

Dutchess County Office of Probation and Community Corrections



2007 Annual Report

William R. Steinhaus
County Executive

Mary Ellen Still
Director of Probation

William A. Fluck
Deputy Director

Catherine A. Lane
Deputy Director

Probation Director
Mary Ellen Still



James J. Moody
Assistant Field Office ICE
Director

I am pleased to submit the 2007 Annual Report for the Dutchess County Office of Probation and Community Corrections. This report contains the outstanding achievements of the dedicated employees of the department who make such a valuable contribution to the safety of the community.

For the past several years, the department has been engaged in implementing evidence-based practices designed to reduce recidivism. The department's efforts were acknowledged and rewarded when the New York State Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives awarded over \$900,000 to implement an evidence-based program for high-risk juveniles, known as J-RISC. Dutchess County was one of only seven counties to receive funding through a competitive process. The program is designed to reduce detention and placement costs and to improve positive outcomes for youth and their families.

The introduction and implementation of actuarial assessments has enhanced the ability of probation officers to target those factors that contribute to recidivism. The use of these instruments combined with training in motivational interviewing and cognitive based approaches have revitalized the community corrections field. Dutchess County has been a leader in implementing such practices and monitoring their continued success through Quality Assurance Teams.

Following is a summary of the department's achievements in 2007. The activities of the department are diverse: from diversion programs for youth to transitional housing and have a far reaching positive impact on the community. The department gratefully acknowledges the support of County Executive William R. Steinhaus and the Dutchess County Legislature.

Dutchess County Office of Probation and Community Corrections



Units

Family Court Supervision
Family Court Diversion
Pretrial Services
Electronic Monitoring
Investigations
High Risk Supervision
General Supervision
DWI
Financial
Support Services

Unit Administrators

Barbara Schumacher
Dominick Ignaffo
Jonathan Heller
John Kryzak
Joanne Nellis
Karen O'Connor
Jane Salese
Sandra Ackert
Sharon Harrison
Peggy Milone

Dutchess County Legislature Public Safety Committee

David Kelly, Chairman
Patrick Nesbitt, Vice Chairman

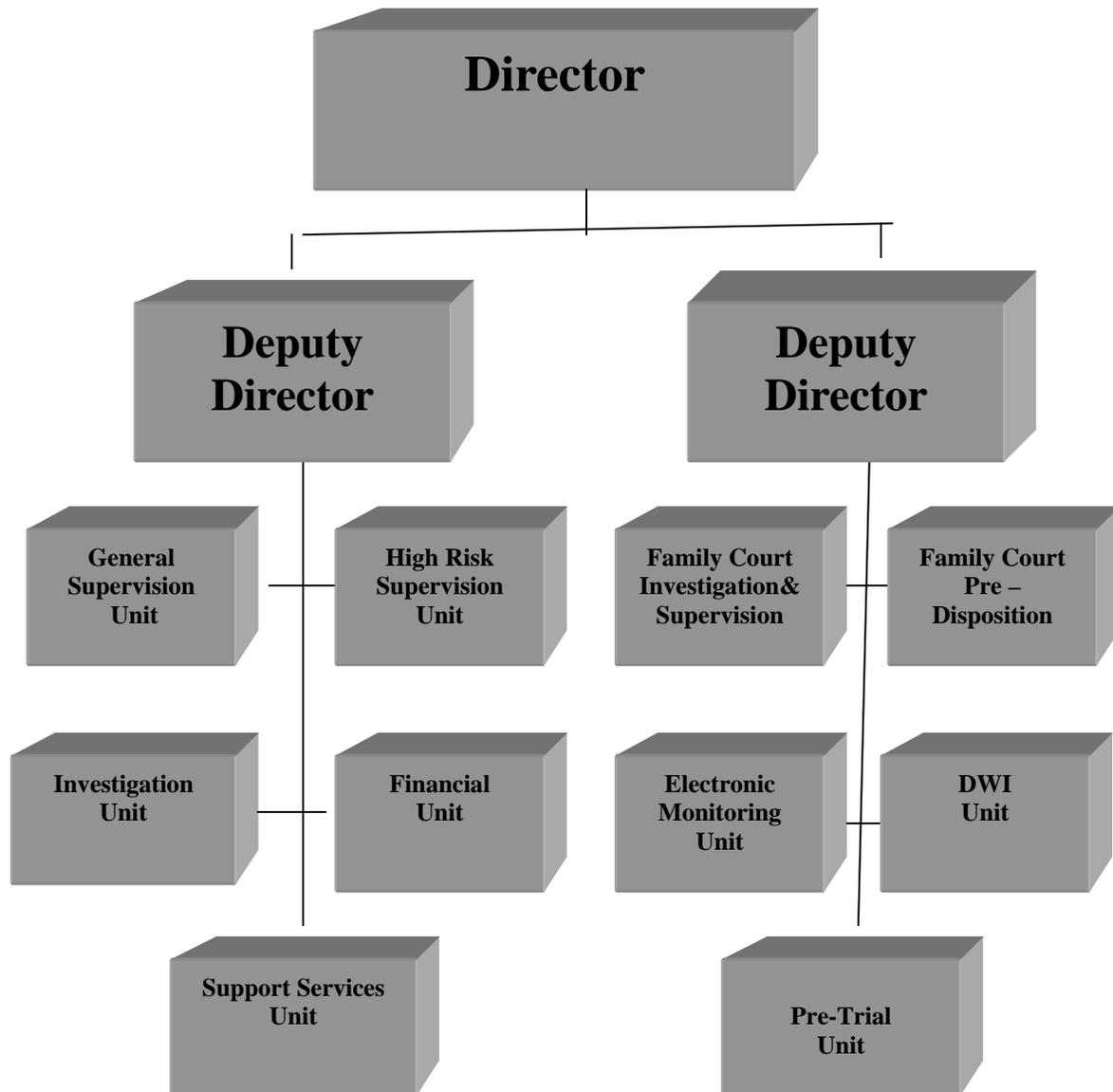
Gerry Hutchings
Margaret Fettes
William McCabe
Ray Ronald
Robert Rolison



MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Dutchess County Office of Probation and Community Corrections is to protect the community through intervention in the lives of those under supervision by facilitating compliance with court orders and serving as a catalyst for positive change. We operate in collaboration with our criminal justice partners and the community. We provide services to courts, help strengthen families and give victims a voice in the justice system. We provide leadership and services in a cost effective community based setting.

Organizational Chart



2007

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Administration

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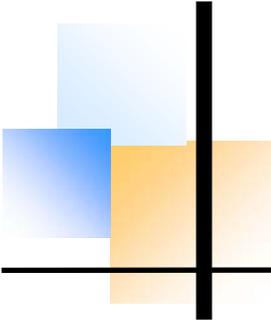
Adult Supervision Units

DWI

Restitution Unit

Support Services Unit

Staff Development



Family Court Intake/Predisposition

Dominick P. Ignaffo, Unit Administrator
Karen DeSimone, Senior Probation Officer

Intake Function

Appearance tickets issued to potential juvenile delinquents by police departments throughout the county are returnable to Intake. In 2007, 235 Appearance Tickets were returnable to Probation Intake.

Intake also accepts PINS complaints from parents/schools and occasionally police officers.

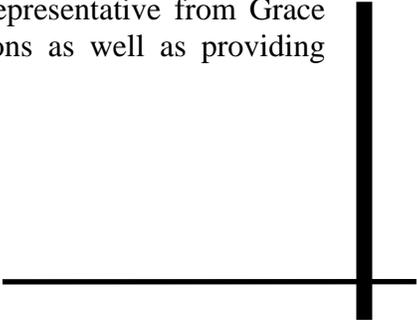
Persons In Need of Supervision

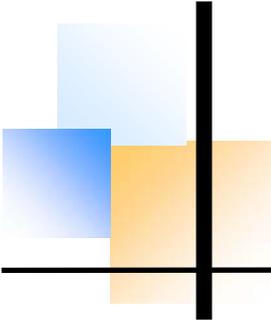
712(a) of The New York State Family Court Act defines a Person in Need of Supervision as a person less than eighteen years of age who does not attend school in accordance with the provisions of part one sixty-five of the Education Law or who is incorrigible, ungovernable or habitually disobedient and beyond the lawful control of a parent or other person legally responsible for such child's care, or other lawful authority, or who violates the provision of section 221.05 of the New York State Penal Law which is the unlawful possession of marijuana.

Juvenile Delinquent

301.2(1) of The New York State Family Court Act defines a Juvenile Delinquent as a person over seven and less than sixteen years of age, who, having committed an act that would constitute a crime if committed by an adult.

Family Court Intake assists the public by preparing various petitions necessary to access Family Court. The various petitions prepared include petitions for spousal support, modification of child support, custody, visitation, paternity, guardianship and family offense petitions for those seeking Orders of Protection. A representative from Grace Smith House Inc. assists in completing family offense petitions as well as providing advocacy for domestic violence victims.





Family Court Intake/Predisposition

In 2007 406 PINS complaints were received. The PINS coordinator receives and assigns all new cases, schedules and conducts PINS orientations, and facilitates cases through the assessment process including the scheduling of school review meetings and the review of the 30 day youth assessment screening instrument [YASI] which includes a case management plan. The PINS Coordinator also communicates regularly with all school districts regarding utilization of the program and coordination of individual cases. For the past two years Sr. Probation Officer DeSimone has been a key participant in the NY State Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives rule review and revision workshop. This group has been instrumental in developing policies and procedures for PINS cases.

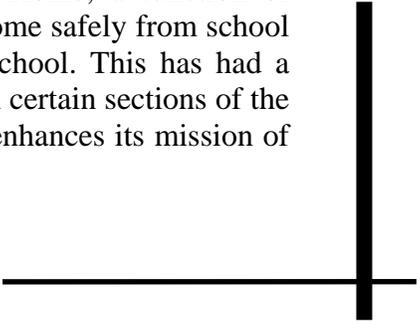
YASI The YASI is effective in determining and indicating risk and protective factors. The domains with the highest risk factors and/or the lowest protective factors are addressed in the case management plan. JD's and PINS that show PRE-YASI low risk levels are referred out of the agency to the Youth Services Unit as evidence shows keeping low risk cases in the juvenile justice system actually increases risk of recidivism.

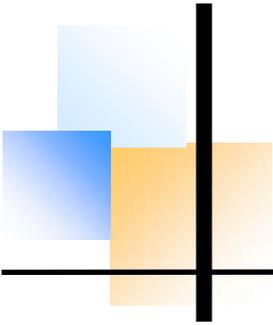
The Collaborative Solutions Team assists in mental health screens, consultations, interventions [including crisis], safety assessments, mediation, and substance abuse screening and assessment. They can be utilized as a team or individually at any stage from pre-intake to case supervision. They also assist in the administration of the V-Disc. The Diversion unit is planning to introduce a restorative justice initiative in 2008.

The Voice DISC [Diagnostic Interview Schedule for Children] is a comprehensive mental health assessment for 9-17 year olds. Many adolescents involved with the juvenile justice system are at high risk for mental health disorders i.e.: depression, anxiety, substance abuse and suicidal behavior.

