

NYAPSA NEWS

*A Publication of the New York Association of Pretrial Services Agencies
Established in 1976*

PRESIDENT’S LETTER

By Craig McNair

The NYAPSA Board continues to work hard to improve pretrial services across the state. We are proud to announce that we are finalizing details to hold a NYAPSA Conference in Troy, New York, on October 29th and 30th, 2017.

Like our previous conferences, this is a chance to bring together practitioners from across the state to discuss a variety of pretrial topics. It is a wonderful opportunity for pretrial professionals to gather, network, share ideas, and plan for the future of pretrial. Ideas and issues discussed during the conference help us as a Board to understand and address your needs. I encourage everyone to attend.

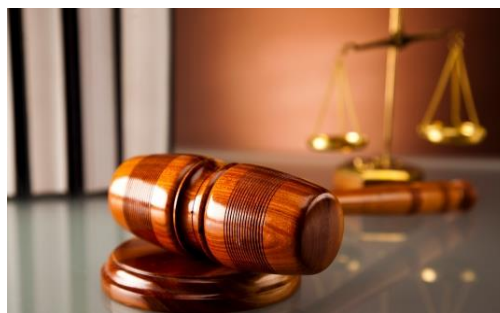
Information will also be forthcoming about our plan to review the Pretrial Standards later this year.

Please watch your email and visit NYAPSA's website for more information as we move forward with these important endeavors. We look forward to an exciting 2017 and beyond.

Please visit the website often, continue to provide updates, and any time you have questions or need anything don't hesitate to email me:

<mailto:cmcnair@monroecounty.gov>.

Thanks and best wishes!



Farewell to Jerry McElroy
page 2

New and Noteworthy from
Dutchess Pretrial Services
page 5

Legal Services Reform for
Indigent Defendants
page 7

Peter Kiers Retires
page 8

New York Plan to Close and
Replace Rikers Island
page 11

And more!

Farewell to Jerry McElroy

By Mary T. Phillips

With much sadness and gratitude, CJA and leaders of pretrial justice around the country said good-bye to Jerome E. McElroy after 27 years in which he led the Agency as Executive Director.

Jerry's retirement at the end of April 2017 was marked by two celebrations: one for CJA staff on April 21 at the Agency's central office; and another for the wider pretrial justice community at John Jay College of Criminal Justice on April 28.

The in-house celebration was attended by many of CJA's 300 employees from all five boroughs of the City. Highlights included a moving tribute to Jerry from Joann DeJesus, his Executive Manager of Special Projects, and a party menu that included champagne and a cake inscribed "Recommended for Release." In a brief response, Jerry talked about his pleasure in working with such a dedicated group of people, and expressed his appreciation for the efforts of all who have made CJA one of the foremost pretrial services agencies in the country.

The party at John Jay was a festive dinner attended by many notables both within and outside New York City. Jerry was accompanied by his entire family, including children and grandchildren, who came to share in the celebration of his career and accomplishments, which were expressed by speaker after speaker. Peter Kiers, CJA's Director of Operations and Acting Executive Director, introduced the speakers: Judge Truman Morrison of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia; Michael Jacobson, Director of the CUNY Institute for State and Local Governance and Chair of the CJA Board of Directors;

and Robert Maccarone, Deputy Commissioner and Director of the Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives, New York Division of Criminal Justice Services. Jeremy Travis, President of John Jay (and CJA's first Executive Director) was unable to attend, but he sent a congratulatory message that Peter Kiers read from the podium.

Others among the attendees included Elizabeth Glazer, Director of the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice; Benjamin Tucker, First Deputy Police Commissioner, NYPD; Judge George Grasso, Supervising Judge NYC Criminal Court Arraignments; Judge Michael Yavinsky, Supervising Judge Kings County Criminal Court; Judge Patricia Henry of the Brooklyn Integrated Domestic Violence Court; and Cherise Fanno Burdeen, Executive Director, Pretrial Justice Institute. Also in attendance was one of pretrial justice's most eminent icons, Herbert Sturz, who was Founding Director of the Vera Institute, and now serves as a Trustee of the Open Society Institute.

