four graduated in 2008; while several of the women in 2007 made positive changes in their lifestyles, all of the graduates of 2008 currently remain in school or are gainfully employed. When the life of one female offender is positively impacted, then the program is considered to be a success. More classes are planned for 2009.

DAY REPORTING CENTER

The past six months has been a "Coming Together" for the Allegheny County Adult Probation Day Reporting Center. The Probation Office has reaffirmed its beliefs during this process that it takes many puzzle pieces working together to help an offender change their behavior to make the whole picture.

On December 15, 2008 staff members were hired for the Center. As the year reached its end, each staff member attended various departmental and outside agency trainings in an effort to learn how to accommodate the needs of offenders. The Day Reporting Center can and will play a significant role in assisting offenders in changing their behavior by pulling all of the puzzle pieces together. Attendance at the Day Reporting Center



*Terrance Garner, Charles Harper, Gina Giacomo,
Sup. Nicole Ballard, Dan Sommers, and Charlotte Cohen*

enables offenders to continue educational training; gain various life skills; and acquire employment. The use of the Center provides viable alternatives and meaningful supervision of our offenders.

The Day Reporting Center (DRC) officially opened its doors on February 23, 2009 and will provide services six days a week, Monday through Saturday. The hours of operation are 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. To date, the Center is prepared to service an estimate of 50 persons per day. Defendants will report each day to carry out elements of their probation stipulations and address identified needs such as cognitive behavioral problems, academic education deficiencies and vocational skill deficits affecting their employability and/or substance abuse programming addressing problems of addiction or abuse. The defendants may also attend the Center for case management services and for assistance in locating community service projects. Each offender is required to submit to random drug screening. The ultimate goal of the DRC is to turn tax consumers into law-abiding taxpayers.

The Day Reporting Center will establish effective opportunities for offenders to achieve positive change and to be a more pro-social contributor to society. Therein lies our challenge to provide an un-compromised level of public safety, while we take steps to address the increasing size of our offender population. The Day Reporting Center provides operative methods to reduce recidivism and promote public safety through collaborative partnerships with agencies and organizations that support offender transition to the community.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUNENCE (DUI) TREATMENT COURT



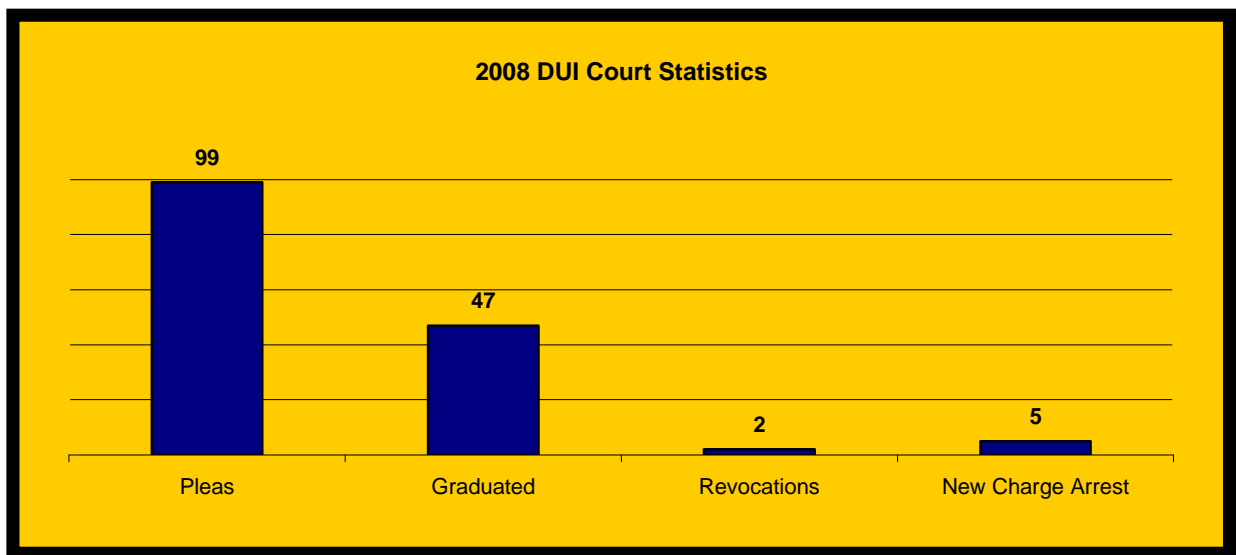
John Miller, Nicole Ballard, Jon Rathon, Lisa Elliott, Frank Scherer, Ivan Marcus, Jackie Whittaker, Lisa Marecic, Eric Jeffries, Lisa Colavecchia, Steve Esswein, and Bob Kraus

The year 2008 began another very successful year for DUI Treatment Court. The program, which began in 2005, was designed to rehabilitate the habitual DUI offender who often suffers from alcoholism and other addiction and psychological based diagnosis. All defendants' participate in a Drug &

Alcohol evaluation at a local treatment facility and are required by the Court to follow up with any recommended and necessary treatment. In addition to treatment requirements all participants must attend their local home group N/A and A/A meeting and obtain a responsible and sober sponsor. Another noted requirement is the attendance of a VIP (Victim Impact Panel) in which the defendant hears true-life stories from victims of DUI related crashes. In 2008, Adult Probation and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) held four VIP panels at Mercy Behavioral. This year each offender was additionally required to complete forty hours of community service. Many participants along with

their Probation Officers volunteered at the Celebrity Hoops Classic as well as the Beltzhoover Community Days, with both events held over last summer.

This Court operates in five phases to help ensure a positive change in the participants. Each participant begins in Phase One and will progress to Phase Five as long as Court stipulations are met, and the offender remains drug and alcohol free. Defendant's average length of time on RIP (Restrictive Intermediate Punishment) is eighteen-months. Following their RIP there is an Intensive Probation period, which is continually supervised by their original Probation Officer adding more cohesiveness, and familiarity than in the past.