SAFE PASSAGE

Many members of the department participate in Safe Passage Home, a function of Poughkeepsie's Weed and Seed which ensures that children get home safely from school as almost all city of Poughkeepsie children walk to and from school. This has had a profound effect on preventing fights and curtailing gang activity in certain sections of the city. As the leading participant in this endeavor, the department enhances its mission of community corrections.





Family Court Intake/Predisposition

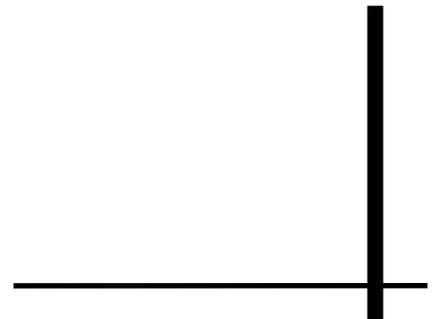
DIVERSION SUPERVISION

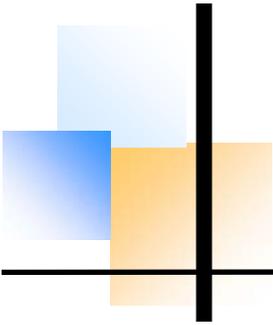
The Probation Officers in this unit assist the youth in completing the case management plan that is actually developed with the family and incorporated in the 30 day YASI. When appropriate, restorative justice tools are implemented in JD case plans i.e. community service, restitution, empathy letters and in a few cases victim offender mediation. If diversion does not resolve the complaint in the designated time frame the case may be referred to Family Court. In 2003, 149 cases were sent to petition; in 2007, 82 cases were sent. By reducing the number of cases sent to Court, we have also effectively limited the number of cases ultimately placed with the Department of Social Services. PINS placements have reduced dramatically since 2003. In 2007, 1149 community service hours were completed and over \$6,000.00 in restitution collected.

RECIDIVISM RATES

		Diversion Term—(4 months)	6 months after diversion completed
Div Unit	2007	5%	unavailable
YSU	2007	9%	unavailable
Div Unit	2006	3%	4%
YSU	2006	9%	4%
Div Unit	2005	7%	8%
YSU	2005	11%	8%

Note: YSU statistics are included in the Diversion Unit statistics.





Family Court Intake/Predisposition

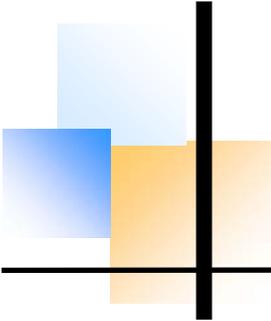
PINS PLACEMENTS

2002 – 60
2003 – 27
2004 – 26
2005 - 17
2006 - 17
2007 - 20

Several groups are held in house and administered by probation officers from the Diversion and/or Supervision Units, or the Collaborative Solutions Team. Among the groups held in 2007 were: art, anger management, 2 cognitive life skills including GRLS [girls really living safely], parenting [including Parents Who Care Program], and substance abuse.

A certified social worker from the Astor Clinic continues to work with our younger children [10 & under] as well as children referred for a second time to the PINS Program. The worker may do outreach to families in the home to assist them in linking to services. The certified social worker works within the Office of Probation and Community Corrections in partnership with the assigned probation officer.





Family Court Intake/Predisposition

PINS CASES RECEIVED

Year	Received	Adjusted	Referred to CRT
2007	406	281	82
2006	430	302	79
2005	470	330	98
2004	567	387	116
2003	568	403	149
2002	494	253	180
2001	439	274	190
2000	451	268	174
1999	418	209	208

2005 marks the first time less than 100 cases were sent to petition. This trend continued in 2006 and 2007.

JUVENILE DELINQUENTS

Year	Received	Adjusted	Referred to County Attorney
2007	235	104	117
2006	273	124	139
2005	300	141	157
2004	353	108	215
2003	390	129	219
2002	411	139	257
2001	340	180	184
2000	371	154	202
1999	395	234	168



Family Court Investigation and Supervision

Barbara Schumacher, Unit Administrator
Sarah Kennedy, Senior Probation Officer
Chantal Sherwin, Senior Probation Officer

The Family Court Investigation and Supervision Unit provides probation services to children and families who have been processed through the Family Court. These services include pre-dispositional investigations for Custody, Visitation, Guardianship, Neglect, Family Offense, Persons in Need of Supervision and Juvenile Delinquency. Probation supervision is provided for youth adjudicated as Persons in Need of Supervision and Juvenile Delinquents, as well as for youth who received Supervised Adjudgments in Contemplation of Dismissal on JD and PINS petitions. Pre-dispositional supervision of juveniles who were arraigned in Family Court is also provided.



Family Court Supervision

▶ Investigations

Three officers in the Family Court Unit prepare seven different types of investigations (PDI) that are used in the Juvenile Justice System for a variety of reasons. The investigations are used by the Family Court, County Attorney's Office, Department of Social Services, Office of Children and Family Services, therapists and supervising Probation Officers. Most of the investigations are used to assist the Family Court in making sentencing decisions for children and youth. The Youth Assessment Screening Instrument (YASI) is administered and utilized as an integral part of the PDI. The investigation includes sections on the Legal/Family Court History, Present Offense including the description and both respondent's and victim's statements, Social and Family History, School and/or Employment History, Community and Peer Relationships and Use of Free Time, Alcohol and Other Drugs, Physical and Mental Health, Attitudes, Skills, Home Environment, Evaluative Analysis and Recommendation. In addition, the risk and protective factors are assessed utilizing the YASI with a case plan formulated as part of the YASI.

Investigation requests by the Family Court increased by 14% in 2007, compared to 2006. This is the first time investigation orders increased after three consecutive years of decreases. The largest percentage increase, 16%, was in PINS investigation orders. Custody, Guardianship and Visitation investigation orders also increased after three years of decreases. Contrary to the previous year, Juvenile Delinquency investigation orders also increased.

Probation liaisons are generally provided to the Family Court. This is particularly important as we have found the courts and assistant county attorneys to be responsive to our efforts to utilize alternative interventions such as Juvenile Electronic Monitoring to maintain as many juveniles as possible in the community either without spending time in detention or by shortening times in detention. Thus our service utilization has expanded in response to our goal of providing rehabilitative services, while maintaining youth in their homes whenever feasible, within the constraints of consideration for both public and probationer safety.

A Family Court Investigations officer continues to attend the Child Advocacy Center meetings regularly. In this way we have been able to facilitate entry into appropriate juvenile sex offender evaluation and treatment programs and address victim safety concerns prior to sentencing. Since that officer also attends bi-weekly meetings with the juvenile sex offender treatment team from Astor Clinic, the officer is able to facilitate timely entrance into evaluation and treatment.

The pre-dispositional use of the new Juvenile Electronic Monitoring Program has remained consistent with 20 cases placed in the program in 2006 and 19 in 2007. This has given potential probationers the opportunity to demonstrate, while their case is pending, that they can safely remain in the community, thus preventing placement outside their home. All pre-dispositional electronic monitoring juvenile cases have achieved successful completion.



Family Court Supervision

Supervision

The mission of the Family Court Unit, as it applies to supervision, is to prevent youth from becoming further involved in the juvenile justice system and to prevent their progress into the adult criminal justice system by addressing the issues that brought them into the system. At the close of 2007, five Probation Officers and two Senior Probation Officers were supervising 147 sentenced and 5 pre-dispositional youth. This was an increase from 139 combined sentenced and pre-dispositional youth at the end of 2006. General supervision caseloads averaged 28-30 at the end of 2007. In addition to providing intensive supervision of the youth on JEM, the JEM officers also have other specialized duties related to their specialties. The Sr. Probation Officer oversees various groups held at Probation and co-facilitates several groups which are held at the probation office to address needs and develop strengths. The Treatment Court officer is part of the Treatment Court Team and attends the team meetings and court sessions, facilitates referrals to the Treatment Court and has intensive contact with rehabilitative programs, schools and service providers. The Juvenile Sex Offender Officer has extensive contact with the Juvenile Sex Offender therapists and attends bi-weekly meetings with the JSO staff, Unit Administrator and PDI writer assigned to JSO cases. Maintaining these intensive caseloads and incorporating treatment and service providers through successful collaboration has maintained the availability of services within the probation framework, thus preventing out of home placements whenever feasible within the constraints of community safety.

In addition to assessing risk and protective factors, the officers monitor behavior at home and at school and intervene as appropriate to address the identified needs. The Probation Officers offer opportunities for children to increase the protective factors in their lives by establishing groups on site, in school and within the community in education, leisure activities, social skills development, homework assistance, anger management, gang resistance and cognitive behavioral development. We continue to have a Probation Officer II, located at the BOCES BETA site, who works with youth on both diversion and supervision and increased from one to two the number of probation officers within this unit who taught the G.R.E.A.T. program in the Poughkeepsie School District and at a summer camp program. Also, Probation Officers directly linked youth with services within their communities to address needs and develop protective factors. Included were community service opportunities, employment programs, parenting classes, school counseling, treatment for substance abuse and mental health and sex offender issues.

The Mental Health /Juvenile Justice grant is in its sixth year and has become an integral part of the Juvenile Delinquent service plan. A case manager was added to the two Astor clinicians who are housed at Probation and team with the Probation Officers to provide a variety of services to probationers, families and staff. While family focused therapy, an established best practice, has been their primary mode, they address the spectrum of needs and strength development as appropriate. They facilitate hospitalization and treatment program entry, the obtaining of psychiatric and psychological evaluations, attend committees on special education meetings and provide transportation to these and other needed services. The MHJJ therapists also offered groups at probation in 2007 to address substance abuse treatment, life skills development, employment readiness and job placement, with resources provided. A successful summer employment program for MHJJ participants was initiated. They also assist all staff as consultants.



Family Court Supervision



The program also arranges and funds staff training opportunities at probation and in the community on a regular basis. The MHJJ grant has continued to demonstrate its effectiveness, as monitored by Marist College under contract by OCFS.

The number of supervision cases received also increased to 143 in 2007 from 136 in 2006. The two new programs, Youth Treatment Court and Juvenile Electronic Monitoring which were added in 2006 have successfully been maintained. The three phase structure built into the JEM Program has been maintained. With this structure, the juvenile's time out is gradually increased in response to compliance and cooperation with probation interventions.

Though initially expected, there were no successful completions of the Youth Treatment Court in 2007. With regards to Juvenile Electronic Monitoring, in addition to the 19 cases placed on pre-dispositional JEM, there were 53 cases sentenced to JEM in 2007. In 2007, 38 of the 45 cases closed were successful.

Statistical information also showed that only 66 Violations of Probation were filed with the court in 2007, compared to 76 in 2006. Slightly more cases were closed in 2007 (240) than in 2006 (233). Thus, a larger percentage of juveniles completed their sentences this year without the need to return to Family Court to address Violations of Probation.

