

MAPSA MATTERS

Les Schultz, Editor

Fall 2004

From our President.....

Greetings MAPSA members! As I write this letter, the summer is drawing to a close and so is a project that I have been involved with for two and half years, that is very relevant to what you do every day as pretrial services practitioners.

In 2002, the Board of Directors of the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies (NAPSA) created a committee to revisit NAPSA's original Release Standards. The original standards were published in 1978 and sought to define realistic and attainable goals and practices for pretrial release. The 1978 standards survived the test of time very well. They were influential in shaping system improvements efforts in a number of states and they provided practical guidance in day-to-day operations for pretrial services program administrators and staff for over two decades.

In 2002, the NAPSA board decided that it was time to take a fresh examination of the original standards, to take account of emerging issues facing pretrial decision-makers and changes that had taken place in practices, technology, case law and program capabilities since the original standards were published. A new Release Standards Committee was formed,



President's Corner continued on the last page..

FAST FACTS!

- The United States spends 8.1 billion on corrections
- The United States has 2.3 million people employed in the corrections field
- The United States spends almost four times as much on education and twice as much on public welfare than on corrections
- Local governments fund nearly half of all direct justice system expenses
- Justice system expenses tripled between 1982 and 2001 with corrections increasing more than 400 percent
- Minnesota has 280,481 justice system employees which represents 8.9 percent of public employees in comparison to the highest rate of Nevada which has a total of 17.4 percent

Information obtained from BJS, May, 2004
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs>

TEEN COURT STATS SHOW PROMISING RESULTS

A recent evaluation from OJJDP regarding teen court programs in Alaska, Arizona, Maryland and Missouri showed very positive results. All four states showed encouraging statistics.

In Alaska and Missouri, adolescents had a 6 percent and 4 percent recidivism rate in comparison to a control group of 23 percent and 27 percent respectively.

Why so positive? The research states,
"...the primary benefit of youth court is its ability to ensure the delivery of early interventions and meaningful sanctions for first time, delinquent offenders."

For more information on this study, go to
www.youthcourt.net

What is NAPSA??

The National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies (NAPSA) is the national professional association for the pretrial release and pretrial diversion fields.

What do I get if I join NAPSA??

When you join NAPSA, you get a subscription to the NAPSA News, a NAPSA Membership Directory, selected NAPSA information and technical reports published throughout the year. NAPSA provides its members with technical assistance and regular updates on developments in the pretrial profession and related criminal justice issues. Your NAPSA membership makes you eligible for special discounts. You will receive discounts on registration fees to the annual NAPSA Conference, discount on NAPSA publications, and eligibility for conference scholarships.

For more information on NAPSA, go to:

<http://www.napsa.org/>



Our finances:

Current Financial Information as of August, 2004: Checking: \$4,407.41

EYESCAN GRANT AWARDS

The Minnesota Association of County Probation Officers was awarded \$100,000 through a Federal COPS grant for 10 drug testing eye scan machines. Counties awarded this technology include:

Beltrami, Brown, Cass, Kanabec
Martin, Ottertail, Rice, Sherburne, Wabasha
and Waseca/Steel

This technology allows for screening offenders with an eye scan machine to determine the presence of illegal substances. If the test determines a possible presence of an illegal substance, then a urine sample will follow for confirmation. For more information on this technology, please check:

www.mcjeyecheck.org

DOES YOUR AGENCY NEED PRETRIAL TRAINING???

MAPSA is considering providing a statewide training for staff conducting bail/bond studies for the court.

If you have an interest, or know someone who does, please have them send an email to:

Les.schultz@co.brown.mn.us

32nd ANNUAL NAPSA CONFERENCE OCTOBER 3-6, 2004 IN TULSA OKLAHOMA

- Learn about new release standards
- Learn about a new certification program for pretrial practitioners
- Listen to Keynote Speaker William F. Dressel, President of the National Judicial College, Reno Nevada

Hotel Rates are \$75 single and double are \$115.

For more information on NAPSA as an organization, membership or to attend this conference, go to this link:

<http://napsa.org/>

MEET YOUR BOARD!