In addition to the participants serving a period of Restrictive Intermediate Punishment the Court has been further utilizing the SCRAM (Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitor) device as a judicial sanction on technical violations. During 2008 thirty-five DUI Court participants were placed on SCRAM. Throughout 2008 there have been four participants removed from the program. Three for new arrests, and one for persistent technical violations, leaving DUI Court with a year of record success.

In 2008 DUI Court supervised over 200 offenders, which included ninety-nine new participants. During 2008 DUI Court was very proud to graduate forty-Seven participants. Graduation was a noted event in the Court with many attendees. This year Adult Probation Director James Rieland spoke to the participants about continued accountability and congratulated them on their success. Each defendant was given the opportunity to speak and many commented on their appreciation and gratitude that they had for the program, the Court, as well as their Probation Officer. There were many heartfelt good byes from the participants to their Probation Officers as they ended their long successful journeys. Allegheny County Adult Probation along with many other members in local government, and law enforcement wish the participants continued success in their battle against addiction. We look forward to DUI court's continued success in 2009 along with a big thank you to all involved in this life-changing program.

DRUG COURT

Allegheny County Drug Court continues to be a collaborative effort of the District



Rebecca Hudock, Tiffanie Anderson, Rachel Newman, Jola Blecher, Natalie Ross, Sue Just, Ivan Marcus, Steve Esswein, Barb Hill, Lauren Pegher & Nicole Luther.

Attorney's Office, the Adult Probation Department, the Public Defender's Office and from the Allegheny County Justice Related Services. The Honorable Lester G. Nauhaus has presided over the program since its inception in 1998 with compassion and a touch of wit. With the help, cooperation and diligence of the Judge and his staff, the program continues to provide a great opportunity for individuals committed to making positive changes in their lives. Drug Court change lives and in

some cases, save lives. The model works on the premise that it is more productive, humane, and cost effective to treat the illness of drug addiction rather than simply incarcerate an addict where he or she might not get any productive rehabilitation at all except for forced abstinence. Drug Court seek to break the cycle of addiction and integrate addicted offenders back into the community as productive, working, law abiding, tax-paying citizens. They do this by insisting that the client seeks education of at least a GED, maintain employment, obtain independent housing, and stay drug-free. Participation in Drug Court is voluntary. A grant through The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency provides funding for the treatment.

The ultimate goal for the offenders and the Drug Court team is reintegration by program participants into society as positive role models and productive citizens. All offenders voluntarily plea into Drug Court and receive a 12 to 18 month Intermediate Punishment sentence followed by 12 months of intensively supervised probation. Upon their plea the offenders are placed into inpatient and/or outpatient drug and alcohol treatment, which ever is appropriate. Participants stay in close contact with the Court by attending monthly progress hearings. The hearings afford the defendants the opportunity to tell the Judge about the progress they are making, discuss their families, and report to Court, in most cases, in a non-threatening environment, something most defendants have never experienced. Every step of the way the offenders are closely monitored by the dedicated Drug Court Team. This team consists of Case Managers from Justice Related Services, who guide the offenders through the treatment process. On the supervision end, two dedicated Probation Officers monitor the offenders during their Intermediate Punishment. Once they have successfully completed their Intermediate Punishment, which is often times closed early due to their positive behavior, the offenders are then sent to the Intensive Drug Unit to finish out their probation

sentences. At any time during their sentence the offenders are rewarded when deserving and, conversely, sanctioned when appropriate.

In 2008, 78 defendants entered the Drug Court program. Defendants entering Drug Court must plead guilty to all charges pending against them in front of Judge Nauhaus in order to be sentenced into the program. During 2008, 34 defendants graduated from Drug Court at official ceremonies, complete with diplomas and the opportunity for the graduates to make a speech. Since the program's inception, there have been 338 graduates, with an overall program success rate of about 72 percent. In the last three years we have had 94 Drug Court graduates and only three of them have been convicted of new charges. This comes out to a four percent recidivism rate, which is much lower, then the recidivism rate for drug offenders that are not in the program. We look forward to continued success in this unique program that has rescued many defendants from a life of crime, and in some cases, even saved their lives.