Also on a positive note, juvenile placements decreased in Dutchess County in 2007. According to statistics available, OCFS placements were reduced from 28 in 2006 to 15 in 2007. DSS placements for juvenile delinquents were also reduced again this year from 36 to 20. PINS placements with DSS increased from 17 in 2006 to 20 in 2007.

In summary, while the goal of maintaining a larger number of youth in the community is being achieved with the juvenile delinquent population, a reduction in placement is not being shown with the PINS population. Raising the PINS age from 16 to 18 may be impacting the data as more youth with more severe long term issues are entering the system. The utilization of the YASI with the new JD programs and increased services on site to address the identified risks and develop the identified protective factors, such as juvenile electronic monitoring are successful. Relevant also is that because of funding or legal requirements, the criteria for the special programs in this unit are such that they have only been available for JD cases.



In response to the above, cases have been analyzed and a new intensive program, J-RISC, has been applied for. The department has been approved for the grant, planning has been underway and we expect to have it operational by mid-2008. The program will offer intensive supervision with treatment and case management services to both PINS and JD youth whose risk levels are high in four specific areas. The project also includes training in Functional Family Therapy, a model blueprint program. New programs for curfew management, appropriate for both PINS and JD cases are also being investigated with the expectation that one will be chosen and put into place in the department by mid -2008. Key to the program is the identification and treatment of high risk and needs youth, regardless of whether they entered the system as a PINS or JD. With these new resources available to PINS, we expect to see significant success with this population in addition to further success with juvenile delinquents.

CHILDREN'S GROUP ART PROJECTS





PRETRIAL SERVICES UNIT ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION TRANSFER SERVICE BUREAU PROBATION I.T. SERVICES

Jonathan Heller, Unit Administrator
Thomas Morris, Senior Probation Officer

The reorganization of the department's supervision units midway through the second quarter of the calendar year left its mark on the Pretrial Services Unit as well. Most notable were the departures of the Domestic Violence Supervision Caseloads to the newly created High Risk Supervision Unit. In their place, caseloads of the lowest risk offenders (Administrative Caseloads) were located under the Pretrial Services Unit umbrella. Additionally, in anticipation of a new probation case management system to be deployed in 2008, more resources were assigned to this project, primarily in the form of staff time. As 75% of the computer build team was already working within the unit, these functions were absorbed and became more formalized as I.T. services.

Pretrial Services Unit

Jail population trends in New York State continue to indicate that the bulk of those admitted to jail are pretrial detainees, as opposed to convicted offenders serving sentences, and most are confined with low bail for fewer than ten days. These practices often result in unnecessary, inefficient and inequitable use of jail confinement, sometimes raising jail inmate populations. The presence of an effective Pretrial Release program has been shown to provide mitigation, while offering the Courts other options for community based offender management

Most of the counties in New York State operate some form of formalized pretrial release program. These programs facilitate release without financial conditions by identifying appropriate defendants for release on recognizance (ROR) or release under supervision (RUS). In general, ROR refers to the release of a defendant on his or her promise to appear in court. RUS refers to the release on a promise to appear with other conditions, which restrain the defendant's behavior and movements, and are monitored by the pretrial service.

Dutchess County is fortunate to have been involved in providing pretrial service programming for the past 34 years. The Pretrial Services Unit remains primarily focused on providing Courts with another option to bail with the goal of reducing unnecessary pretrial detention. Dutchess County continues to offer release services along a 'continuum of control'; defendants are considered initially for those releases that are least restrictive,

PRETRIAL SERVICES UNIT

however, if release is not achieved, or the defendant presents a greater risk, more limiting release options are considered, such as electronic monitoring. This approach has proven successful and aids in dispositional planning across the entire criminal justice process, providing other options and tools as alternatives to incarceration.

Initiatives that saw their development over the past two years have settled into routine procedure in 2007. The FTA (failure to appear) initiative continued with consistent results month to month. This initiative, in which offenders who fail to appear in court are granted a short adjournment while officers from the unit attempt to contact them in order that they return to court, results in a reduction of the issuance of bench warrants. Bench warrant arrests were previously shown to represent a large number of the short duration, low bail arrests and subsequent remands that stretch jail resources.

The Pretrial/Mental Health Diversion Initiative was formed in response to the increased numbers of criminal defendants entering the Jail with serious mental health issues. The program, first piloted in the City of Poughkeepsie Court, targets a population of individuals with mental health issues whom, for whatever reason, have lost connections to necessary services. In many cases, these individuals may display behaviors that ultimately cause them to become arrested, essentially criminalizing behaviors that are manifesting underlying mental health problems. The Diversion Initiative seeks to connect, or in many cases reconnect, these individuals with services to address the mental health issues and avoid incarceration. The pretrial services officer staffing City Lockup conducts initial screening via the Pretrial Release eligibility interview. Certain specific responses then require that the case be forwarded to a Forensic Screener employed by Dutchess County Department of Mental Hygiene. Both an immediate preliminary plan and a longer term plan are developed, and in many cases the criminal prosecution is avoided entirely, netting a savings of both Jail and Court time. Ultimately the goal is to reduce or eliminate unnecessary criminal justice processing by resolving mental health issues. For 2007, a similar protocol was introduced in the Beacon City Court, albeit later in the process, as functional differences of the court process required. Connections were established using the Dutchess County Department of Mental Hygiene's resources in southern Dutchess County, and a court based protocol was formalized.

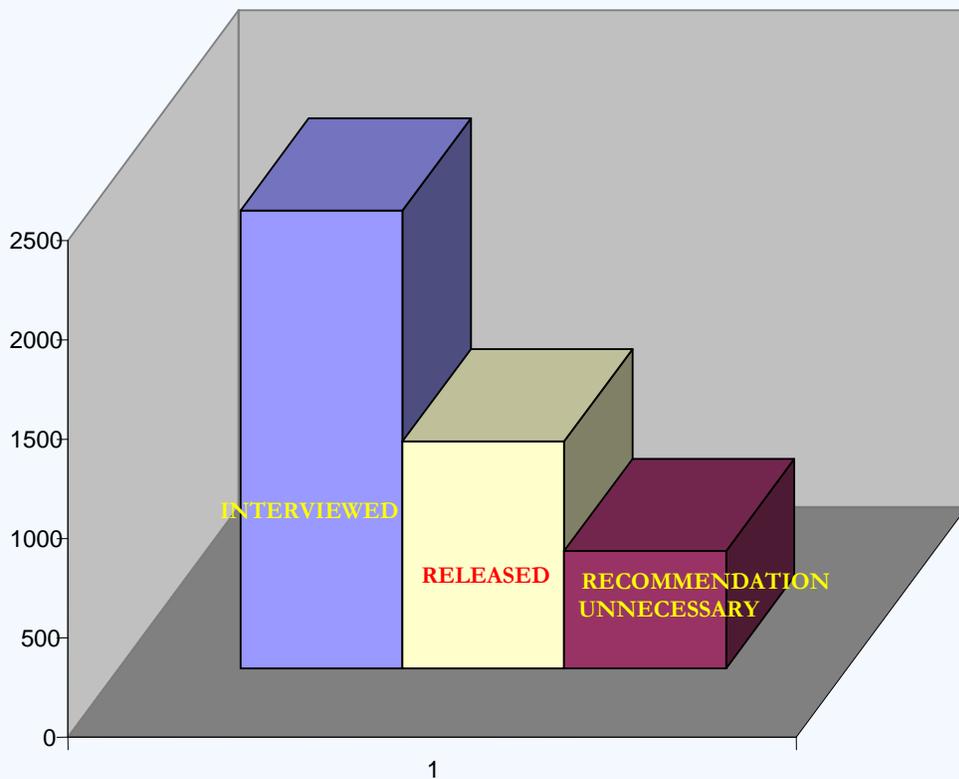
What follows are statistical highlights for the Pretrial Services Unit. Continued this year is the inclusion of a measure noted as "RU" (recommendation unnecessary). Cases are coded "RU" to indicate that release from custody was achieved by the defendant prior to the completion of the investigation (generally by means of posting bail or bond). Remembering that the goal of the program is to reduce unnecessary pretrial detention, thus saving the jail space for those defendants who pose greater risk, the inclusion of the "RU" statistic gives a better overall picture of the outcomes, specifically in calculating how many defendants actually were released relative to the number of interviews conducted. Also of note is that the staff works in conjunction with the local bail bonding agencies.

PRETRIAL SERVICES UNIT

As a new case management system is developed, plans are for a data capture of these cases, where bail or bond (and subsequent release) was achieved through program intervention.

For the period of 2007, interviews decreased by 2% over 2006 while releases showed an increase of 3%. Additionally, nearly half of those interviewed were released by the courts. When viewed in conjunction with the number of offenders interviewed who achieved release without intervention (RU), the outcomes are indicative of a very effective pretrial program.

Pretrial Services Workload Statistics 2007



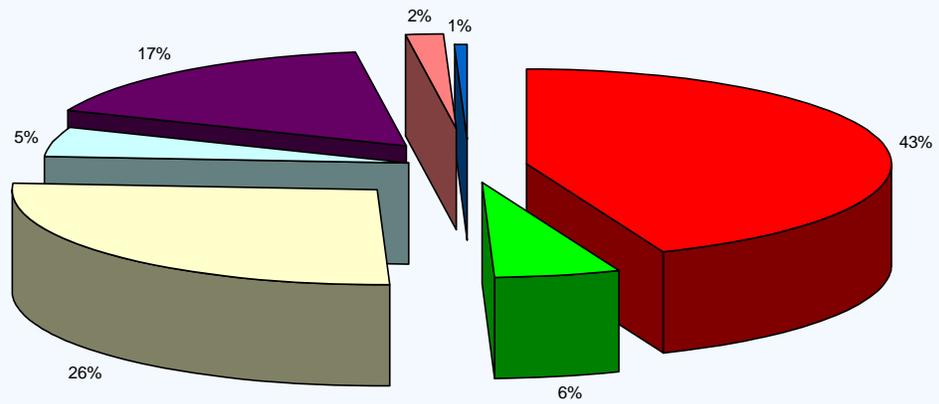
(49.5% of those interviewed were recommended and released)
(‘Recommendation Unnecessary’ indicates that release from custody was achieved prior to the completion of the investigation)

PRETRIAL SERVICES UNIT

The following chart provides a visual of the percentages of release into specific programming by the pretrial process.

PRETRIAL CASELOAD PROGRAMS

By Percent of Cases Received in 2007
(1141 cases received)



■ ROR ■ RUS □ EM □ ITAP ■ TRANS ■ CTC ■ Other

PRETRIAL SERVICES UNIT

The chart that follows reports the specific release tallies broken out by month to provide a detailed picture of pretrial case activity.

