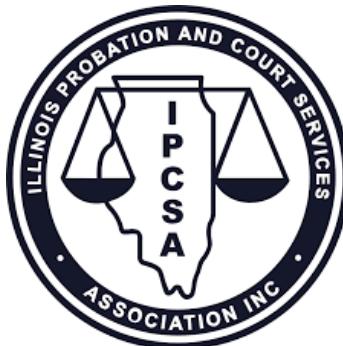




UTLOOK

***ILLINOIS PROBATION AND
COURT SERVICES ASSOCIATION***



PERSISTENCE

PAYS OFF!

After more than a decade of dedicated and collaborative efforts by IPCSA, the General Assembly passed HB3492 (Public Act 104-0449) on October 30th and the Governor signed the measure on December 12, 2025.

See Capitol Report on pages 5-6 for additional details.

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“When we speak about youth accountability, we must also acknowledge our own accountability as professionals in the field. We are responsible for making decisions grounded in evidence and research, and guided by understanding, compassion, and the absence of judgment—principles every human being deserves.”

Carla Stalnaker, IPCSA President

2026 IPCSA Spring Golf Outing and Conference Registration Coming Soon to

www.ipcsa.org

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS



Welcome to 2026. I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season filled with family get togethers, good food, and good friends. I write this as I complete my first year as President. I can honestly say my first year was a positive experience and I am excited to ponder what my second year might bring.

I would like to take time to reflect on several of the Association's accomplishments over the past year. We amended the IPCSA Constitution to create the Past President position; celebrated the graduation of the inaugural class of the IPCSA Leadership Academy; and offered numerous training opportunities through conferences, regional pop-up trainings, and roll calls—some of which drew well over 150 participants. IPCSA also hosted our 3rd Annual Leadership Symposium in Galena, a beautiful setting for such an event. At the symposium, attendees experienced an outstanding blend of information, education, and motivation delivered by Marcus Hodges and his team. Few of us who attended will soon forget Dr. Earl Suttle, whose outgoing personality and engaging training style left a lasting impression. In addition to the educational programming, attendees enjoyed a variety of after-hours activities, including paddle boating, golfing, shopping, and even a haunted tour of the town.

In July 2025, we launched what I humorously referred to as the "IPCSA Summer of Love" tour. Along with Mark Jarmer, Tod Dillard, and Lisa Aust, I traveled throughout the state to meet with Senators and Representatives serving on committees that directly impact our field. These meetings provided an opportunity for legislators to better understand who we are, what we do, and—most importantly—why we do it. I found this experience to be educational for all involved and one that I believe will benefit the Association for years to come. Every legislator we met was open to learning, committed to future collaboration with the legislative committee, and agreed to reach out to IPCSA with questions regarding legislation affecting the probation and detention fields. I consider this initiative to be one of the most impactful and successful outreach campaigns IPCSA has undertaken in quite some time.

Another major milestone for both the Association and the field was achieved after more than a decade of dedicated effort. On December 12, 2025, the Governor signed HB 3492 (formerly SB 1784) into law. IPCSA worked collaboratively with Senator Peters, Representative Slaughter, the Juvenile Justice Initiative, and the Juvenile Justice Commission to bring this legislation to fruition. This law ends the detention of 10-, 11-, and certain 12-year-old children. As you know, the detention of young children is associated with immediate and lifelong negative health outcomes. It is also important to remember that many of these youth are detained at the time of arrest which means they have not yet been found guilty. When we speak about youth accountability, we must also acknowledge our own accountability as professionals in the field. We are responsible for making decisions grounded in evidence and research, and guided by understanding, compassion, and the absence of judgment—principles every human being deserves.

Now, let's look ahead to our goals for 2026. While IPCSA will continue to offer high-quality, COPE- and CPTE-approved trainings, conferences, and roll calls, I am hopeful that we can expand and grow even further in the coming year. One of my personal goals as President is to see our membership reach 2,000 members. I wholeheartedly believe in this Association and in the expertise of its members. We work in a field that changes lives every single day. I believe the time is now for us to unite across the state—to stand together in advocating for the work we do and the meaningful impact we have on our clients, our communities, and our profession. There is strength in numbers, and the larger we grow, the greater our influence will be in shaping positive change in our field.