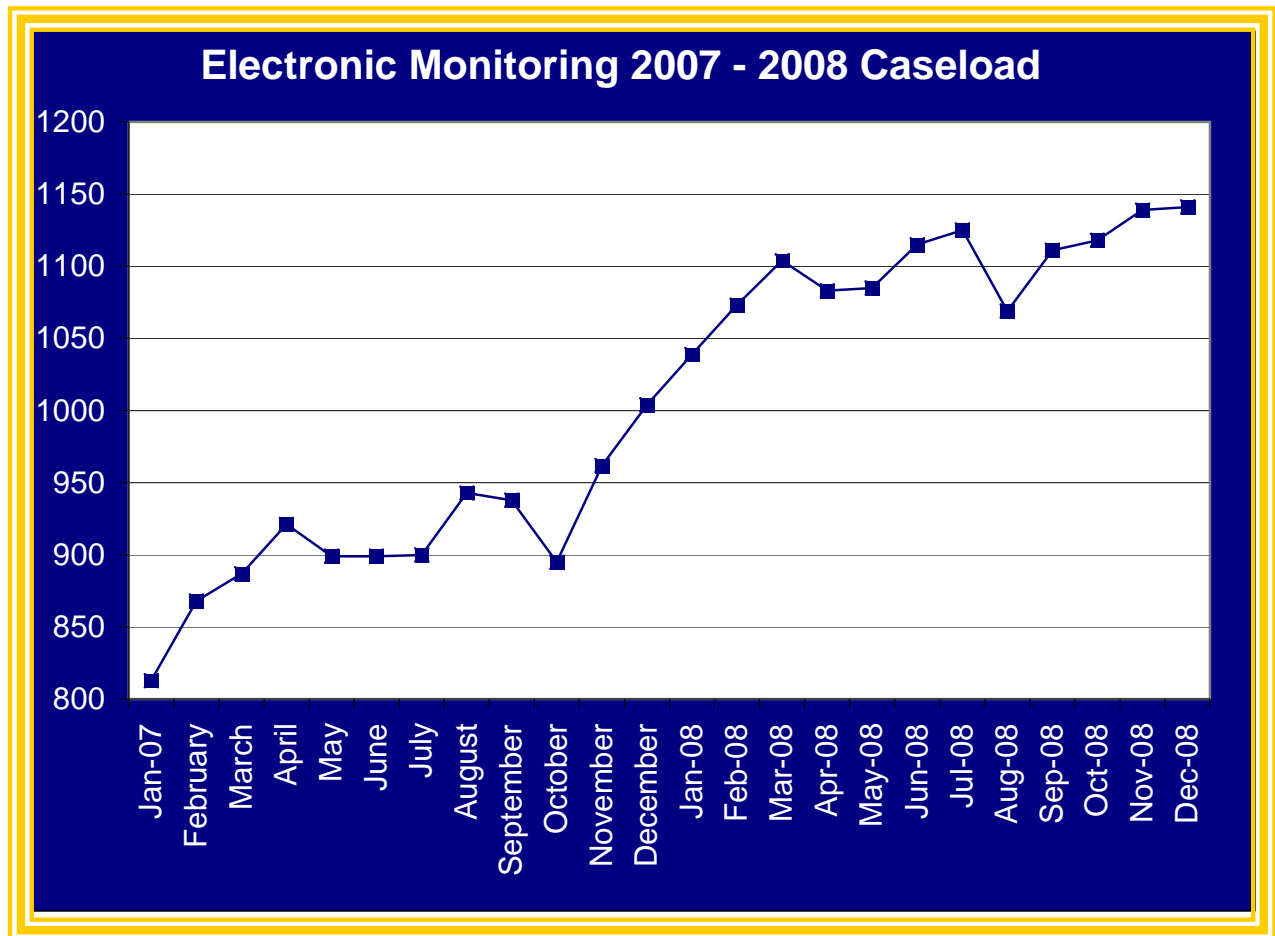
ELECTRONIC MONITORING – HOUSE ARREST

In the 21st year of operation, the Electronic Monitoring Unit marked quite a few milestones. Over the years, more than 24,000 offenders have been sentenced by our Courts to a period of Electronic Monitoring supervision. These sentences have run from a 24-hour sentence to a 5-year sentence. The EM unit total staff consists of 4 supervisors, 31 Probation Officers, a DUI Court Coordinator, a Drug Court Coordinator, 11 full time support/clerical staff, and 7 part-time monitoring staff. The EM office is located in Castle Shannon. The office operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It also serves as the emergency contact for the remainder of the agency during non business hours.

The Unit supervises offenders placed on electronic monitoring for Restrictive Intermediate Punishment as well as Detainer, Parole, and District Magisterial cases. The Unit also supervises offenders who are from Drug Court, DUI Court, Pretrial release, Mental Health Court, and Family Court.

The Probation Officers in this unit typically spend four days a week in the field, making contact with the offender, their treatment provider, their employer and/or families. The main objective is protection of the community as well as a complete rehabilitation of the offender. Our Probation Officers work very closely with the law enforcement community, the Courts, and treatment service providers.

During 2008, the Electronic Monitoring Unit monitored a total of 3,701 offenders; and averaged 1100 on any given day. During this time period 2,297 offenders successfully completed the program. Only 80 defendants were arrested on new charges, putting offender recidivism while on electronic monitoring at approximately 3% for the year. Additionally, there were 183 offenders that were removed from the program for technical violations.