Members of CJA's Board of Directors who attended, in addition to Michael Jacobson and Elizabeth Glazer, were Richard Aborn, President of the Citizens Crime Commission; Clay Hiles, Executive Director of the Hudson River Foundation; Judge Robert Keating, Vice President, Strategic Initiatives, of Pace University; and Marjorie Singer, Assistant Vice President & Counsel, John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

It was a send-off worthy of one of the most effective, respected, and well-liked leaders in the field of pretrial justice.

NAPSA News & Notes

by Jim Sawyer, NAPSA Executive Director

NAPSA thanks the dedicated, hard-working pretrial practitioners who make up the membership of the New York Association of Pretrial Services Agencies. You truly make a difference in the communities you serve and we join you in elevating the discussion about the need for pretrial services and the incredible work being done by pretrial professionals at the local, state and federal levels.

New Northeast Region Director: NAPSA is pleased to announce the appointment of Shawn LaGrega, Deputy Director of Maine Pretrial Services, Inc. to the NAPSA Board of Directors as the Northeast Region Director. Shawn began his career in the field of Pretrial in 1999, has been a NAPSA member since 2000 and has served at the chair of the NAPSA Accreditation Committee since 2015. He replaces Elizabeth Simoni, who is the NAPSA Secretary and former Northeast Region Director. Shawn can be contacted at northeast@napsa.org.

NAPSA Annual Conference: NAPSA is pleased to announce the 45th Annual Conference and Training Institute, to be held at Wyndham Grand Hotel, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania from September 10-13, 2017. The NAPSA Conference will feature nationally renowned keynote and plenary session speakers, practitioners and presenters to provide exceptional information and research about the field of Pretrial Services. In addition, 60 instructional workshops will provide participants the opportunity to review the foundations of pretrial, learn the latest research findings, hear about the implementation of evidence-based practices and understand current opportunities available to those working in the field. [Learn more](#) and join us in Pittsburgh!

WASHINGTON COUNTY'S DATA-DRIVEN PERFORMANCE

By Sue Mowrey

Is our Pretrial Program effective? As program funding becomes more competitive and budgets are scrutinized in an effort to eliminate wasteful spending, our agency has attempted to use data to drive our decision-making and to build value for our Alternative to Incarceration programs. With this increasing emphasis on utilizing data to inform decisions, we have developed internal database applications that have enhanced our ability to obtain mission-critical data for our Pretrial Program. For several years we have been tracking the safety rate, appearance rate and success rate as defined by National Institute of Corrections (NIC) in Measuring What Matters for defendants who are released under supervision to our Pretrial Program. Based on this data, I would agree that our Pretrial Program is effective. In 2015, our Safety Rate was 98.5%, our Appearance Rate was 100%, and our Success Rate was 96.5%. Unfortunately, I have not found adequate data to compare our rates to other pretrial programs. Thus the following questions remain: do we have a higher safety, appearance, and success rate, are we average, or do we fall short compared to all other pretrial programs operating in New York State?

If effectiveness is measured by our ability to provide a pretrial assessment at the earliest stage, I would say that no, we are not effective. We do not provide a release recommendation at the time of the arraignment. We do, however, perform the interview and assessment on the next business day and all defendants eligible by statute for pretrial release are considered for release. Additionally, we have no-locally imposed exclusions which align with element number 4 of the 8 elements of an Effective Pretrial System according to the National Institute of Corrections. Our 2015 data indicated that we interviewed 96% of all

eligible defendants and further analysis showed that the 4% of defendants who were not interviewed were inaccessible due to being housed in a different jurisdiction.

If effectiveness is measured by our adherence to the utilization of the COMPAS failure to appear risk level to drive our recommendations for release, I would say that we are semi-effective. Yes, we have been successful in educating our Justices on the importance of the COMPAS assessment, and in building our relationship with Judges, Defense Attorneys and District Attorneys who have come to rely on our pretrial recommendations and verification of information to guide their decision-making, but we need to improve our confidence in utilizing the tool to make ROR recommendations. Currently we recommend ROR and/or RUS for approximately 19 % of defendants who score low on COMPAS. Without the availability of this data, we would not have recognized that our recommendations may be skewed by our subjectivity and we would not have determined what our S.M.A.R.T (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Timely) goal should be in the future.