Pretrial Case Activity 2007

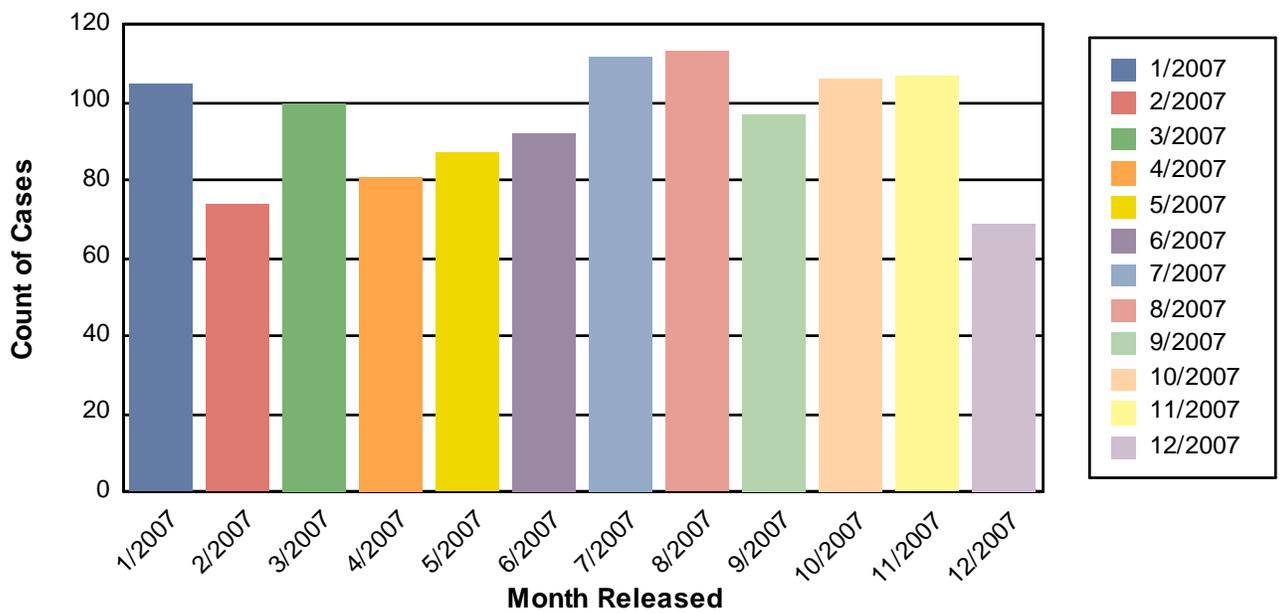
	FELONY MALE				FELONY FEMALE				MISDEMEANOR MALE				MISDEMEANOR FEMALE				TOTAL			
	INV	REC	REL	RU(M&F)	INV	REC	REL	RU(M&F)	INV	REC	REL	RU(M&F)	INV	REC	REL	RU(M&F)	INV	REC	REL	RU
JANUARY	89	41	45	11	20	11	12	11	70	32	35	24	14	14	14	26	203	98	106	37
FEBRUARY	50	19	20	8	8	5	8	7	71	30	34	14	11	13	13	29	143	65	75	36
MARCH	80	33	36	16	7	11	17	17	88	40	43	22	10	12	12	30	206	90	102	47
APRIL	68	27	28	9	6	6	14	14	86	29	34	27	13	14	14	37	190	75	82	51
MAY	66	28	32	7	5	7	14	14	77	34	37	30	10	13	13	31	180	77	89	45
JUNE	81	39	41	18	8	8	16	16	78	27	33	19	10	10	10	34	196	84	93	50
JULY	80	38	48	8	4	5	14	14	104	34	49	16	5	6	6	47	208	81	108	61
AUGUST	94	29	34	16	9	12	17	17	100	47	49	22	12	13	13	43	232	97	108	60
SEPTEMBER	71	29	33	9	3	4	14	14	91	39	40	24	15	17	17	33	195	86	94	47
OCTOBER	65	24	31	20	10	12	20	20	94	43	48	25	14	15	15	44	204	91	106	64
NOVEMBER	74	41	47	12	8	9	10	10	85	28	36	26	9	14	14	38	197	86	106	48
DECEMBER	53	23	30	10	2	4	14	14	71	24	30	15	8	8	8	30	149	57	72	44
Totals	871	371	425	153	78	99	168	168	1015	407	468	264	131	149	149	422	2303	987	1141	590

PRETRIAL SERVICES UNIT

Release On Recognizance/Release Under Supervision (ROR/RUS)

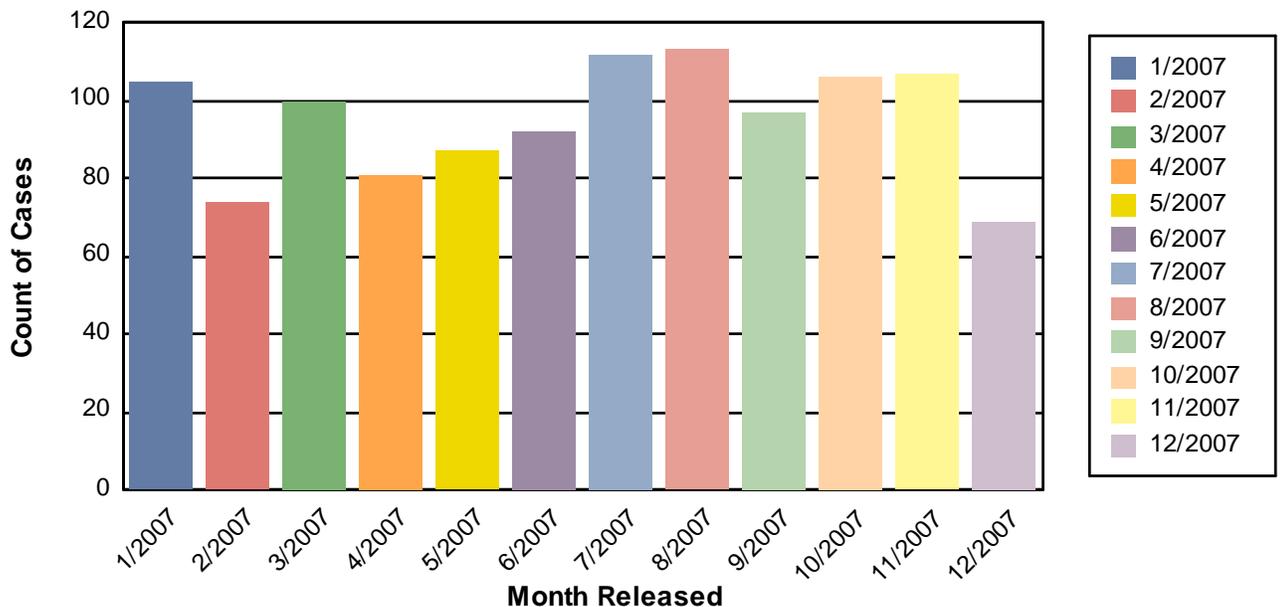
Created in 1974 as strictly a jail based program, the least restrictive release option remains true to its roots in the Manhattan Bail Project of the 1960's. An interview is conducted, information is verified and a validated risk tool is applied to make a determination as to the risk of failure to return to court. This program has expanded as needs presented to include screening at the jail twice daily on business days and once daily on weekends and holidays. Additionally, officers within this unit staff the higher volume courts in order to preclude the incarceration of those defendants deemed appropriate and eligible for release. Screening and evaluation for these least restrictive programs occurs following the guidelines set by both the State and National Pretrial standards. As such, evaluations are completed expeditiously and the information and recommendations are forwarded to the Courts as soon thereafter as possible. Those defendants deemed ineligible are carefully reviewed for more restrictive programming such as Electronic Home Detention, ITAP, and Transitional Housing, each described in detail elsewhere in this report.

All ROR Cases Received 2007 by Month



PRETRIAL SERVICES UNIT

All ROR Cases Received 2007 by Month



Adult Drug Courts

Drug Courts were introduced to Dutchess County in 2001. Presently there are Drug Courts serving the adult population in operation in the cities of Poughkeepsie and Beacon. Additionally, the department maintains a consulting and service role in the Family Treatment Court. The Office of Probation and Community Corrections provides designated staff assigned to each court. The Probation Officers have specific roles and duties but work as part of the Drug Court Team. Each Drug Court operates independently and both Poughkeepsie Drug Treatment Court and the Beacon Drug Court are designated a 'Hub' Drug Court, meaning that the courts accept cases from other jurisdictions. All three of the adult Drug Courts continue to be successful diversion programs.

PRETRIAL SERVICES UNIT

Administrative and Transfer Service Bureau Unit

The departmental reorganization has allowed for the redeployment of staffing resources towards supervising those offenders whose risk assessment (LSI) score indicated greater risk to the community. As supervision of these cases is therefore more intensive, conversely, those offenders whose risk assessment (LSI) scores indicated very low or no risk were assigned to Administrative or less intensive caseloads. Offenders in this category are generally *at or nearing* the end of *successful* probation terms, and supervision strategy is as follows:

- Reporting requirements are reduced
- The offender takes a greater responsibility in maintaining his/her reporting schedule
- As supervision goals have been achieved and probation conditions met, supervision goal now becomes singular; the completion of the term of probation or early release with all conditions successfully achieved

These caseloads have no upper limit in order to maintain resources where they are most needed.

Included in the Administrative Supervision Unit is the Transfer Service Bureau, where an officer with expertise in transfer regulations and procedures (both within the state and outside of New York) facilitates transfers and maintains a caseload of offenders who, while being supervised by officers in other states, remain under the jurisdiction of Dutchess County.

These Administrative cases numbered 329 at the close of 2007, and supervision duties are currently split between two probation officers.

Probation Information Technology

Next year, the department, as part of a county wide public safety capital projects upgrade, will migrate to a new case management system known as Caseload Explorer. The project was initiated last year under the direction of the county's Office of Computer Information Services. The choice of this system in particular was fortuitous, as New York State is in the process of converting the current state developed case management system that was made available to smaller probation departments, to Caseload Explorer. Dutchess County will, therefore, be better equipped for data sharing of offender information between other counties as well as having the ability for automating statistical reporting to the New York State Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives.

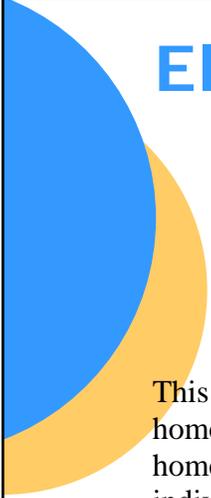


PRETRIAL SERVICES UNIT

As a significant amount of work was done and remains to be done, a “probation build team” was established to:

- Conduct a system hardware review in conjunction with the county’s Office of Computer Information Services;
- Data map current data for conversion;
- Work with the software vendor to develop an application that will work for our department, while remaining within the framework of their existing product;
- Work with the state forms workgroup in the development of consistent documents and reports ;
- Conduct an audit of all current standardized forms for migration into new system;
- Set new procedures and workflow changes as the system dictates;
- Develop a training program for all department staff;
- Develop a user support protocol for planned transition;
- Develop an ongoing system support protocol.

The project represents a significant change, as we will be moving from a mainframe, county developed system, launched in 1990, to a server based web-application. It is anticipated that significant time savings will be realized, once underway, as the new system will interface with a wide array of other applications currently in use.