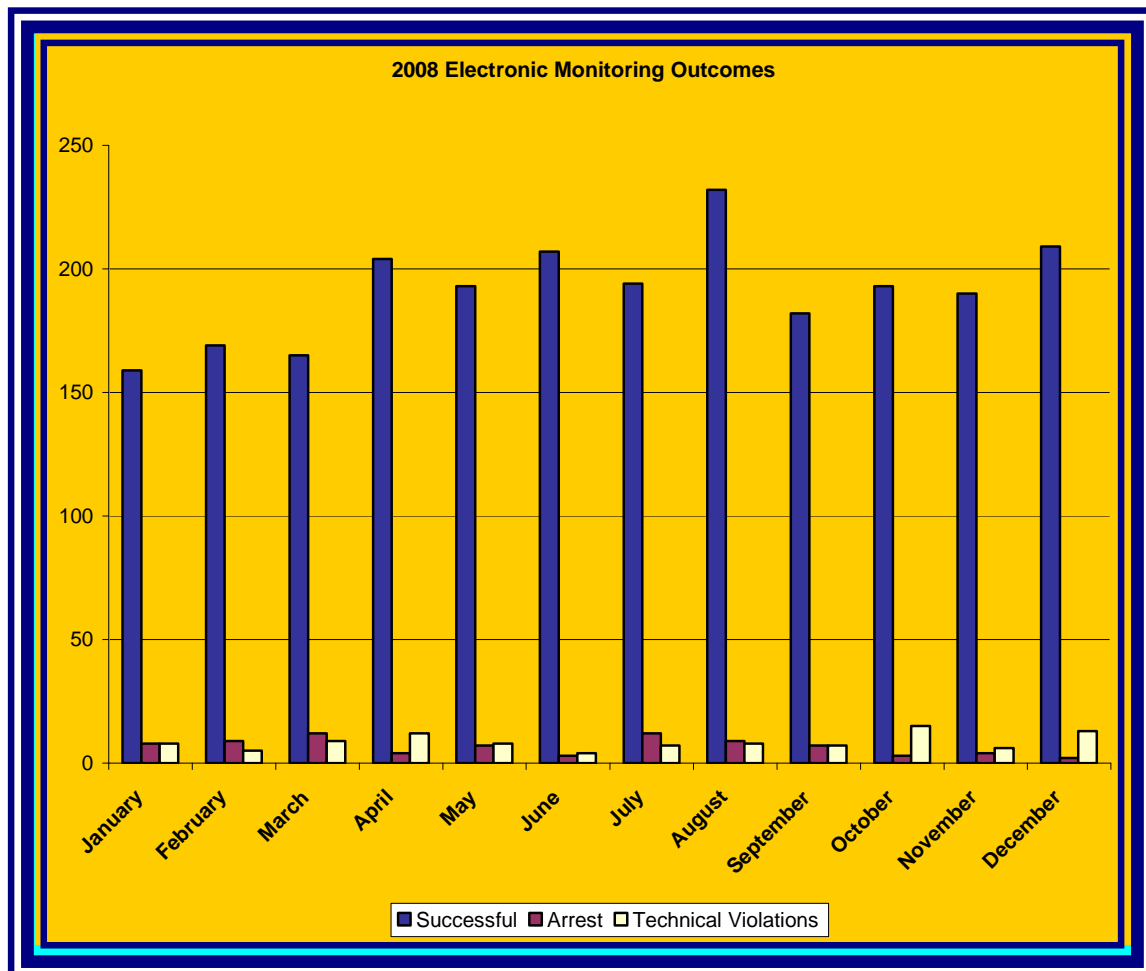


Approximately 10,000 drug tests were taken on offenders at EM in 2008 with a negative result 78.6% of the time.

For the first time in history, the Electronic Monitoring Unit (EM) collected program fees from offenders in excess of one million dollars. A total of \$1,104,477.64 was collected in fees. In addition, by placing the offenders on electronic monitoring who would otherwise be incarcerated in jail, EM supervision saved 370,000 jail days for the year. That figure multiplied by the cost to house an offender in the jail (\$62.00 per day) amounts to \$22,940,000 additional savings for Allegheny County.

Several other goals were achieved in 2008. First, at the end of 2008, an EM training manual was completed in an effort to objectively detail the job requirements of each position. Furthermore, in 2008, a detailed training protocol was developed to more adequately train new staff members upon their transfer to EM. Several others goals reached were: Monthly scheduled "in house" training sessions, supervision/caseload standards using the proxy scores, more efficient/streamline billing process to increase accounts receivable and strengthening our relationship with Pre-Trial Services Unit. Under the direction of EM's new Manager Frank Scherer, we continue to strive for excellence and efficiency in doing business. Mr. Scherer's motto for the unit is "It's a new day" as we continue to perform our duties.

These positive results are directly related to the huge effort and commitment made by the entire Electronic Monitoring staff. Without their timeless effort, commitment, long hours and work ethic we would not be able to accomplish all of these 2008 goals .We congratulate all the members on the Electronic Monitoring Unit. We continue to look forward to meeting our new goals for 2009.



INTAKE/COURT LIAISON UNITS

The Adult Probation Court Liaison and Intake Units are responsible for processing incoming offenders into the Allegheny County Probation system and representing the agency in probation-related hearings before the Court of Common Pleas. Located in room 504 of the Courthouse, the department is in close proximity to the courtrooms, which allows for direct interaction with Judges and their staff. In addition to the department supervisor, there are five Probation Officers and six Support Staff members assigned to this unit.

Immediately after their sentencing hearings, offenders who are placed under the supervision of the Adult Probation Department are brought to the Intake Unit where they

are interviewed to obtain information regarding their residency and are provided with instructions regarding their period of supervision. Court papers pertaining to each case are delivered to Intake by Court staff. The paperwork is copied and the pertinent information is manually entered into the Probation Department's case management system. During 2008 over 23,000 cases were processed through the Intake Department.

In addition to processing incoming offenders, the Intake Unit also does fingerprinting and DNA sampling of all offenders convicted of a felony offense in order to comply with the mandate of Act 185 of 2004. In 2008 the Intake Unit collected more than 1,200 DNA samples.

The Intake Unit is also actively involved in Early Disposition Plea (EDP) Court. An Intake Clerk attends each Court session and interviews each defendant to obtain residency information and to instruct that defendant on the regulations of supervision. Nearly 1,600 cases were processed through EDP Court in 2008.

The Court Liaison Unit (CLU) conducts Probation Violation Hearings for Criminal Division cases. The CLU Probation Officers work closely with Judges and their staff to schedule the hearings. Prior to the presenting the probation violation hearings they review violation reports submitted by Probation Officers. They also represent the Probation Office in detainer and review hearings.

CLU Probation Officers frequently assist other Probation Officers and attorneys who require assistance with various matters in courtrooms. They obtain warrants from Judges on those offenders who have failed to appear for Court and also are responsible for the lifting of detainers when offenders are to be released from custody on a particular case. At a Judge's request, CLU Probation Officers often obtain urine samples from defendants prior to their sentencing and occasionally administer breathalyzers. CLU presented over 3,600 probation violation hearings to the Court during 2008.

In 2008, members of the Intake Unit collaborated with Court technical staff to refine and correct several interfaces in the Probation Department's case management system to allow for the more efficient input of data on offenders into the system. The result of this collaboration has been a success and has become a model for making other corrections and refinements to the Probation Department's case management system.

INTER-COUNTY AND INTERSTATE UNIT

The Administrative Unit consists of five Probation Officers and one Supervisor. Three Probation Officers are assigned to inter-county cases, one Probation Officer is assigned to interstate cases, and one Probation Officer is assigned to the state caseload.

The caseloads of the inter-county Probation Officers consist of offenders who were sentenced in Allegheny County but live in other counties in Pennsylvania. They coordinate the transfer of supervision to the probation offices in the counties where these people live and address any problems that may arise during the course of their supervision by the offender's home county probation office.

The interstate caseload consists of offenders who were sentenced in Allegheny County but live in other states. The interstate officer coordinates the transfer of probation supervision to other states through the Interstate Compact, or in certain instances, monitors supervision of offenders by phone or mail.

The state caseload consists of offenders that are designated by the Court to be supervised by the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole. If these offenders meet certain established criteria, the state officer coordinates the transfer of the offender to state probation and parole.

The Administrative Unit also handles a "process caseload", which consists of offenders who have outstanding probation violation warrants. The unit's Probation Officers handle these cases when offender's are arrested on the outstanding warrants.