So as to the question of effectiveness, it seems that each jurisdiction should determine its local measures such as pretrial days diverted, defendants who maintain employment while on pretrial release, defendants who maintain custody of their children, etc., while also striving to maximize public safety, release, and appearance. And to further strive to adhere to the 8 elements of an Effective Pretrial System. However, without data, the true effectiveness and the positive impact of pretrial decisions cannot be effectively measured which in turn, makes it impossible to become a high functioning pretrial system.

Succeeding with Pre-Trial Services' New Directions

By Sherrie Tanner-Hammonds and Jennifer Irwin Carey

Sara's first contact with Pre-Trial Services' New Directions support group was in July 2016, when she was picked up on a prostitution charge and diverted to Rochester City Court's Human Trafficking Part (HTP). She was released to Pre-Trial's Release Under Supervision (RUS) program where she connected with a Case Manager and was referred to a weekly support group for other women facing similar charges (either prostitution or loitering for the purposes of prostitution). Sara presented slightly differently than her cohorts; this was her first arrest in Monroe County, she was already receiving SSI benefits, and was connected (albeit loosely) with community treatment agencies.

Most of the defendants in HTP have a lengthy criminal record, often including a series of bench warrants, and are in dire need of assistance with various pressing needs. These needs can include basic financial resources, stable housing, medical treatment, mental health treatment, and substance abuse treatment. Many of the women are in abusive relationships, often with people who are exploiting them for the money generated through prostitution. Nearly every woman who has come through the program has had some history of trauma, and many struggle on a daily basis to navigate the complex web of social services whose "red tape" threatens to trip them up at every turn.

In recognition of the many barriers these clients face, RUS Case Managers use a "trauma-informed" approach to gather relationship with these clients at the first contact. Women are "triaged" upon release

from the Monroe County Jail, offered fresh clothing, a bite to eat, one-ride bus passes to get them back and forth to appointments, and a warm invitation to come back the following Wednesday morning for the New Directions support group.

The group is currently facilitated by Sherrie Tanner Hammonds, an RUS Case Manager working towards her Masters of Social Work through SUNY Brockport and Nazareth College. Whether there's one participant in group or ten, Sherrie can be heard down the hall using a call-and-response approach to engage the group members. Many of the women have known each other for years, and will reminisce about the first time they met, or "that time I didn't have anything warm to wear and you gave me the shirt off your back." Sherrie's approach to group is unrehearsed, from the heart, and off the top of her head. Her goal is to promote self-worth in people who struggle with low self-esteem, and to build confidence in people who have been held back by their circumstances. She focuses on themes of empowerment, encouraging her clients to redefine themselves in the face of stigma and other oppressive conditions. Because group attendance can be inconsistent, she never knows who will show up, but she prepares for a full-house nonetheless – brewing a fresh pot of coffee, setting out some light refreshments, hanging up posters from the previous week's group, and then waiting to see who will show up.

Sherrie is the first to admit that it's nearly impossible to describe the "magic" that happens in group. The women challenge each other to be honest, to be vulnerable, to be brave, and – if nothing else – to

show up. The experience is so positive and powerful that participants who have "graduated" from the program often continue to attend group on a voluntary basis. Sara is one such client. Back in 2016, Sara only stayed connected with the program for about a month before missing court and disappearing. But she was picked up on the bench warrant the following Spring, was given another opportunity to complete the program, and within two months had graduated.

With the support of her RUS Case Manager, Andrea Sevene, Sara maintained sobriety, which she established during four months of inpatient treatment. She also continued mental health treatment, enrolled in domestic violence education and parenting education classes, and worked closely with Child Protective Services (CPS) on a plan to be reunited with her daughter. Within 8 weeks of her second arrest, Sara had demonstrated her commitment to personal growth and to the well-being of her daughter. She had taken numerous steps to promote self-sufficiency, and was a source of inspiration to others. When she attended her final court appearance, both Andrea and Sherrie were present and commended her progress. And, as often happens in HTP when a participant graduates, presiding judge Ellen Yacknin came down from the bench to offer a personal congratulations, as well as a hug. Sara's success was gratifying for everyone involved – her peers from group, the Pre-Trial staff who worked with her, and even court personnel who witnessed her progress.