Electronic Monitoring/Warrant Unit

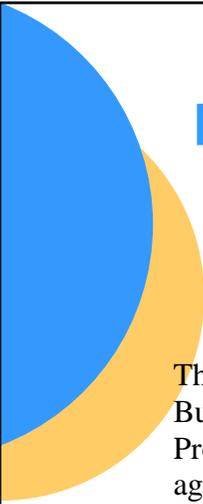
Jack Kryzak, Unit Administrator
John P. Egan, Sr. Probation Officer
Vicki Bradley, Sr. Probation Officer

This technology allows probation officers to continuously monitor defendants/probationers in their homes through the use of a small transmitter attached to the ankle and a receiver installed in the home. Teams of probation officers working around the clock, seven days a week, supervise individuals on this program. Pagers carried by probation officers enable them to respond immediately in the event that an individual on EM leaves his or her residence without authorization. The courts use this alternative to incarceration option extensively because it allows individuals under intensive supervision to remain employed and productive, while enabling probation officers to respond immediately in the event of a violation of program rules.

Since February 2006, this technology has also been used to monitor juveniles. These juveniles, both sentenced and pre-dispositional, are at risk and facing the possibility of placement. By providing these individuals with the enhanced supervision available through electronic technology, along with services to address any special needs, their chances of maintaining lawful and productive behavior are improved significantly.

The Electronic Monitoring program has had an enormous impact on managing the jail population over the years, and it has also been helping to reduce the number of juveniles placed in non-secure and secure detention. During 2007, 475 new Electronic Monitoring cases were received from the courts, 74 of which were juveniles; averaging 33 adults and 6 juveniles per month. This represents a significant reduction in total jail and detention days served by defendants/respondents.

The Intensive Treatment Alternative Program (ITAP) and the Transitional Housing Program (THP) are part of the Electronic Monitoring Unit. ITAP, which is jointly operated by the Department of Mental Hygiene and Probation, has two probation officers assigned to it. This program provides intensive outpatient substance abuse treatment to defendants mandated by the courts. THP provides defendants, who have agreed to participate in treatment, with a secure, supervised, substance free residential environment. Many defendants placed in ITAP are housed initially at THP to help insure compliance with treatment goals while they attend ITAP. Alternative housing becomes available as defendants progress in treatment and eventually reintegrate back into the community. THP also provides temporary residence to some defendants before they enter inpatient treatment. These two programs collectively act as alternatives to incarceration while offering defendants with serious substance abuse problems the opportunity for recovery. During 2007, 218 individuals were admitted to THP, an increase of 27 over the previous year. ITAP averaged 52 individuals in treatment per month in 2007 with 64 new admissions during the year.



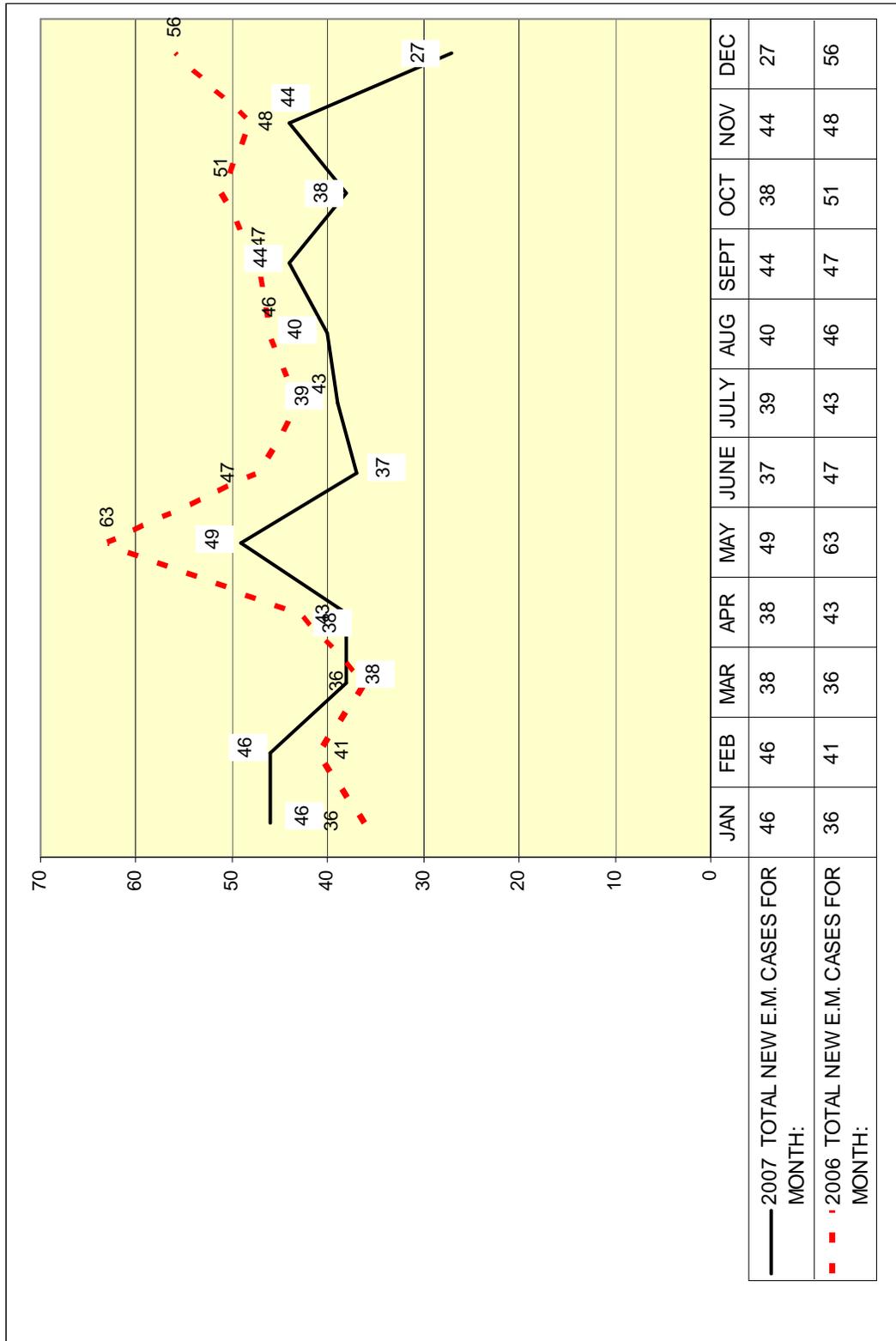
Electronic Monitoring/Warrant Unit

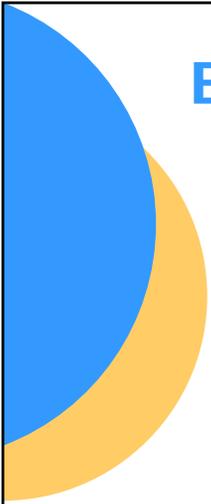
The Warrant Bureau is also a part of this Unit. A probation officer assigned to the Warrant Bureau oversees efforts to apprehend individuals for whom judges have signed Violation of Probation warrants. This officer works closely with local and state law enforcement agencies to enhance execution of probation warrants. Swift action on Violation of Probation warrants helps hold these offenders accountable and serves to ensure community safety.

In addition to efforts made by the warrant officer and other probation officers to apprehend probation violators, this department is also involved in crime reduction as a member of the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) Integrated Municipal Police Anti-Crime Team (IMPACT). The primary goal of IMPACT is to reduce violent crime and gun violence in designated counties through strategies developed by respective District Attorney's Offices, local/state /federal police agencies as well as probation and parole. As part of this strategy, and in conjunction with IMPACT guidelines, this department has designated two probation officers as IMPACT Field Intelligence Officers (FIO). Their duties include collecting information regarding local criminal activity with other law enforcement agencies to further crime prevention. The IMPACT grant has also permitted the FIO'S to receive specialized training in such areas as search warrants, gang identification and criminal intelligence.

The Field Intelligence Program received, through a grant from the NYS Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives, a Remington License Plate Reader (LPR) which is employed to corroborate probationers' compliance with court orders and to assist other law enforcement agencies in IMPACT operations.

Electronic Monitoring/Warrant Unit





Electronic Monitoring/Warrant Unit

Departmental Arrests 2007

	Felony VOP	Misd. VOP	Electronic Monitoring	Other *	Total:
January	5	10	3	2	20
February	0	3	5	6	14
March	1	0	3	5	9
April	0	4	2	1	7
May	4	1	5	2	12
June	4	2	5	2	13
July	6	9	8	3	26
August	6	3	1	6	16
September	3	4	2	4	13
October	6	3	3	3	15
November	0	2	5	1	8
December	1	2	1	1	5
TOTALS:	36	43	43	36	158

* Includes Bench Warrants, Arrest Warrants and remands from Transitional Housing.

INVESTIGATIONS

Joanne Nellis—Unit Administrator
Carol Hooper—Senior Probation Officer
Donna Rhoads—Senior Probation Officer

Pre-sentence investigation reports have been considered one of the most important documents used in the criminal justice field, and have been the primary source of information to sentencing judges since the 1920's.

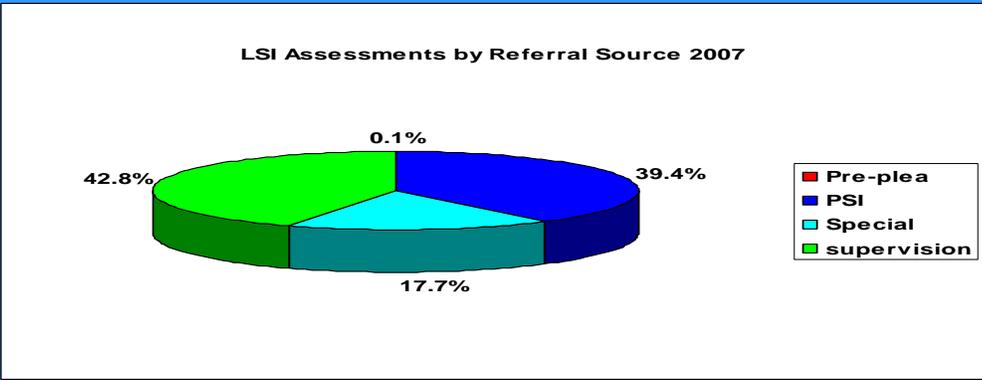
A pre-sentence report or investigation (PSR or PSI) is a social history of the offender that includes prior criminal history, education, employment, drug/alcohol involvement, and mental health treatment. It also restates the facts of the offense, and describes the effect of the crime on the victims. In addition to being the primary informational tool used by Judges in making sentencing decisions, the pre-sentence report follows the offender throughout his or her contact within the criminal justice system, including use by probation officers, treatment agencies and the Department of Correctional Services. The PSR is one of the resources used to determine the treatment needs of the offender. Probation Officers are required to use sentencing guidelines to arrive at a recommendation that is logical and consistent, takes into account community safety; offender needs and considers cost-effective community sentencing alternatives, when appropriate.