During the past year, the inter-county Probation Officers continue to work closely with the other county probation offices to improve the transfer and supervision of offenders who were sentenced in Allegheny County but reside in other counties in Pennsylvania.

This past October, the Allegheny County Adult Probation Department was one of the first counties in Pennsylvania to begin using the Interstate Compact Offender Tracking System. This system is known by the acronym - ICOTS. The system is used to transfer the supervision of offenders who were sentenced in Allegheny County but reside in other states. All transfer information and all communication among the Compact offices is done electronically, and ICOTS replaces a cumbersome paper process. The initial implementation has been satisfactory and Allegheny County is optimistic that ICOTS will transform the Interstate transfer process into an expedient and efficient system. Allegheny County Probation Officers will continue to attend training sessions that are currently being planned by the Interstate Office in Harrisburg.

INTENSIVE DRUG UNIT (IDU)

The Intensive Drug Unit (IDU) of Adult Probation has focused on the offender engaged in drug-related behaviors such as drug dealing, robberies and thefts, and firearms involvement, often with drug abuse. The IDU received cases through assignments by the Courts and transfers within Adult Probation, supervises final-phase probations for Drug Court, and some Intermediate Punishment cases.

The IDU provides intensive supervision, usually with multiple probationer and collateral contacts per month, and frequent drug testing. IDU Probation Officers typically spend

half of the work week in the field, attempting to make contact with probationers at various locations, and interacting with local police and Courts to share information about probationers' activities. Searches and apprehensions occur in some instances, in collaboration with other Probation Office staff and law enforcement agencies. It is not unusual for firearms, other weapons and illicit drugs to be confiscated on such encounters. Often, smaller amounts of drugs and paraphernalia are confiscated and used to motivate a drug abuser who was reluctant to seek drug treatment to do so. Intensive Drug Unit Probation Officers have participated in ride alongs with Pittsburgh Police and various other police departments throughout Allegheny County, as well as multiple law enforcement initiatives on a continuing basis. Years of cooperative efforts have maintained beneficial communication with enforcement agencies.

When the probationer admits to substance abuse and/or tests positive for drug use, referrals are made to treatment programs. Positive relationships developed with treatment program personnel have served to expedite probationers' entry into treatment on many occasions. If probationers continue to use illicit substances, usually after they have failed to pursue treatment, violations are often pursued through the Swift Intervention Program (SIP), with graduated sanctions of 2, 10, 30, and 60 days in the Allegheny County Jail being imposed. Even throughout the "last resort" violation process, probationers are encouraged to participate in treatment to avoid further sanctions and reap the benefits of a drug-free lifestyle.

INTERMEDIATE SUPERVISION CASELOAD – DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE (ISC/DUI)

The Intermediate Supervision Caseload (ISC) is responsible for supervision of low impact probation cases that do not have special conditions, except restitution. Currently there are approximately 1,800 cases supervised by the ISC Unit.

Each individual on ISC is required to attend an initial interview at which time the rules of probation are thoroughly explained and each offender is approved for ISC supervision. Offenders that have pending charges or those who indicate current drug usage or treatment are transferred to regular supervision. Also stressed at the initial interview is the defendant's requirement to pay restitution and/or costs if applicable.

Restitution cases are the main focus of the ISC Unit. Probation Officers enforce the Court order by monitoring restitution payments and scheduling violation hearings when regular payments are not being made or when a case is nearing expiration and restitution remains unpaid. Through hard work and diligence, the ISC Unit in cooperation with the Office of Court Records is responsible for collecting the majority of restitution in Allegheny County.

The P.R.I.D.E. Program (Program for Re-Integration Development and Empowerment of exploited individuals) is also included in the ISC Unit. The P.R.I.D.E. Program is collaboration between White Deer Run/Cove Forge Behavioral Health, the Pittsburgh Police, and the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas. The P.R.I.D.E. Program is

designed to offer individuals who are convicted of prostitution an opportunity to gain information, knowledge and skills necessary to change their often-dangerous lifestyle.

Defendants who are in the P.R.I.D.E. Program are required to attend weekly counseling and support sessions, drug and alcohol evaluations, and treatment as deemed necessary, and psychiatric evaluations if deemed appropriate. Each defendant also has a curfew of 8:00 pm to 8:00 am. The Probation Office monitors the defendant's attendance at the program and updates the Court at weekly review hearings before Judge Sasinoski, the presiding Judge over the P.R.I.D.E. Program. Offenders who are non-compliant are scheduled for violation hearings or are remanded to the Allegheny County Jail.

The P.R.I.D.E. Program originally began with less than ten (10) participants, but has now grown to over 50 with several successful graduations from the program.

The DUI Unit is responsible for the majority of adjudicated DUI cases in Allegheny County. Currently there are over 1,000 cases supervised by the DUI Unit.

Each individual who is convicted of a DUI is required to meet with a Probation Officer at an initial interview, at which time rules of probation are thoroughly explained. In most cases, DUI offenders are required to complete Alcohol Safe Driving classes and treatment as a condition of the probation or parole. The level of treatment is determined by a CRN evaluation each offender must complete. DUI Probation Officers coordinate the offender's safe driving classes and treatment within the four (4) local regional alcohol programs; Alternatives, Mercy Behavioral Health, Mon Yough, and W.P.I.C. Offenders must complete the safe driving classes and treatment prior to the expiration of their probation, or a violation hearing is scheduled.

DUI offenders participate in numerous trainings throughout the year on related topics. Several of the trainings are in cooperation with local school districts including the Safety Bug and DUI simulator.

MENTAL HEALTH COURT (MHC)

Mental Health Court (MHC) continues to flourish and grow with new innovative ideas for the efficiency of addressing the needs of offenders suffering with mental health issues who are under parole/probation supervision. It was our pleasure to be observed as a prototype MHC by representatives from Erie, Cumberland, Cambria, Chester, Dauphin and Fayette counties, Washington D.C. and legislative representatives from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. MHC was also taped for a documentary by Frontline and is expected to be aired in the spring of 2009.