Although graduations are usually bittersweet, Sara's was less so, because instead of saying "goodbye," she said, "See you all next week."

New and Noteworthy From Dutchess County Pretrial Services

By Jonathan Heller

There have been several new initiatives in Dutchess County impacting Pretrial Services:

STABILIZATION CENTER

In February 2017, Dutchess County Executive, Marcus J. Molinaro, joined with state and local officials, behavioral and community health providers, and community members to celebrate the grand opening of the Dutchess County Stabilization Center. The new facility is a 24/7, non-medical, voluntary, walk-in center for individuals experiencing crisis resulting from mental health or substance abuse issues.

The Stabilization Center provides law enforcement and the county's 24/7 Mobile Crisis Intervention Team with the ability to divert individuals with behavioral health or substance abuse issues from jail or hospitalization. These individuals can receive immediate assistance and services in order to de-escalate crisis and plan for ongoing services upon release. The Stabilization Center is an innovative partnership with several community health agencies, which is unique in New York State. This critical resource will help with the county's efforts to divert individuals dealing with mental illness from entering hospital emergency rooms or the criminal justice system.

County Executive Molinaro said, "This Stabilization Center is the result of unique public-private collaboration, and we thank our community partners for their cooperation in bringing this life-saving facility to fruition. This facility is a model for New York and the nation, one that can be replicated throughout America as we improve the lives of our neighbors living with mental health and substance abuse issues."

Located at 230 North Road in Poughkeepsie, the Stabilization Center is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and welcomes people of all ages. Individuals may be brought in by law enforcement, or simply walk in. Family may accompany those in need of services. The center is voluntary – there are no appointments needed and people may stay at the center for up to 23 hours at a time. No one is turned away due to lack of insurance or inability to pay. Upon leaving, individuals receive follow-up and monitoring from Stabilization Center staff to ensure success after their stay.

Among the services available at the Stabilization Center, individuals and families can receive:

- Crisis Counseling and Mental Health Assessments
- Supervised Outpatient Withdrawal Services
- Addiction and Substance Abuse Counseling
- Peer Advocacy and Supports
- Youth and Family Counseling
- Links to Community-Based Resources.

Many individuals have been brought to the Stabilization Center by local law enforcement. The majority of these law enforcement officers, deputies, and probation officers have received the county-sponsored Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). They recognized that the individuals were experiencing a mental health crisis and chose to bring them to the Stabilization Center rather than a hospital emergency room or Dutchess County Jail.

The establishment of the Stabilization Center is a component of the county's ongoing efforts to drive down the rate of recidivism and to intervene and divert individuals in crisis from hospital emergency rooms and the criminal justice system. It is also part of the county's commitment and involvement in National Association of Counties' (NACo) *Stepping Up Initiative* to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in local jails. CIT training for law enforcement and first responders, the Mobile Crisis Intervention Team, Pretrial Services, Alternatives to Incarceration programming, and the 24/7 HELPLINE all work together towards the county's goal of reducing avoidable hospital visits and jail admissions.

Continued on page 6...

New and Noteworthy from Dutchess County Pretrial Services... continued from page 5

The Dutchess County Stabilization Center model is being closely watched by agencies throughout New York State who hope to replicate similar efforts in their communities. Members of the New York City Bureau of Mental Health recently toured the center, after researching and visiting facilities in several other states, and noted, "Dutchess County has built a foundation that brings mental health services together in a way that no one else has."

RESTART

As part of a continuum of services, Dutchess County also created the Re-Entry Stabilization, Transition and Reintegration Track (RESTART) program at the other end of the spectrum for higher risk inmates in jail who will be returning to the community. RESTART is an intensive program, comprised of evidence-based curricula, provided at the Dutchess County Jail. RESTART is intended to help stop the cycle of recidivism by giving inmates new tools and supports for a successful return to the community - providing participants with an opportunity to "restart".