In 2026, the Executive Board will continue to focus on making the Association the very best it can be for our membership. As your current President, I would like to take a moment to recognize and give a heartfelt shout-out to our Executive Board members. While their names are regularly listed in the *Outlook Newsletter*, I want you to know not only who they are, but where they come from and the dedication they bring to this Association.

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PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS (con't)

Our current board members are: President-Elect Seth Krause, McHenry County; Immediate Past President Tod Dillard, Morgan County; Statewide Representative Les Niemi, Lake County; Region 1 Representative Melissa Spooner, Cook County; Region 2 Representative Jessica Brannan, Adams County; Region 3 Representative Torrey Bourn, Morgan County; Secretary Banee Ulrici, Montgomery County; Treasurer Stephen Sells, Kane County; Representative Chair Lissa DeSplinter, Rock Island County; Executive Assistant Cheryl Meyers; and Governmental Affairs Liaison Mark Jarmer. (Contact information for each board member is located on page 10 of this publication).

I want you to know how hard these individuals work on behalf of this Association and our field. They answer countless emails and phone calls—often during evenings and weekends. They give up time with their families to attend meetings. They work tirelessly to ensure our conferences are successful, educational, and engaging. Most importantly, they do it all with a positive, collaborative attitude because they truly believe in this Association. I am personally grateful for each of them and for everything they do to make our field stronger. I have learned so much from every one of them and look forward to what we will accomplish together in the coming year. If you see them, please take a moment to thank them for their dedication and service.

Lastly, I encourage each of you to get involved in the coming year by joining a committee. We have 19 committees that represent all areas of the Association and our field—there truly is something for everyone. Committees provide an excellent opportunity to network with others in your discipline, influence meaningful change, help develop training ideas for conferences, and contribute in many other ways depending on the committee's focus. (A complete listing of committee chairs and their contact information is located on page 51 of this publication).

Thank you to all our members for the important work you do every day. I look forward to seeing you throughout 2026.

Carla Stalnaker,
IPCSA President



President Stalnaker's reaction to the passage of HB3492!



IPCSA Board of Directors (left to right): Les Niemi, State-wide Representative; Seth Krause, President-Elect; Melissa Spooner, Region I Representative; Jessica Brannan, Region II Representative; Carla Stalnaker, President; Tod Dillard, Past President; Stephen Sells, Treasurer; Deborah Norman, Representative Chair (2025); Banee' Ulrici, Secretary; John McCaber, Director of Government Relations (2025); Lissa DeSplinter, Representative Chair (2026); and Cheryl Meyers, Executive Assistant. Not pictured are Mark Jarmer, Director of Government Relations (2026) and Torrey Bourn, Region III Representative.

CAPITOL REPORT



Mark Jarmer
IPCSA Director of Governmental Relations

Greetings to all IPCSA members! As the IPCSA Government Relations liaison, it gives me great pride to present a Capitol Report on the following three items: A brief review of Fall Veto Session, a summation of Illinois' Five Year Economic Forecast produced by the Governor's Office of Management and Budget, and a summation of upcoming legislative deadlines.

1. Fall Veto Session, 2025

Broadly speaking, the Fall 2025 Veto Session ended in an all-night marathon comprised of a flood of significant legislative reforms spanning the topics of transit, immigration, and energy:

Transit: Lawmakers approved a \$1.5 billion transit funding reform package, albeit the proposal was ultimately stripped of a host of several statewide tax increases which had previously stalled the measure. Instead, the measure is funded by revenue sources from within the State's Road Fund, as well as an increased Chicagoland sales tax.

Immigration Response: The arrival of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS') Operation Midway Blitz to Chicagoland prior to Christmas brought forth a flurry of legislation designed to allow Illinois residents to sue immigration agents who violate their constitutional rights, as well as limiting *where* ICE agents can enforce civil immigration law.

Energy: The final major reform legislation passed during Fall Veto session for 2025 was an energy package designed, among other things, to regulate costs and incentivize battery storage.