Mental Health Court has approximately 260 active participants and a lengthy waiting list of those offenders anticipating the review of their charges (certain felonies not permitted) by the ADA and Public Defender for admission into the program. Offenders can be graduated from the program if compliance with probationary stipulations, in

addition to cooperation with Justice Related Services and Service Plans are met. Participants can be discharged from the program for chronic new arrests, the gravity of new offenses, or continued non-compliance with Mental Health Court mandates. It should be noted that individuals who have been victimized by an offender must be in agreement for the offender's participation in the program prior to acceptance into Mental Health court.

PRE-SENTENCE INVESTIGATION UNIT

The Pre-sentence Investigation Unit of the Allegheny County Probation Department prepares pre-sentence reports to assist the Court in the sentencing of convicted offenders. In 2008 the Adult Probation Department received 652 new requests from the court for pre-sentence investigation reports. The scope of the reports prepared by the department varies depending on the type of report the Court has requested.

The Pre-sentence Investigation Unit can provide short, intermediate, or long reports and also provides updated reports when necessary for probation violation hearings. Five Probation Officers and a Supervisor are assigned to the Pre-sentence Investigation Unit as well as three contracted PSI writers.

Pre-Sentence reports include a detailed narrative of the offense based on official records, as well as statements from the offender. All of the pre-sentence reports include the offender's adult criminal history, and juvenile criminal history - if the defendant was 28 years old or younger at the time of the offense. The long reports also include the offender's prior adjustment to custody and to supervision within the community.

Pre-sentence reports present information on the offender's mental and physical health, and financial condition, including any work experience or vocational skills. The longer reports provide information on the offender's educational and family backgrounds.

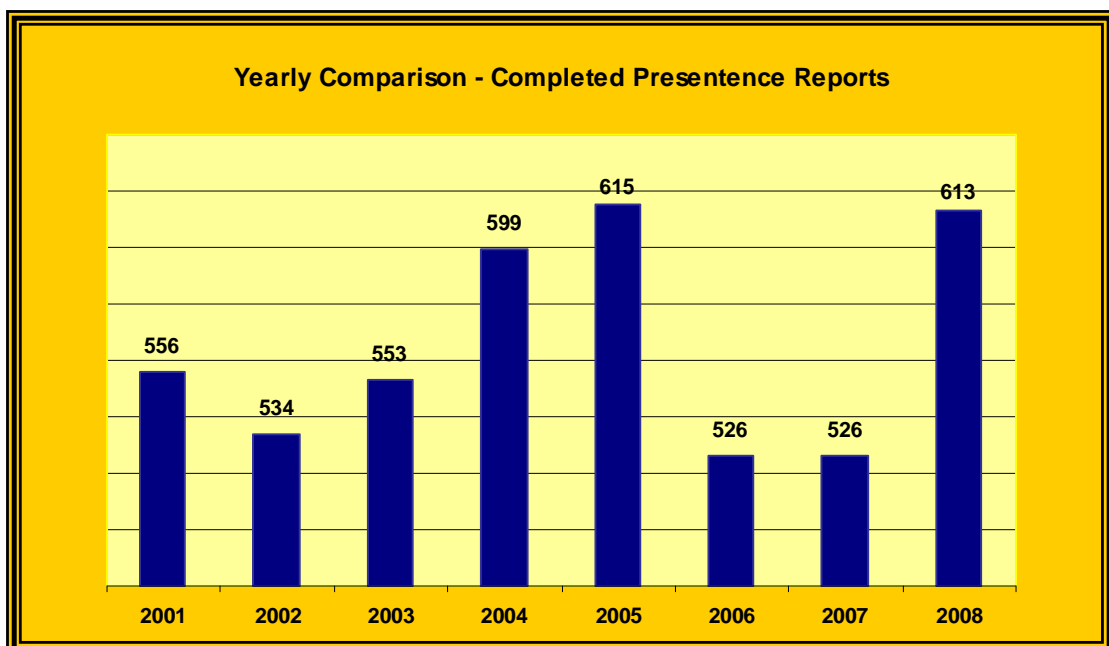
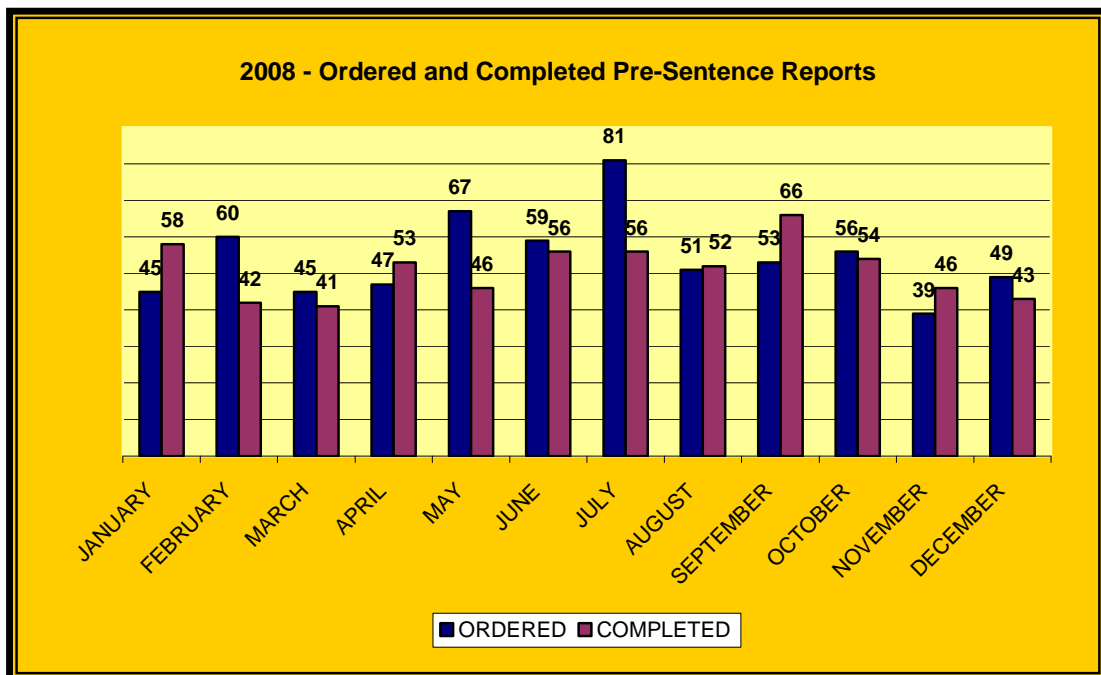
Any victim affected by the incident may give a victim impact statement. The victim impact statement provides the victim the opportunity to describe in detail how the incident has impacted their lives, physically, emotionally, and financially. It also gives the victim the opportunity to express their opinion on what they feel would be an appropriate sentence for the offender.