Since 2004 this department has used an evidence based assessment tool (LSI-R) to measure an offender's risk of recidivism and identify specific criminogenic needs an offender may possess. If these needs are successfully addressed, the offender's likelihood of re-offense is reduced. The LSI-R is a valuable tool that is being used to assist in programming decisions and case planning in order to allocate department resources in a more efficient manner.

As the accompanying charts reflect, the Investigations Unit continues to generate a large number of reports, yet the 8 full time pre-sentence report writers are able to maintain a high standard of quality in their work.

Crime Victims Program

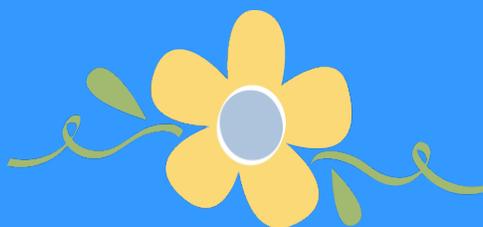
Victim services continue to be a key component of the Investigation Unit. The Victim Services Unit (VSU) is devoted solely to the needs of victims. The unit is comprised of a part time senior probation officer (Carol Hooper) and a part time crime victim specialist/advocate from Family Services, Inc. (Jessica Kirk), overseen by the Unit Administrator of the Investigations Unit. The team works to address the needs of victims and give them a voice during the criminal justice process.



INVESTIGATIONS

The referrals are made primarily on behalf of victims of serious violent crimes, including, but not limited to, murder, manslaughter, physical and sexual assaults, domestic violence, burglary and robbery. The remaining referrals are primarily for victims of crimes related to harassments, fraud, and criminal mischief and for general victim services. From 1/1/07 through 12/31/07, probation officers made a total of 197 referrals to this unit. The number of recorded referrals for 2007 increased by 28% from 2006 (141). This year seemingly represented an increase in collaborative relationships with local crime victim programs and an increase in advocacy earlier in the prosecution stages whereby victim involvement is established prior to the probation investigation stage thus leading to a stronger victim voice in the whole criminal process. The referrals to the VSU represents the ongoing trend in the community and more specifically, in this department, to recognize the special circumstances and related needs that result when an individual becomes a victim of a crime.

Most of the referrals to VSU were made by the Pre-sentence Investigation Unit and were requests for victim impact statements. In most cases the victim was contacted, services were offered and a victim impact statement was submitted to the court for sentencing of a defendant. In addition to helping victims complete victim impact statements and address matters directly related to the criminal prosecution of a case, the VSU also refers victims to counseling through Family Services, assists them in completing Crime Victim Board applications for restitution (primarily medical), provides court accompaniment and makes referrals to other appropriate support services. Even with additional attempts to contact victims, as the VSU is designed to do, the VSU was unable to get a response from or locate 33% of the victims for victim impact statements or general victim services; this is consistent with 2006 (35%) It should be noted that due to the nature of some offenses, victims often fear for their safety and often do not want to make an official statement or stay involved, as they may fear retaliation.

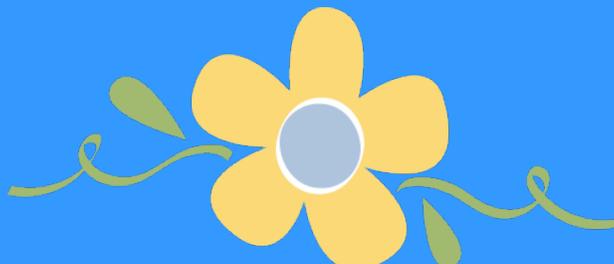


INVESTIGATIONS

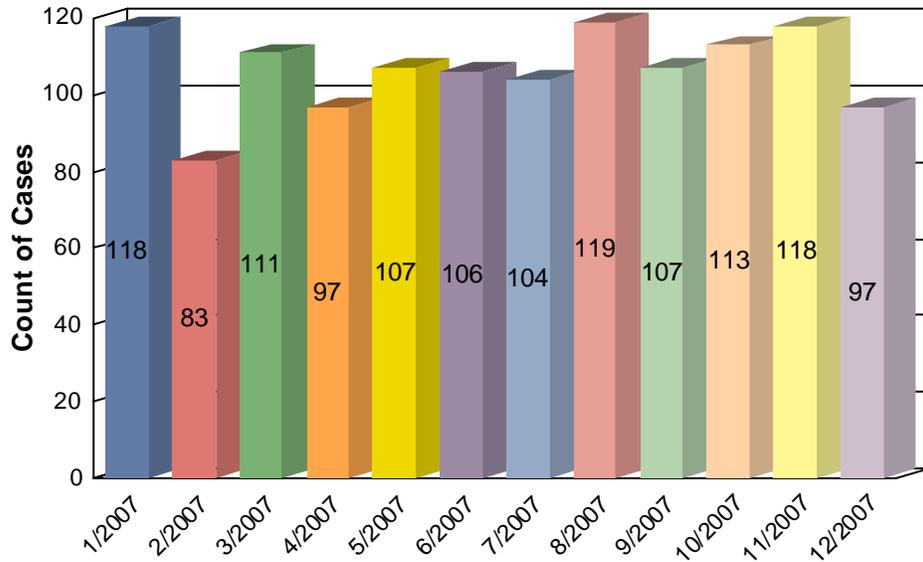
In 2007, 30% of the domestic violence victims that the VSU attempted to contact did not respond. This “unable to contact” situation becomes increasingly evident when the DV officers ask for “routine follow-up” during the probation supervision period; the VSU is unable to locate many of the DV victims the longer an individual is being supervised.

As mentioned, the VSU is designed to have “follow-up as needed” for all cases where the defendant was sentenced to probation. In many cases the victim has established a “working relationship” with the VSU, as we are the first contact with this department for many victims. The VSU acts as a liaison between the probation officer and the victim, thereby ensuring that victim rights and needs are primary, while promoting offender accountability and preventing triangulation between the victim, the defendant and the supervising probation officer.

The VSU also responds to miscellaneous victim issues as referred by the supervising PO’s (sometimes as crisis drop-ins). Because the VSU has been in operation for the last 6 years, there are a number of victims who have reached out to the VSU over the years to get help with miscellaneous matters related to their initial or secondary victimization; primarily related to restitution matters. Due to the increase in public awareness and education of victims’ rights, collaborative networking between agencies and the increased funding and availability of support programs, the VSU within this department continues to change and adapt to the needs of the population it serves, always keeping a focus on the needs and rights of the victims as first and foremost.



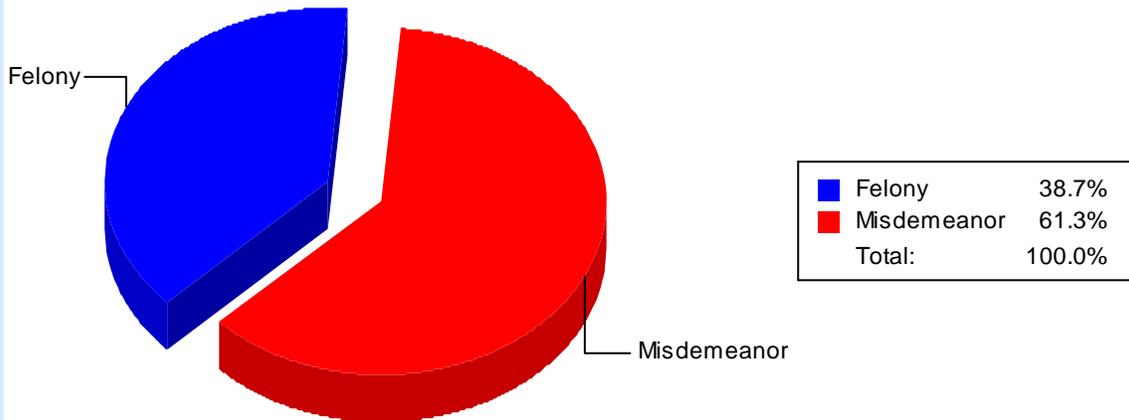
Adult Investigation Cases Submitted 2007



Total Adult Investigation Cases 2007 = 1280

Criminal Court Investigation Cases Received 2007

Felony vs. Misdemeanor



INVESTIGATIONS



Adult Supervision

For the past several years, the department has incrementally introduced evidence based practices within various segments of the probation population. In 2006, this effort was expanded to include the entire adult offender population. In 2007, the initiative resulted in one of the largest reorganizations in the history of the department, resulting in dramatic changes in how offenders are supervised and probation resources utilized.

Specifically, all adult offenders are now assessed using a research based risk assessment tool (the “LSI-R”), and are subsequently placed in Units corresponding to their level of criminal risk (high, medium or low) and supervision needs.

Due to various and diverse factors underlying certain substance abuse, domestic violence and sex offender cases, the risk assessment tool, or LSI-R, is supplemented by other validated assessment tools as well as input from treatment agencies and information gained from other sources, including community contacts.

One of the goals achieved during the reorganization of 2007 is that the department has been able to limit the number of probationers assigned to high risk caseloads, freeing up Probation Officers to spend more time in the community monitoring the types of offenders who are at the greatest risk to re-offend. Conversely, the department has also been able to identify and assign a greater number of low risk offenders (those who need considerably less service and monitoring) to administrative caseloads. The mid or medium risk offender is assigned to a general supervision caseload and, due to the unique nature and risk of offenders who drink and drive, the department created a specific DWI Unit.



High Risk Supervision Unit

Karen O'Connor, Unit Administrator
Robert Dosiak, Senior Probation Officer
Jeffrey Walraven, Senior Probation Officer
Diane Whiteman, Senior Probation Officer

The caseloads assigned to the High Risk Unit average about 46 offenders per Probation Officer and make up approximately 30% of the total number of adult probationers in Dutchess County. The Sex Offender, Domestic Violence and Community Transitions programs are included in this Unit. The Officers who supervise these offenders have on-going, specialized training in their specific areas. Officers also supervise other offenders whose risk score places them in the medium high to high risk category (a score of 25 and above) on the LSI-R. The offenders assigned to these risk categories have generally been convicted of serious felony offenses such as robbery, assault and drug possession and/or sales. Probationers who have been diagnosed with serious mental illness or are considered MICA (mentally ill and chemically addicted) may also be classified as high risk and in need of more intensive supervision. The reorganization has placed the department in a better position to provide the level of monitoring and services needed to detect and deter patterns of behavior that might result in continued criminal activity.