Specifically pertaining to IPCSA and juvenile detention, the General Assembly passed HB 3492 (Public Act 104-0449) on October 30th and the Governor signed the measure on 12/12/25. Sponsored by Senator Peters, HB 3492 contains the following provisions:

- Provides that the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission shall study and make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding the availability of youth services to reduce the use of detention and prevent deeper criminal involvement, and regarding the impact and advisability of raising the minimum age of detention to 14, and to develop a process to assist in the implementation of HB 3492;
- Provides that a minor found to be guilty may be committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice if the minor is at least 14 (rather than 13) years and under 20 years of age, provided that the commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice shall be made only if the minor was found guilty of a felony offense or first degree murder;
- Provides that when a minor of the age of at least 14 (rather than 13) years is adjudged delinquent for the offense of first degree murder, the court shall declare the minor a ward of the court and order the minor committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice until the minor's 21st birthday, without the possibility of aftercare release, furlough, or nonemergency authorized absence for a period of 5 years from the date the minor was committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice;
- Provides that on or after July 1, 2026 and before July 1, 2027, any minor 12 years of age or older arrested pursuant to the Act if there is probable cause to believe that the minor is a delinquent minor and that secure custody is a matter of immediate and urgent necessity, in light of a serious threat to the physical safety of a person or persons in the community or in order to secure the presence of the minor at the next hearing, as

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- evidenced by a demonstrable record of willful failure to appear at a scheduled court hearing within the past 12 months, may be kept or detained in an authorized detention facility;
- Provides that on or after July 1, 2027, minors age 12 years of age and under 13 years of age and charged with first degree murder, aggravated criminal sexual assault, aggravated battery in which a firearm was used in the offense, or aggravated vehicular hijacking, may be kept or detained in an authorized detention facility;
- Provides that no minor under 13 (rather than under 12) years of age shall be detained in a county jail or a municipal lockup for more than 6 hours. Provides that instead of detention, minors under the age of 13 who are in conflict with the law may be held accountable through a community mediation program or through other court-ordered intervention services;
- Provides that the Department of Juvenile Justice shall provide resources to persons under 18 years of age who have been adjudicated delinquent for a nonviolent crime. Provides that "nonviolent crime" does not include the use or threat of force toward a person;
- Creates the Child First Reform Task Force to consider the conditions and administration of individual juvenile detention centers, identify the resources needed to consistently meet the minimum standards set by the Department of Juvenile Justice and the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, evaluate complaints arising out of juvenile detention centers, identify best practices to provide detention center care, propose community-based alternatives to juvenile detention, and advise on the creation of the Youth Advisory Agency with youth justice advisors and district youth advisory offices in each circuit court district. Establishes its composition; and
- Provides that the Department of Juvenile Justice shall provide administrative support for the Task Force. Provides that the provisions concerning the Task Force are repealed on June 1, 2029. Provides that the Task Force provisions take effect June 1, 2026. Provides that the youth nonviolent crime resource program provisions take effect January 1, 2028.

2. Illinois' Five Year, Economic Forecast

Every October, the Governor's Office of Management and Budget (GOMB) annually submits an Economic and Fiscal Policy Report to the General Assembly. The purpose of this report is to outline the long-term economic and fiscal policy objectives of the State, along with the economic and fiscal policy intentions for the upcoming fiscal year and for the subsequent four fiscal years. The report also contains fiscal and policy options GOMB recommends for consideration by the General Assembly to remedy any budgetary shortfalls in the current year or five following fiscal years.

National Conditions: The national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is delicate. Recessionary fears have temporarily been kept at bay by fairly robust consumer spending and low unemployment, but a worrisome situation presents vastly different economic situations for states. State economies leaning heavily on agriculture and international trade face much more uncertainty than states whose economies are less impacted by trade policies. However, sweeping federal budget cuts and constantly changing federal policies could alter these trajectories at a moment's notice for all states, and present Illinois policymakers with substantial challenges.

The economy had a rocky start to 2025. In the first quarter, GDP contracted as the nation prepared for the impacts of global tariffs. This contraction was also pushed by a slowdown in consumption, a reduction in government spending, and a surge in imports as businesses tried to get ahead of the imposition of tariffs. Over the 2nd quarter, an acceleration in consumer spending and decreased imports led GDP to increase – marking a

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significant rebound from the first quarter. Estimates for the 3rd quarter show similar results.

Consumer spending continues to shoulder the burden of economic growth. However, a softening labor market and continuing higher prices may limit the ability of the consumer to continue to spend at present levels. If consumers significantly scale back discretionary spending, GDP will contract.