The RESTART program was developed by the county's Special Populations Workgroup, a subcommittee of the Criminal Justice Council, with the guidance and assistance of consultant Kevin Warwick of Alternative Solutions Associates, Inc. The program uses and relies upon a core curriculum, Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT), as well as mental health and substance abuse programming, case management, education/vocational training (including Ready, Set, Work), and structured transition plans post-release. Program curricula is specifically tailored to individual needs based on criminogenic risk and need factors as determined through the use of the COMPAS actuarial assessment instrument. The average duration of program participation is 45-60 days. RESTART is a successful collaboration of public/private agencies including: the Dutchess County Jail, the Dutchess County Office of Probation and Community Corrections, the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health, Project M.O.R.E., and Hudson Valley Mental Health.

Community-based programs offering the same curricula as RESTART are critical to a seamless transition. Links to community-based programs are maintained and coordinated throughout the course of the participant's RESTART involvement. Upon release, RESTART participants can maintain uninterrupted programming in the community.

Quality Assurance is ongoing and outcomes are being tracked by the Criminal Justice Council's consultant, Dr. Gary Christensen.

SATURDAY ARRAIGNMENT PROJECT

In July of 2016, the Pretrial Services Unit and the City of Poughkeepsie Court began a pilot project referred to as the Saturday Arraignment Program.

The primary goal of pretrial services is to provide viable alternatives to pretrial detention. The ideal is to provide this alternative at arraignment so that eligible defendants never enter jail in the first place. This operating model has been in place for the City of Poughkeepsie Court since 1989. Defendants are interviewed prior to the start of the morning court session. Information is verified, a COMPAS FTA screening is completed, and the findings are provided to the Judge at arraignment along with a recommendation based upon risk of failure to appear for Court. The Judge is therefore able to make an informed decision on pretrial release at arraignment, thereby avoiding unnecessary incarceration.

The project extends this service to Saturday mornings in the City of Poughkeepsie Court. Prior to the pilot, defendants remanded to jail would not come into contact with a pretrial officer until Sunday morning. Even if it was determined that the defendant was eligible for pretrial release, the pretrial officer sometimes experienced difficulty in accessing the Judge for a release decision, pushing a potential release to the Monday court calendar.

The City of Poughkeepsie Court was selected for the pilot because it has the highest volume of arrests and arraignments. The data collected and the structure of the model will inform the future direction of the Pretrial Services Unit. Consideration is being given to expanding this model to other courts within the county based on its demonstrated success.

Legal Services Reform for Indigent Defendants

By Charlene Leistman

It has been ten years since the NYCLU and law firm Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP filed Hurrell-Harring on behalf of indigent defendants, demanding state reform in five counties: Onondaga, Ontario, Schuyler, Suffolk and Washington. The case was settled in 2014. Based on the settlement the following reforms, among others, will be made:

Ensuring that every poor criminal defendant will have a lawyer at the first court appearance, where bail often is set and pleas taken;

Requiring New York to hire sufficient lawyers, investigators and support staff to ensure that all poor criminal defendants have lawyers with the time and support necessary to vigorously represent the defendant;

Providing for the setting of caseload standards that will substantially limit the number of cases any lawyer can carry, thereby ensuring that poor criminal defendants get a real defense;

Requiring New York to spend \$4 million over the next two years to increase attorney communications with poor criminal defendants, promote the use of investigators and experts, and improve the qualifications, training and supervision of lawyers representing indigent defendants;

Mandating the creation of eligibility standards for representation, thus allowing more New Yorkers to access public defense services; and

Strengthening the Office of Indigent Legal Services as a state-level oversight entity tasked with ensuring the constitutional provision of public defense services and commits New York to provide the office with the resources it needs to develop plans and implement and monitor reforms mandated by the settlement.

A number of grants were made available as a result of the lawsuit to assist locales in providing necessary indigent defense. In Monroe County, the Public Defender's Office was able to hire attorneys to be present at arraignments (Counsel at First Appearance) around the clock. This has been extremely successful for felony arraignments in which it is mandated, but not as successful for lesser matters, especially those where custody was not at question.