Adult General Supervision

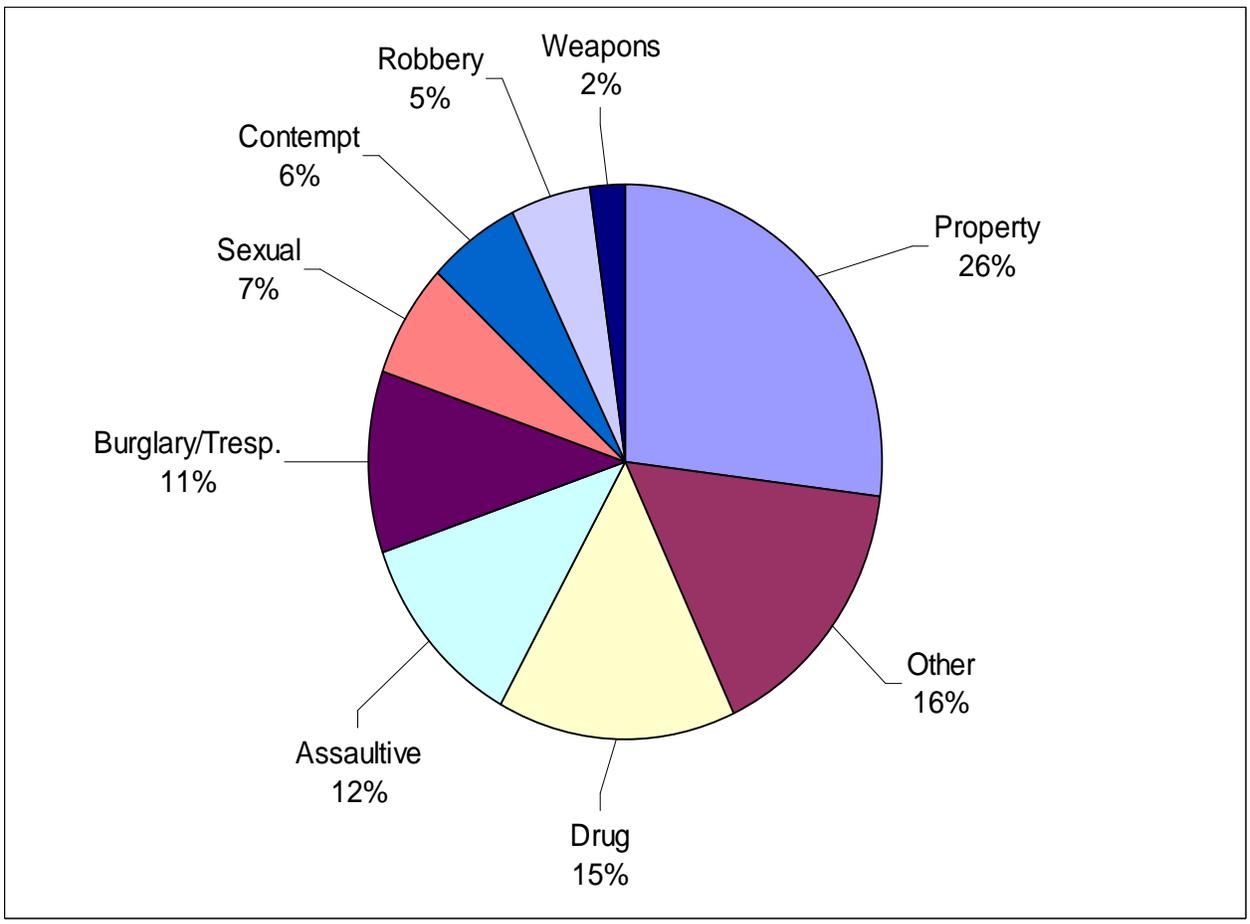
Jane Salese, Unit Administrator
Vivian Cirillo, Senior Probation Officer

Probation Officers in the General Supervision Unit monitor offenders whose risk classification falls within the low medium to high medium range on the LSI-R assessment tool. Offenders from the High Risk and Administrative caseloads can also be placed in this Unit if they appear to need a higher or lower level of supervision. The Unit is comprised of probationers who have committed various types of offenses including, but not limited to: property crimes, assaults, drug charges, impersonation, identity theft and conspiracy. The majority of offenders in the General Supervision Unit require active but not intensive supervision and are in need of services and referrals to address multiple issues, including substance abuse, anger management and/or mental health treatment. After identifying risk factors associated with criminal behavior, specific supervision strategies are utilized to reinforce positive changes in offender behavior. Cognitive behavioral approaches, including motivational interviewing and group reporting to target specific needs (i.e. substance abuse, anger management), are viewed as key to helping offenders identify and modify anti-social behaviors and distorted thinking patterns that have led to involvement in the criminal justice system. Since research indicates that this approach is essential to maximizing recidivism reduction, Officers in the Unit have all been trained in utilizing CBT techniques; many to the degree that they routinely facilitate groups for all appropriate adult offenders.



2007

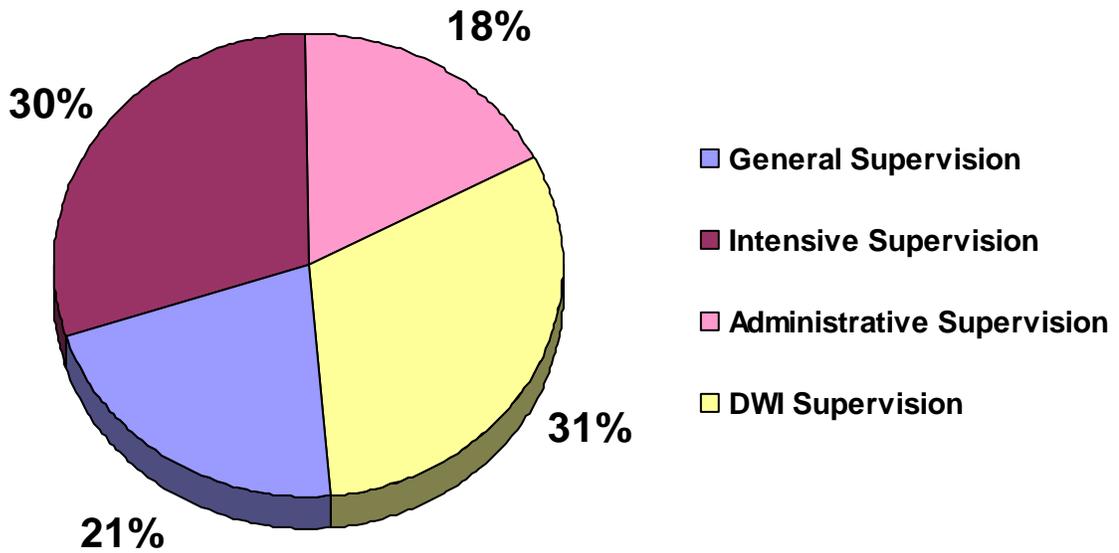
Breakdown of Crimes Types for Cases Received by the High-Risk and General Supervision Units





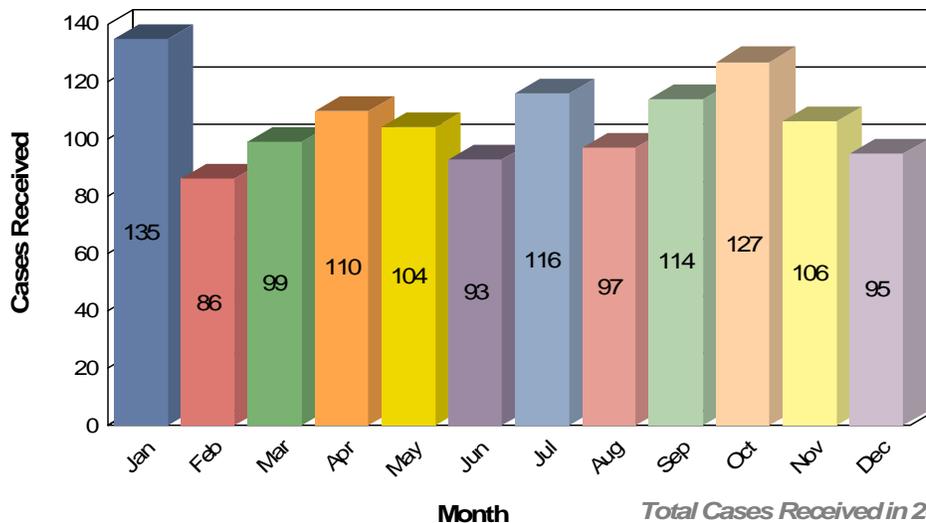
Adult Supervision

Case Breakdown by Supervision Level



Probation Supervision Cases Received in 2007

(Criminal and Family Court Cases)



Total Cases Received in 2007 = 1282



DWI UNIT

Sandra Ackert, Unit Administrator

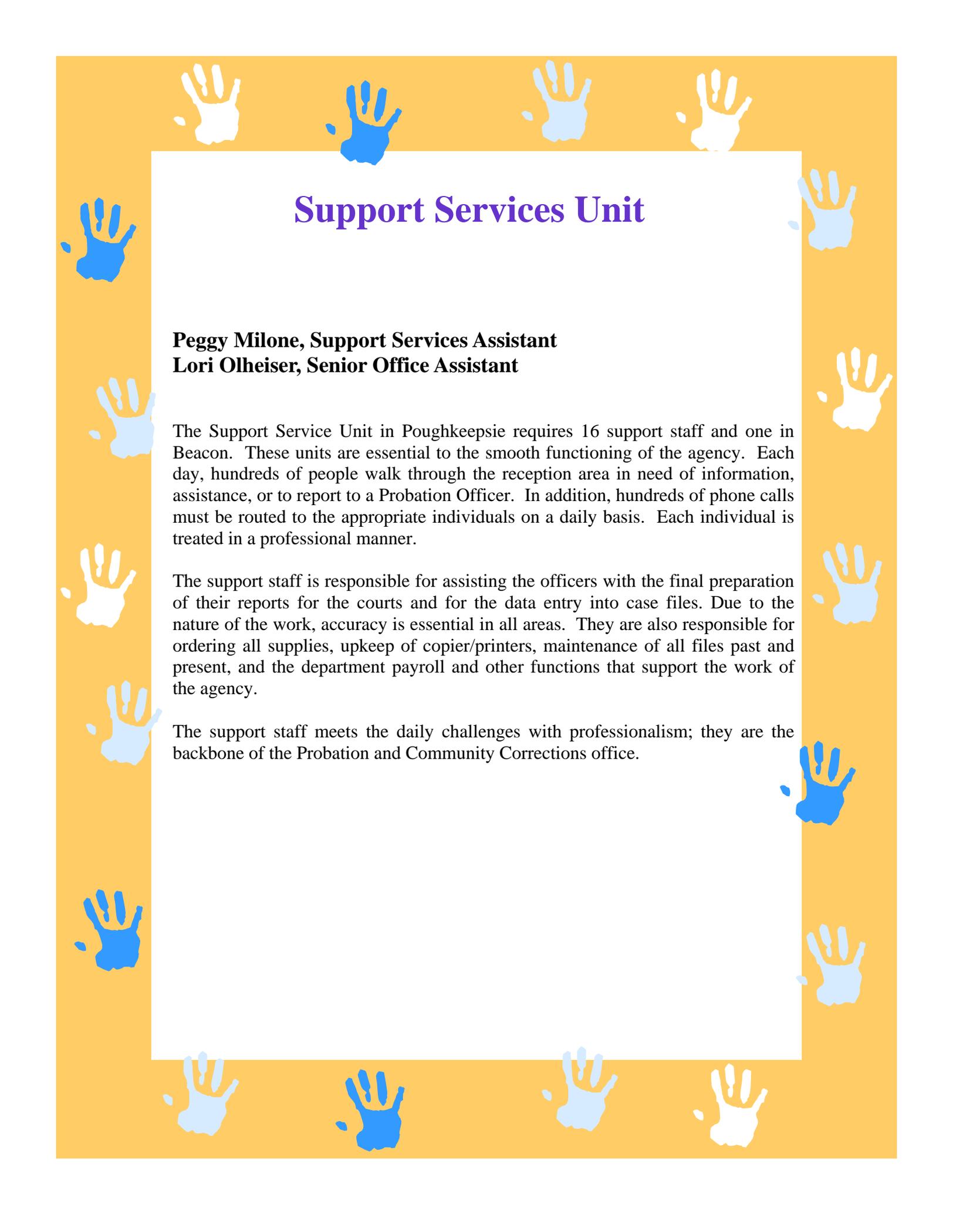
Robert Davis, Senior Probation Officer

With the implementation of the LSI-R, (an evidence based assessment instrument) it became apparent that, while criminogenic needs were identified, risk levels scored by the DWI offender were often in contrast to the real risk and danger they posed to the community (and themselves) by drinking and driving. It was recognized that close monitoring of these offenders, which would include increased field work and surveillance, was necessary. As well, the need for an additional assessment tool to ascertain risk level was noted. It was also noted that officers with training and experience in substance abuse should supervise these offenders.