State Conditions

Economic conditions in Illinois are holding as the impacts of national policy changes, including trade policy changes, take a toll on both agriculture and manufacturing. Personal consumption expenditures are tracking the national trend, but rising business costs make it costly for businesses to expand. Consumer uncertainty resulting from federal policy and spending decisions is certainly not helping. Illinois' Real Gross State Product (GSP) is up year-over-year and is tracking closely to the national economy. Illinois' labor market lags slightly behind the national average but is mirroring its general trajectory.

Industries with the largest gain over the year have been private education and health services, information, and financial activities. Manufacturing, professional and business services, and trade and transport, however, have shed some of the largest numbers of jobs over the year.

Illinois' forecast is presented in the context of an economic outlook moving away from above-trend growth towards slower growth with some baseline uncertainty due to national politics, international geopolitical tensions, and high average effective tariff rates. This report discusses the 'baseline' economic forecast provided this past August by S&P Global, a national economic forecasting firm. S&P Global's includes an assumed increase in the national unemployment rate, a slowdown in hiring, tariff-induced inflation, slow GDP growth, and a loosening of monetary policy via Federal Reserve rate cuts. *Typically, an economic forecast that assumes slow GDP growth and a softening of labor market conditions (increased unemployment rates and declining job openings) would signal a possible recession. However, the baseline forecast does not include a recession, instead predicting several periods of below 2 percent GDP growth.*

Personal consumption expenditures (PCE) on goods and services are expected to remain elevated through the remainder of FY 2025 and into the out-years, but at diminishing levels. PCE on goods was boosted by fiscal stimulus during 2020 and 2021, and by consumers substituting away from services during the pandemic. PCE has remained at those levels even as inflation has eroded purchasing power. However, growth is expected to be minimal. PCE on services during the same timeframe has returned to pre-pandemic levels.

The S&P forecast considers the impacts of the recently enacted H.R. 1, or Budget Reconciliation Bill (One Big Beautiful Bill). S&P Global assumes a smaller personal tax relief with the enacted bill because most of the benefits are aimed at higher income taxpayers and corporations. S&P expects the Federal Reserve to maintain the Federal Funds interest rate in the short term, before ramping up cuts through March 2026.

Tax receipts

Thus far in FY26, individual income tax collections have been relatively strong due to wage and salary stability and increased working hours. Individual income tax collections from withholding income have been improving year-over-year, while collections from non-withholding income have begun to rebound after a few years' worth of declines. Nationally, declines in non-withholding income have largely been linked to periods of decline in the stock market. Conversely, collections of corporate income taxes have been slowing.

Corporate profits, the basis of corporate income tax collections, are largely tied to consumer spending and prices. During periods of high prices and high consumer spending, which have taken place over the previous few fiscal years, corporate profits grew beyond historic highs. As profit levels have moderated, so too have corporate income tax collections. Corporate profits are declining nationwide. This will have a negative effect on the corporate income tax base for the State. On a nominal basis, consumer spending on durable goods, the

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basis of Illinois' sales tax collections, is forecasted to increase during fiscal year 2026. Some of these purchases may be accelerated due to tariff and trade policy as individuals and firms make purchases they may have delayed but for impending tariff increases.

Analysis of Impacts of H.R. 1

H.R. 1 was enacted in July 2025, after the passage of Illinois' fiscal year 2026 budget package. In addition to a range of changes affecting federal support for federal-state government partnership programs, the legislation also made several changes to federal tax code provisions, including the extension of several expiring provisions of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), and modifications to existing provisions of the U.S. tax code. A number of these changes were expected to negatively impact the State's GRF revenue collections in fiscal year 2026 and beyond, particularly for taxes paid by businesses. Most states with income taxes link their tax codes to federal tax law in some way to streamline administration and filing of taxes at the federal and state levels. Illinois has an automatic or "rolling" conformity to most of the business tax law changes found in H.R. 1. Tax changes to which Illinois automatically conforms will affect state revenues starting in fiscal year 2026, because many of the provisions in H.R. 1 became effective immediately upon its enactment. These changes are expected to create a nearly double revenue impact in fiscal year 2026 as many corporate taxpayers will reduce their September 2025 estimated payments or April 2026 final payments to "catch up" on the 2025 tax changes, while also reducing estimated payments through the spring of 2026 to reflect lower 2026 liabilities. *DOF estimates that, due to the changes in H.R. 1, General Funds revenue collections will be over \$830 million below the amount estimated at the time the fiscal year 2026 budget was passed.*