In 2008, a decision of the Superior Court determined that defendants are entitled to request a pre-sentence report prior to sentencing for any violations of probation or parole. As a result, the Adult Probation Department received 652 total new requests for the year, an increase of 69 reports over those that were requested in 2007. Of all the requests by the Court for pre-sentence reports, 623 were for the long report format.

In late 2008 the Adult Probation Department began a comprehensive review of the business practices of the Pre-Sentence Investigation Unit. The Adult Probation Department is currently exploring various alternatives to provide the Court with timely and relevant pre-sentence reports that are more closely tailored to the severity of the

crime of which the offender has been convicted or where the case involves a special victim. In particular, for those cases involving youthful offenders with significant criminal history or offenses involving special victims (children, elderly, MR/DD, sexual offenses, or physically disabled), the department will continue to provide detailed pre-sentence reports.

In cases where the offender is very likely to receive a sentence other than a prison term, the Adult Probation Department is exploring how to provide the Court with an abbreviated pre-sentence report. The challenge will be to develop an abbreviated report format that meets the need of the Court for relevant information about the offender while providing the Court with meaningful information as to whether the offender is amenable to supervision within the community in a manner consistent with the need for public safety.



SPECIAL SERVICES UNIT FOR SEX OFFENDERS

The Special Services Unit completed the second full year of operation in 2008. Caseloads have increased by 20% for the year with average caseloads standing at 89 offenders per Probation Officer. The unit continued participation in the collaborative effort headed by Pittsburgh Action Against Rape (PAAR). This effort involves members of the District Attorney's office, various police departments, treatment providers and victim advocates to provide more effective community supervision of sex offenders.

Special rules for sex offenders have started to be implemented at sentencing. The ability to monitor a sex offender's computer activity continues to be available. Sex offender treatment is emphasized and constant communication is maintained with the treatment providers. Through proactive fieldwork; guns, drugs, alcohol, various weapons and pornography were confiscated from offenders leading to new arrests and/or technical violations of probation. The unit closely monitors those offenders with Megan's Law registration requirements and actively pursues violators with new criminal charges or further court action.

TRAINING – 2008

Fourteen new Probation Officers began work with the Adult Probation Office in 2008. After completing basic training, each was assigned to various positions throughout the agency.

During the course of the year numerous trainings were offered. The Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole offered trainings on several important subjects such as: Search and Seizure, Motivational Interviewing, Evidence Based Practice and the LSI-R. A total of 668 hours of training were offered to staff in 2008. In addition to the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, in-house staff and various other agencies offered training.

All Probation Officers met the Boards requirement of 40 hours of continuing education

PERSONNEL AT A GLANCE

In 2008 Allegheny County Adult Probation employed an average of 172 persons in various positions. Of that total, 111 are Probation Officers, 24 are Managers or Supervisors, 1 Director, 1 Deputy Director and 38 are Support Staff.

HIRING STATISTICS FOR 2008

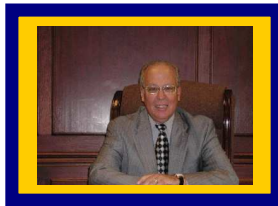
Number of Probation Officers Hired	14
Number of Support Staff Hired	7
Number of Part-time Staff Hired	2

PROMOTION STATISTICS FOR 2008

Number of Promotions to Supervisor	2
Manager Appointment	1

JUDGES

President Judge:
Joseph M. James



Administrative Judge:
Donna Jo McDaniel



Criminal Court Judges:

*Edward J. Borkowski, David R. Cashman, Kathleen A. Durkin,
Donald E. Machen, Jeffrey A. Manning, Anthony M. Mariani,
Lester G. Nauhaus, Jill E. Rangos, Kevin G. Sasinoski,
Randal B. Todd, and John A. Zottola*

SPECIAL PROJECTS/EVENTS IN 2008

FEMALE MENTORING/CHARM SCHOOL PROGRAM

Charm School graduated four women on October 31, 2008 following a seven-week course in Life/Social skills training. All graduates are currently employed or enrolled in a Junior college and/or trade school. At the onset of school, none of the participants were employed or enrolled in school. This was the second year of existence for Charm School.



*Left End: PO Jackie Whittaker Middle: Manager Charlene Christmas
Right End: Nicole Ballard*

SWEARING IN CEREMONIES



Several swearing in ceremonies were held throughout the year for new Probation Officers. The ceremonies were held in conjunction with Juvenile Probation and were presided over by Administrative Judge Donna Jo McDaniel and Administrative Judge Kim Berkeley Clark.

Family, friends and fellow employees of the new Probation Officers were invited to the ceremonies and a small reception was held afterwards.