While the five counties involved in the lawsuit and approximately twenty-five others made policy changes many others did not. A new law signed 11/28/16 and effective 2/28/17 allows the state to designate sites for centralized, off-hours arraignments of criminal defendants in each county outside New York City. The measure empowers Chief Administrative Judge Lawrence Marks to cut across previous local court jurisdictional lines and authorizes courts to open off-hours to arraign criminal suspects arrested anywhere within their counties. The bill grew out of the state's experience trying to implement the litigation settlement in Hurrell-Harring. The chief administrative judge will have the authority to designate local courts and local justices to arraign defendants on nights, weekends or holidays on a rotating basis, through changes to the state Judiciary, Criminal Procedure and Uniform Justice Court acts. Sponsors said that with courts operating at predictable sites and hours, it will become more practical for legal services providers retained by the counties to represent indigent criminal defendants, and make it possible for defendants' attorneys to be present at more arraignments.

It is now in the hands of individual counties. Each county has been tasked with reviewing their arraignment process as it relates to the law, criminal justice partnerships, and defendant services. Plans are to be submitted if a county wishes to make a change. While there is not a mandate for specific change at this time, it is thought that the state may move in that direction if enough counties do not implement satisfactory plans on their own.

The concept of CAP allows for all players to be present at the arraignment process. If you are in a county that does post-arraignment interviews then this presents an opportunity to get in line with State and National standards. If you are not at the table where these discussions are happening, I encourage you to get there!



Peter Kiers Retires

By Lauren Wilson

Peter C. Kiers, Associate Director for Operations, retired on March 31, 2017, after 28 years at the helm of the New York City Criminal Justice Agency's (CJA) largest department. The training room at CJA's central office, which Peter created, was named the "Peter C. Kiers Training Center" in his honor.

Peter had responsibility for administration of citywide pretrial services including development, management and assessment of all Agency operations; enhancement of Agency programs; staff development & training; labor relations; implementation of intra-agency quality control measures and staff training programs; analysis of operational effectiveness; and budgetary planning and analysis. During his tenure he implemented the use of computerized pretrial interviews; worked with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) in creating a criminal history summary containing data pertinent to the release decision; oversaw the creation of failure-to-appear units in Queens, Brooklyn, and most recently in the Bronx; computerized the court-date notification telephone call system; and expanded to four boroughs the Bail-Expediting Program that seeks to expedite bail-making for those with low bails. In addition, he participated in the Office of Court Administration (OCA) training program for newly appointed judges.

Peter has served on the Board of NYAPSA since 1995, and will remain active in NYAPSA in his retirement. He is a NYAPSA past president and recipient of the NYAPSA 2006 Olgiati Award. He was instrumental in getting the State of New York to review and approve standards for pretrial practice in New York, and in obtaining a BJA Technical Assistance Grant to survey the NYS "state of pretrial practice" through a statewide survey and focus groups. The goal of this project was to bring best practices and standards implementation to all counties, and to introduce a process of accreditation through outreach and education.

Other major accomplishments include serving as a member of the Board of the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies (NAPSA) from 2000 to 2012, serving as NAPSA president from 2009-2012, and serving on NAPSA's Pretrial Standards Committee, where he contributed to the completion of the present edition of the NAPSA Pretrial Release Standards. In addition, Peter has served on the New York County Lawyers' Association Criminal Courts Task Force and sub-committees investigating issues concerning arraignment and pretrial release, and interagency cooperation. He is a member of the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) Pretrial Network and a member of the Board of the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA).

CJA Welcomes New Executive Director

By Lauren Wilson

Aubrey Fox comes to the New York City Criminal Justice Agency (CJA) with extensive experience with the New York Courts, having served in several senior positions at the Center for Court Innovation, including four years as the Project Director of Bronx Community Solutions, an alternative sentencing program. Aubrey also launched the Center's U.K. office, the Centre for Justice Innovation, in London. Most recently, Aubrey spent two years as the Executive Director of the Institute for Economics and Peace-USA, here in New York, an international think tank to measure peace, its causes and economic consequences. In addition to his experience with the Courts, Aubrey brings knowledge and experience as an entrepreneurial leader who has successfully developed and secured funding for multiple new endeavors.