Programmatic Impacts

Illinois receives significant federal revenues each fiscal year to support an array of governmental functions and public services. These federal funds are primarily allocated for purposes including Medicaid and social services, K-12 and higher education, public health initiatives, infrastructure projects, and environmental projects. Federal funds deposited into the General Funds are primarily reimbursements for Medicaid and Medicaid related program expenditures. Other federal revenues are deposited into various funds in the State Treasury. *In fiscal year 2025, approximately \$35 billion in federal revenues were deposited into the State Treasury across all funds, of which approximately \$21 billion was drawn by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services for Medicaid and Medicaid-related program reimbursements.*

SNAP

H.R. 1 makes several fundamental changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food assistance program beginning in fiscal year 2027. Starting October 1, 2026, the federal government will shift a greater share of SNAP administrative costs—from 50 percent up to 75 percent—to states, which represents an estimated \$80 million annual increase to Illinois. This will impact the State's General Funds budget trajectory through a reduction in federal revenues deposited annually while the State will need to maintain the same—or a higher—level of administrative support for the program. Moreover, beginning October 1, 2027 (the start of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2028), H.R. 1 establishes a new state cost-sharing requirement for SNAP benefits tied to each state's payment error rate (PER). For the first year of state cost-sharing, Illinois will be able to choose between its PER for already completed FFY 2025 or for FFY 2026. *Based on the most recently calculated FFY 2024 PER in Illinois (11.56 percent), Illinois would fall into the 15 percent penalty bracket, creating a new \$705 million annual liability on roughly \$4.7 billion in benefits.*

Medicaid

H.R. 1 will also impact the State's Medicaid program by making changes to eligibility provisions and by placing limitations on healthcare provider taxes (e.g. hospital and managed care organization taxes) that Illinois and most other states use to support the Medicaid system. Most of the budgetary impact will occur

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beginning in fiscal year 2028 as the maximum tax rate allowed for the hospital and MCO provider taxes will step down from a current maximum of 6.0 percent of net patient revenues by 50 basis points a year until it reaches a maximum rate of 3.5 percent in fiscal year 2032. These changes will reduce significantly the amount of federal funding that is annually provided to Illinois to support Medicaid. *Absent any changes to H.R. 1's provisions, or additional state funding to backfill the federal cuts, by fiscal year 2031 (the end of the forecast period), Medicaid funding in Illinois will drop by \$4.5 billion because of the provisions included in H.R. 1. The total annual impact to the Medicaid program after full phase in of the rate caps will be \$6.1 billion by fiscal year 2033, \$3.8 billion of which is lost federal support.*

Other federal changes

Additionally, the federal government is changing its level of support for states, local governments, and community-based providers across various grant programs, including maternal health, emergency disaster and hazard preparedness, domestic violence prevention, HIV/AIDS prevention, substance abuse programs, violence prevention, climate change mitigation, renewable energy, mental health support, and agricultural support through actions by the executive branch and by Congress. *The potential impact of these canceled and reduced grants to entities in Illinois total several hundred million dollars, with significantly more potential cuts currently subject to litigation. GOMB expects the State to have a very limited ability to replace lost federal funding for these specialized state grants and no funding to replace lost grants made directly to local governments and community organizations.*

Analysis of FY 26 Budget

In June the Governor signed the FY26 Budget, the FY26 Budget Implementation Act and an omnibus revenue package – a budget focusing on making investments primarily in early childhood education, K-12 education, higher education, human services, economic development, and poverty reduction.

However, given the diminished revenues the state has experienced, combined with the impacts of HB1, GoMB, prior to the decoupling accomplished during the Veto session, was estimating a deficit for fiscal year 2026 of \$267 million. Additionally, the Governor has already directed agencies under his authority to identify potential spending reserves to partially address the shortfall brought on by the changes enacted by Congress and President Trump to the federal tax code. Additionally, GOMB recommended (and the General Assembly agreed during Veto) to take immediate action to decouple from certain federal tax provisions to avoid some of the changes included in H.R. 1, including the new federal bonus depreciation, as well as updating the Illinois Income Tax Act to reflect the federal change from Global Intangible Low-Taxed Income (GILTI) to Net Controlled Foreign Corporation Tested Income (NCTI). Beyond these immediate steps, GOMB recommended a further assessment of the remaining tax provisions in H.R. 1 to determine if additional legislative changes are needed. GOMB and DOR estimate that these proposed changes will close the majority of the remaining fiscal year 2026 budget shortfall. In fiscal year 2026, an estimated \$161 million will be reserved in the Budget Stabilization Fund.