Pictured in Photo: Deputy Director Seyko, Mgr. Frank Scherer, Mgr. Jim Trozzi, Vincent Cugini, Lindsay Scheaffer, Lisa Almo, Rachel Jones, William Fries, Mathilda Spencer, Marc Wilner, Dennis Cline, Gary Uram, Mgr. Brian Dunbar, Administrative Judge Donna Jo McDaniel, Director Rieland

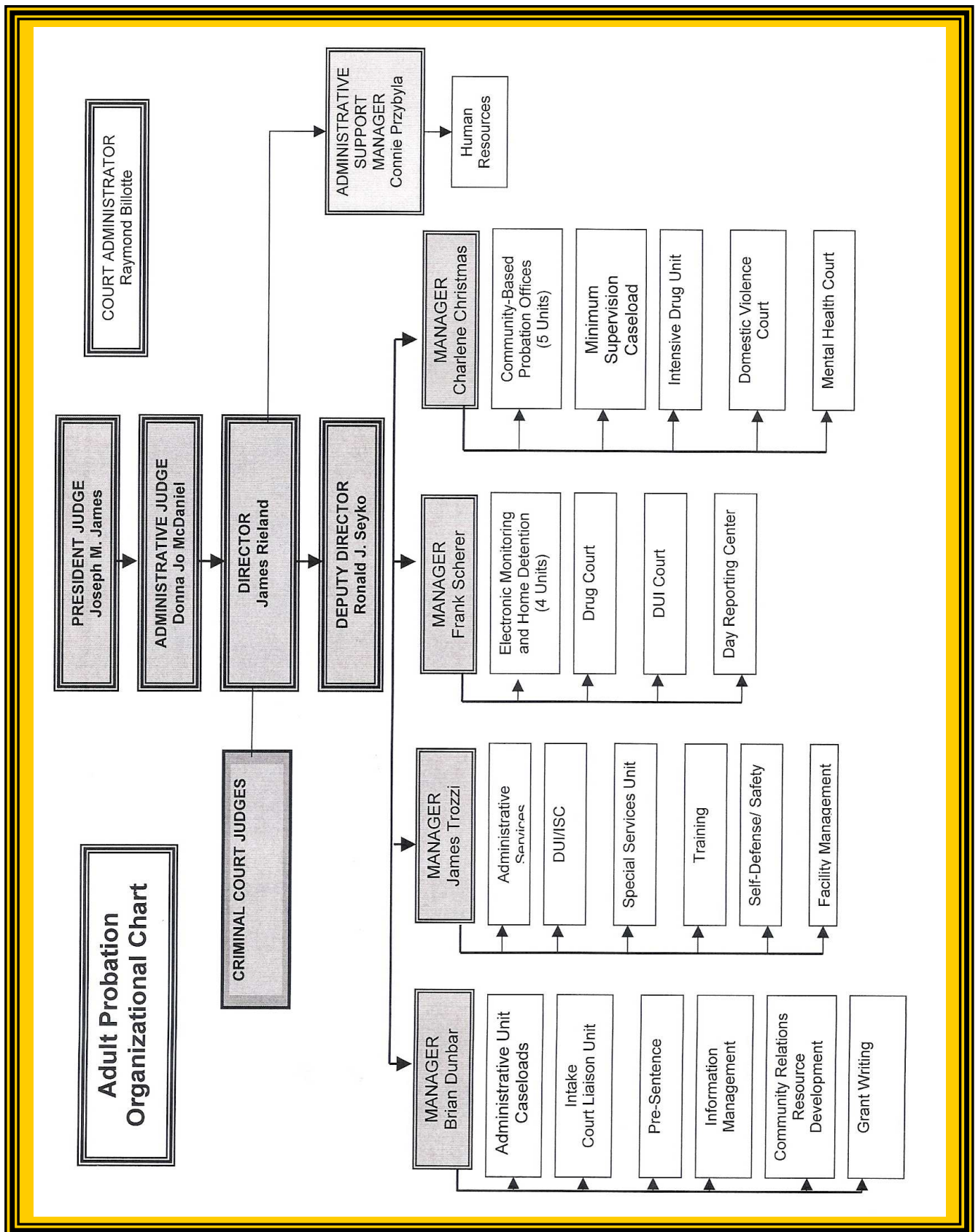
WARRANT UNIT

In 2007 a decision was made by our administration to establish a warrant unit for Adult Probation. The successful operations conducted by the Juvenile Probation Warrant Unit played a major factor in the decision, coupled with more than a thousand active warrants for probation absconders. Thirty-one professional staff have volunteered to participate in the unit operations.

During 2008 bulletproof vests were purchased and City of Pittsburgh SWAT officers provided building entry training. In December Probation Officer Timothy Drum was selected as the first Warrant Unit officer for Adult Probation. Since that time Tim has spent numerous hours with the Juvenile Probation warrant officers observing their actions and procedures in preparation for the launch of the adult unit in the coming months.



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



CONTACT INFORMATION

Website: http://www.alleghenycourts.us/criminal/adult_probation/default.asp

Office Locations

Administration
564 Forbes Avenue – Suite 1212
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-350-2320
412-340-2316 (Fax)

Central Probation
5648 Friendship Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-661-5748
412-661-6340 (Fax)

Court Liaison/Intake
504 Court House
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-350-0343
412-350-4268 (Fax)

Day Reporting Center
2320 Arlington Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15210
412-431-1014
412-431-1428 (Fax)

Electronic Monitoring
250 Mt. Lebanon Blvd. – Suite 220
Pittsburgh, PA 15234
412-350-0400
412-350-0408 (Fax)

Intensive Drug Unit (IDU)
1700 East Carson Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
412-431-7885
412-431-8369 (Fax)

Interstate/Inter-County Unit
564 Forbes Avenue – Suite 1212
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-350-2320
412-340-6025 (Fax)

ISC/DUI Unit
1700 East Carson Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
412-488-2852
412-488-2853 (Fax)

McKeesport Probation
208 Sixth Avenue
McKeesport, PA 15132
412-673-7186
412-673-7190 (Fax)

North Side Probation
841 California Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
412-323-9800
412-323-9483 (Fax)

Pre-Sentence Unit
564 Forbes Avenue – Suite 1212
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-350-2320
412-340-6025 (Fax)

South Hills Probation
809 Bingham Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
412-381-9390
412-381-9435 (Fax)

Special Services Unit (SSU)
1700 East Carson Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
412-431-3013
412-431-8369 (Fax)

Wilkinsburg Probation
Penn West Office Building
903 West Street
Wilkinsburg, PA 15221
412-473-4500
412-473-4506 (Fax)