President:	Mary Pat Maher, Project Remand	mary.pat.maher@co.ramsey.mn.us	651-266-2978
Vice President:	Michael Gephart, Hennepin County	mike.gephart@co.hennepin.mn.us	612-348-5269
Secretary:	David Drake, US Pretrial	david_drake@mnpt.uscourts.gov	612-664-5441
Treasurer:	Chris Kruger, Washington County	chris.kruger@co.washington..mn.us	651-430-6919

Representatives:

Region I:	Tara Rpmmaume, Rice County	tronayne@co.rice.mn.us	507-333-3747
Region II:	Les Schultz, Brown County	les.schultz@co.brown.mn.us	507-233-6621
Region III:	David Drake, US Pretrial	david_drake@mnd.uscourts.gov	612-664-5441
Region IV:	Jason Denton, Kandiyohi County	jason.d@co.kandiyohi.mn.us	320-231-6537
Region V:	John Serre, Arrowhead Region	serrej@co.st-louis.mn.us	218-726-2641
Region VI:	Heidi Chamberlain-George, Ramsey	heidi.chamberlain-scgeorge@pubdef.state.mn.us	621-215-0634
Region VII:	Open NW MN (see President if you are interested)		
Region VIII:	Open Central Eastern MN (see President if interested)		

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:

www.mncorrections.org/mapsa

The Burdens of Adult ADHD

Adults with ADHD are more likely to have a poor self image and are three times more likely to suffer from depression or stress than non-ADHD adults. Adults with ADHD were twice as likely to be divorced, are less likely to graduate from high school or college and only 52 percent of ADHD respondents were employed. This survey found that adults with ADHD were twice as likely to be arrested.

The importance of diagnosing and helping adults with ADHD has never been more important. ADHD can no longer be dismissed as a "fake" or "made up" disorder.

Information from CrimeTimes, Volume 10, Number 3, 2004

DID YOU KNOW??

MAPSA supports the development of pretrial services statewide;

MAPSA supports pretrial release evaluations, supervised pretrial release and pretrial diversion statewide;

MAPSA supports consistency in pretrial practices and policies statewide;

MAPSA supports the concept of secured and unsecured bond when administered solely by the courts;

MAPSA supports the concept of preventative detention for some defendants in certain egregious circumstances

Get involved in your association!!

Join a committee!!

We would love to have you . Contact any of the Board members listed above to get started!

From the President *(continued from Page 1)*

with members drawn from pretrial services programs in different areas of the country. I was appointed chair of this committee and we were charged with reviewing the original Standards, proposing a new set of Standards and drafting commentary to accompany them. The process of drafting the new Standards and the commentary was intensive. The committee and I held nine, two-day meetings over a period of two years and spent countless hours reviewing drafts, emailing comments and conference calling with each other.

The final draft of the Standards and commentary was completed earlier this month and will be presented to the NAPSA board and membership at the upcoming conference in October. An electronic version of the Standards will be available on the NAPSA website (i.e. www.napsa.org) after November 1, 2004 and I encourage you to download a copy and read them.

The new Standards are important for a couple of reasons. They are intended to provide guidance, direction and inspiration to pretrial practitioners in your daily work of providing pretrial services in criminal cases. They will hopefully assist you and your colleagues as you grapple with different issues and situations. Just as important, I hope the Standards serve as a catalyst for change when criminal justice policymakers ask: "How do we fashion a criminal justice system that is fair, just and sound?"

And so, I would also encourage you to share the Standards with your judges, administrators and county commissioners. In order for us to implement the Standards to the fullest extent we need buy-in and support from all the key players in the criminal justice system. What are the results of full implementation of the Standards? An informed, reasoned and impartial response at the front end of the system will resonate throughout the system and improve the public's trust and confidence in how we deliver justice in this country. So I will close by asking you to help me get the word out about NAPSA's new Release Standards so that we can improve pretrial justice throughout Minnesota.

Enjoy the Fall season.

Sincerely,

Mary Pat Maher
President, MAPSA