Aubrey Fox began full-time duties on February 27, 2017. He brings the right combination of caring, enthusiasm, and commitment to CJA's mission, along with knowledge and experience to lead CJA, strengthen its core mission, and expand its funding and capacities in important ways.

JOIN NYAPSA!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The New York Association of Pretrial Service Agencies (NYAPSA) is an organization of professionals who are dedicated to the advancement of pretrial release services and community-based, non-incarcerative alternatives for the disposition of criminal cases. Through its statewide Board of Directors, NYAPSA provides advocacy and education, hosts an annual conference on pretrial and alternatives to detention and incarceration issues, and releases an annual newsletter.

If you are interested in pretrial and diversion, alternatives to incarceration, and community corrections, and would like to become a NYAPSA member or renew your membership, please print a copy of this membership application and fill-out the information below.

If you know anyone who may be interested in joining NYAPSA, please ask them to fill out a copy of this form.

Name _____

Title _____

Agency _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Annual NYAPSA Membership Dues: \$25 individual

Make check payable to NYAPSA and mail, with a copy of this application form, to:

Aida Tejaratchi
NYAPSA Treasurer
c/o NYC Criminal Justice Agency
52 Duane Street, 3rd floor
New York, New York 10007

SPECIAL OFFER TO NYAPSA MEMBERS:

Since NYAPSA is an Affiliate member of the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies (NAPSA), as a NYAPSA member you are eligible to join NAPSA at a special annual "affiliate" membership rate of \$50.00 -- that's \$25.00 off of their full membership! (The only difference in memberships is that you cannot vote or hold a position on NAPSA's Board.) NYAPSA members are also entitled to a discounted registration fee for NAPSA's Annual Conference and Training Institute. For more information regarding this special offer, NYAPSA members should contact NAPSA's Affiliate Director at affiliate@napsa.org.

**NEW YORK ASSOCIATION OF PRETRIAL SERVICES AGENCIES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

PRESIDENT

Craig McNair
Monroe County Pre-Trial Services
80 West Main Street, Suite 200
Rochester, New York 14614
Tel: (585) 454-7350
Fax: (585) 454-4516
E-mail: cmcnair@monroecounty.gov

V.P. FOR RELEASE

Charlene Leistman
Monroe County Pre-Trial Services
80 West Main Street, Suite 200
Rochester, New York 14614
Tel: (585) 454-7350
Fax: (585) 324-1493
E-mail: cleistman@monroecounty.gov

V.P. FOR DIVERSION

Jonathan Heller
Dutchess County Probation Depart.
50 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, New York 12601
Tel: (845) 486-2600
Fax: (845) 486-6479
E-mail: jheller@dutchessny.gov

DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Peter Kiers
464 Odell Avenue
Yonkers, NY, 10703
(917) 825-9141
E-mail: pkiers@optonline.net

TREASURER

Aida Tejaratchi
NYC Criminal Justice Agency
52 Duane Street, 3RD Floor
New York, New York 10007
Tel: (646) 213-2637
Fax: (646) 213-2550
E-mail: atejaratchi@nycja.org

REGION I DIRECTOR

Daniel J. Rodriguez
NYC Criminal Justice Agency
120-55 Queens Blvd., Room GS9
Kew Gardens, New York 11415
Tel: (718) 286-2806
Fax: (718) 286-2809
E-mail: drodriguez@nycja.org

REGION I DIRECTOR

Catherine Alexander
NYC Criminal Justice Agency
32 Court Street, Room 401
Brooklyn, NY 11201
Tel: (718) 330-1504
Fax: (718) 330-0428
E-mail: calexander@nycja.org

REGION IV DIRECTOR

Sue Mowrey
Washington Co. Alternative Sentencing
383 Broadway
Fort Edward, New York 12828
Tel: (518) 746-2333
E-mail: smowrey@co.washington.ny.us