Because of these realizations, a separate DWI Unit was formed within the department. There are 516 DWI offenders in the Unit, 30% of the total probationers being supervised by the department. Included in the Unit is the STOP DWI program which is comprised of three officers with smaller caseloads who supervise high-risk DWI offenders. One of these officers is a credentialed C.A.S.A.C. who is available to consult with staff as needed. Three Probation Officers supervise medium-risk offenders and one officer supervises the administrative caseload, offenders who are at lower-risk of re-offending who have been supervised for a significant amount of time and have completed all or most court mandates. Another officer, trained especially in women's issues, supervises all the female DWI offenders.

Advantages of having all the DWI offenders in one unit were soon noticed. Cases became familiar to all officers in the unit and could easily be shifted from one caseload to another if more or less monitoring became necessary because of relapse, re-arrest or progress. Group reporting using cognitive-behavioral models was initiated. The ability to develop close relationships with treatment providers was fostered as most officers were having contact with the same pool of therapists. The collaborative use of the LSI-R tool by both has also strengthened the relationship. New Vehicle and Traffic laws were discussed and addressed within the unit and officers readily shared all new-found information relevant to substance abuse and the DWI offender. As well, officers could easily become familiar with new equipment such as the Interlock Ignition device and the License Plate Reader, new assessment tools, new drug testing procedures and other DWI offender initiatives through group presentations as well as hands-on experiences. Relevant training can easily be presented to the entire unit.

The goal of the DWI Unit is to promote community safety by reducing recidivism through treatment, close monitoring to act as a deterrent to drinking and driving, and holding offenders accountable for their behavior.



Support Services Unit

Peggy Milone, Support Services Assistant
Lori Olheiser, Senior Office Assistant

The Support Service Unit in Poughkeepsie requires 16 support staff and one in Beacon. These units are essential to the smooth functioning of the agency. Each day, hundreds of people walk through the reception area in need of information, assistance, or to report to a Probation Officer. In addition, hundreds of phone calls must be routed to the appropriate individuals on a daily basis. Each individual is treated in a professional manner.

The support staff is responsible for assisting the officers with the final preparation of their reports for the courts and for the data entry into case files. Due to the nature of the work, accuracy is essential in all areas. They are also responsible for ordering all supplies, upkeep of copier/printers, maintenance of all files past and present, and the department payroll and other functions that support the work of the agency.

The support staff meets the daily challenges with professionalism; they are the backbone of the Probation and Community Corrections office.

RESTITUTION UNIT

Theresa Brown, Principal Accounting Clerk

The Restitution Unit focuses on restitution cases being supervised by the Dutchess County Office of Probation and Community Corrections.

At the end of 2007, the positions assigned to the Restitution Unit consisted of two Accounting Clerks, a Program Assistant, an Office Assistant and the Principal Accounting Clerk, who supervises the Unit.

Restitution Unit responsibilities include collecting, monitoring and distributing incoming funds from probationers who are court ordered to pay victims of their offenses. Restitution surcharges and supervision fees, which are revenues to Dutchess County, are also processed in this unit. Other types of transactions Include: defendant and victim address changes, filing of Victim Lien Orders, Satisfaction of Victim Lien Orders, adjusting cases for receipt of monies from outside sources and victim affidavits.

In 2007, this unit had a caseload of approximately 1,244 restitution and 1,951 supervision fee cases.

In 2008, the current "Tracker" computer system will be replaced by the new "Caseload Explorer" Financial Management System. It is anticipated that this new system will improve efficiency by linking the financial records to the rest of the department's record keeping.

2007

RESTITUTION AND SUPERVISION COLLECTION

	MONTH	SUPERVISION FEE COLLECTED	RESTITUTION COLLECTED	SURCHARGE COLLECTED	TOTAL
	JANUARY	\$10,093.93	\$36,692.14	\$1,753.71	\$48,539.78
	FEBRUARY	\$9,862.00	\$19,575.38	\$940.72	\$30,378.10
	MARCH	\$10,443.00	\$32,025.27	\$1,361.45	\$43,829.72
1ST. QTR.	SUB TOTAL	\$30,398.93	\$88,292.79	\$4,055.88	\$122,747.60
	APRIL	\$11,499.00	\$26,607.45	\$1,285.24	\$39,391.69
	MAY	\$9,386.00	\$37,676.42	\$1,207.54	\$48,269.96
	JUNE	\$8,697.07	\$21,649.90	\$980.82	\$31,327.79
2ND QTR.	SUB TOTAL	\$29,582.07	\$85,933.77	\$3,473.60	\$118,989.44
	JULY	\$6,143.60	\$21,622.61	\$851.88	\$28,618.09
	AUGUST	\$11,439.95	\$22,600.43	\$1,003.65	\$35,044.03
	SEPTEMBER	\$8,531.37	\$25,102.86	\$1,157.05	\$34,791.28
3RD QTR.	SUB TOTAL	\$26,114.92	\$69,325.90	\$3,012.58	\$98,453.40
	OCTOBER	\$6,520.30	\$22,436.64	\$1,050.72	\$30,007.66
	NOVEMBER	\$7,318.13	\$18,525.54	\$881.96	\$26,725.63
	DECEMBER	\$7,922.19	\$18,422.80	\$735.57	\$27,080.56
4TH QTR.	SUB TOTAL	\$21,760.62	\$59,384.98	\$2,668.25	\$83,813.85
	YEARLY TOTALS	\$107,856.54	\$302,937.44	\$13,210.31	\$424,004.29

RESTITUTION DISBURSED TO VICTIMS 2007— \$312,287.85

TRAINING

Professional staff are required to complete twenty-one hours of professional training each year. Training for probation officers must encompass a wide range of topics in order to equip them with the tools necessary to perform their duties. Consequently, the average probation officer receives many more hours than the required twenty-one hours of training each year. We are extremely fortunate to have adequate training monies made available by the county to address staff and department needs. Major training events for 2007 included:

- Eleven Probation Officers, including a Unit Administrator, were trained in the use of GPS (Global Positioning Satellite), an additional component to Electronic Monitoring;
- Four Probation Officers, including a Unit Administrator, were trained to use Static 99. Static 99 is an actuarial tool that is used with sex offenders to assess risk of reoffending.
- Fourteen Probation Officers attended the NY Gang Investigators Association 1st Annual Catskills Regional Conference;
- One Probation Officer received G.R.E.A.T. (Gang Resistance Education and Training) certification, resulting in three officers who deliver this program to the Poughkeepsie Middle School;
- Almost all Probation Officers attended Connect training, a joint effort between the Office of Probation and Department of Mental Hygiene to deliver training to probation and ATI staff on understanding and responding to persons with serious mental illnesses and co-occurring substance abuse disorders who are on probation or involved in ATI programs;
- Twelve Probation Officers received Alcohol Primer training;
- Eighteen Probation Officers received training on Juvenile Fire Setters;
- Four Senior Probation Officers attended the Supervisor's Workshop in Evidence Based Fundamentals of Probation Training. (All of our supervisors attended this training in 2006);
- One Senior Probation Officer attended training to be a certified trainer to staff on the use of the YASI (Youth Assessment Screening Instrument). An additional four Probation Officers were trained in the use of YASI;
- One Senior Probation Officer and one Deputy Director continue to maintain their credentials as Alcohol and Substance Abuse counselors through the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services;
- One Deputy Director received certification as a Certified Pretrial Services Professional through NAPSA (National Association of Pretrial Service Agencies).
- Officers continue to receive training in areas relating to substance abuse, family treatment issues, sex offenders, gangs and the use of the computer;
- Two Probation Officers were previously trained as part-time Field Intelligence Officers. They continue to work closely with the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office, Town of Poughkeepsie Police and City of Poughkeepsie Police Departments;
- We continue to participate with local police, state, parole and federal agencies in Operation Impact activities.



TRAINING

- Sixty-eight officers are certified to carry pepper spray for this department and remain up to date with certification renewal training;
- Eleven officers are certified to carry and use batons;
- Every other month throughout the year, officers who completed the long course in Defensive Tactics can, and are strongly encouraged to, attend the three-hour refresher Defensive Tactics course. Practical Application techniques were incorporated into the Defensive tactics reviews, which included sending teams into the community to search for absconders and execute probation warrants;
- We continue to provide firearms training and certification to staff. Forty officers meet departmental requirements to carry a firearm on the job;
- Seventy-one Probation Officers attended Article 35 Training. Article 35 of the Penal Law addresses Defense of Justification of the use of physical force;
- We have incorporated a probation officer safety training module and a Field Officer training component for all newly hired Probation Officers.

PUBLIC ACCESS DEFIBRILLATION PROGRAM

Dutchess County has developed a Public Access Defibrillation Program (PAD) to increase the chances of survival for citizens and/or staff members who may become victims of cardiac arrest. The Dutchess County Office of Probation and Community Corrections became a PAD site in September 2003. Since that time, 12 people have been trained as “lay rescuers” in the use of the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) by the County Health Department. Having the AED on site with trained officers and the entire department participating in drills has helped us develop new skills to meet staff and community needs.



Special Recognitions and Special Programs

The Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault awarded Senior Probation Officer Robert Dosiak this award on 10/17/2007 *“for long standing devotion and outstanding contribution to the fields of domestic violence and sexual assault prevention”*.

The Marathon Project

Is an innovative program that addresses many of the serious issues that our teens are faced with every day in Dutchess County. The program provides an opportunity for at-risk students to explore avenues for character development, goal setting, and improved health while building positive student-adult relationships through mentoring. Deputy Director Catherine Lane has coordinated the program in Probation.



Safe Passage Home

Created by Unit Administrator Dominick Ignaffo to help make the walk home from school a safe experience, the Safe Passage Home program places adult volunteers on selected street corners after school to ensure children don't encounter bullies, gang members or drug dealers when they head home each day.