REGION II DIRECTOR

[position currently vacant]

SECRETARY

[position currently vacant]

REGION III DIRECTOR

[position currently vacant]

New York City Plan to Close and Replace Rikers Island

By Peter Kiers

On July 5, 2017, New York City Mayor, Bill DeBlasio, announced a plan to end the “harms of mass incarceration” by releasing an official policy of the City of New York to close the jails on Rikers Island. Realizing that Rikers Island cannot be closed overnight, the plan requires the work of many (i.e., city and state criminal justice agencies, elected officials, prosecutors, defenders, courts, program providers, New Yorkers and their communities) to ultimately effect the closure. It is a long path that will go beyond his tenure as Mayor.

The central challenge involved in closing Rikers Island is reducing the number of people in jail to a number that can be safely and effectively accommodated elsewhere. Overall crime is down 9% since 2013. Some of the biggest reductions in the jail population have come from new city investments to ensure that low-risk people do not enter jail, and City efforts to work with multiple agencies, 5 different District Attorneys, Pretrial and ATI programs to reduce case delay. These initiatives have come together to bring the city jail population down by 18 percent in just three years.

Today, in a city of 8.5 million people, there are about 9,400 people in custody on any given day in the Department of Correction – down from a daily average of over 20,000 in the early 1990s. Of the total jail population, only approximately 2,300 can be housed off of Rikers Island with the existing capacity in the Department of Correction’s borough facilities. That’s why none of this is possible without first reducing the number of people in our jails significantly.

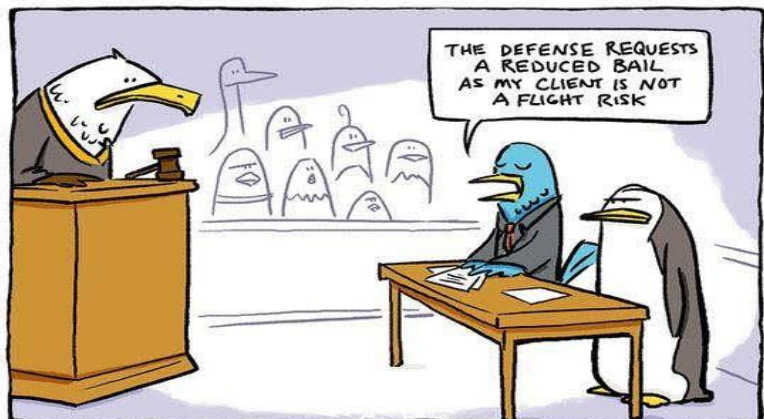
Within five years, the City plan calls for bringing the daily number of people in jails down to 7,000. The City will establish a Justice Implementation Task Force that will bring together all of the entities that affect the size of our jail

population – police, prosecutors, defenders, state courts, local and state corrections agencies and service providers – to help identify and implement strategies to reduce the daily jail population to 5,000 people. The role of pretrial services will be immensely important to this plan, and NYAPSA will be following and reporting on this as the city moves forward.

The Task Force will also examine other issues essential to the creation of a smaller, safer and fairer jail system, including improving safety and opportunity for people inside the jails and designing modern jail facilities that are well integrated into New York City’s dense urban communities. Once the jail population reaches 5,000, the City will be in a position to close Rikers Island permanently. Doing so will require identifying and developing appropriate sites for new jails in neighborhoods — no small task.

The full text of the Plan to Close Rikers Island can be found on:

<https://rikers.wpengine.com/wp-content/uploads/Smaller-Safer-Fairer-1.pdf>





Save the Date!

The New York Association of Pretrial Service Agencies
has set the dates for a 2017 conference!

Please mark your calendar:
October 29 - 30, 2017
at the Hilton Garden Inn - Troy, New York

More information will be available soon.
We look forward to seeing you there!

NYAPSA NEWS

NEW YORK ASSOCIATION OF PRETRIAL SERVICE AGENCIES
c/o NYC CRIMINAL JUSTICE AGENCY
52 DUANE STREET, 3RD FLOOR
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007