Analysis of GoMB's Five Year Projection Model

Owing to current fiscal uncertainty and the impending impacts of HB 1 – S&P and GoMB project budget deficits over the next five years, as follows:

2027 – \$2.187 Billion
2028 – \$3.811 Billion
2029 – \$4.523 Billion
2030 – \$4.813 Billion; and
2031 - \$5.273 Billion.

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3. Upcoming Legislative Deadlines

January 16 – Deadline for House and Senate LRB requests, and LRB blackout period begins;

February 6 – Deadline for Introduction of House and Senate Bills;

February 18 – Governor's Budget and State of the State Address;

March 13 – Deadline for substantive bills out of Senate Committees;

April 17 – Deadline for substantive bills out of the Senate;

May 8 – Deadline for substantive bills out of House Committees;

May 22 – Deadline for substantive bills out of the House; and

May 31 - Adjournment

IPCSA EXECUTIVE BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION

► President.....	Carla Stalnaker	Clinton County	618-594-6635 x136.....	carla.stalnaker@clintonco.illinois.gov
► President-Elect.....	Seth Krause	McHenry County	815-334-4400.....	sakrause@22ndcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov
► Past President.....	Tod Dillard.....	Morgan County	217-243-9468.....	tdillard@morgancounty-il.com
► Secretary.....	Banee' Ulrici.....	Montgomery County	217-532-3506.....	baneeu@montgomerycountyil.gov
► Treasurer	Stephen Sells.....	Kane County	331-291-2009.....	sellsstephen@16thcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov
► Representative Chair.....	Lissa DeSplinter.....	Rock Island County.....	309-558-3789.....	ldesplinter@co-rock-island.il.us
► Statewide Representative.....	Les Niemi	Lake County		lniemi@lakecountyil.gov
► Region I Representative	Melissa Spooner	Cook County	312-443-4497.....	Melissa.spooner@cookcountyil.gov
► Region II Representative.....	Jessica Brannan	Adams County	217-277-2178.....	jbrannan@adamscountyil.gov
► Region III Representative.....	Torrey Bourn	Morgan County	217-532-3506.....	tbourn@morgancounty-il.com
► Government Relations	Mark Jarmer.....	Delta Capitol Group	620-640-7702.....	mcjarmer@gmail.com
► Executive Assistant.....	Cheryl Meyers	IPCSA	217-663-6728	association1969@ipcsa.org

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Clinton County, IL: At left, Rachael Hall Swearing In on November 24, 2026. Above, Gage Clark Swearing In on December 8, 2026. Welcome to the Association!

ELECTION INFORMATION/ROLL CALL INFORMATION

IPCSA BOARD POSITIONS OPEN FOR ELECTION 2026

President-Elect

Region II Representative State-wide Representative

Deadline to submit nomination is June 1, 2026

In the Fall of 2026, the IPCSA Executive Board positions identified above are open for election. Region II encompasses the following circuits: 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 21 and 24.

You must work in the region to qualify as the region's representative.

The following qualifications are necessary to run for office:

- ▶ Full membership in the Association.
- ▶ Active participation in committees or special projects for two years.
- ▶ Appropriate judicial officer approval to attend, to travel, and devote time to the Association business.
- ▶ Verification of qualifications by the Nominations/ Elections Committee.

IPCSA Executive Board Members in collaboration with the IPCSA Committees will be hosting a series of

Roll Call Events

2:00– 3:00 p.m.

- ▶ Open exclusively to IPCSA members
- ▶ Watch your emails for upcoming notifications
- ▶ COPE Approved

2026 Tentative Schedule

**February 24– Topic Probation Promenade, Linda O'Brien
March 31-TBD**

**May 26-Probation Transformation, Melissa Spooner
June 30-TBD
July 28-TBD
August 25-TBD
September 29-TBD**

(Schedule and topics are subject to change.)

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD WINNERS

CONGRATULATIONS 2025 Distinguished Service Award Winners

The Distinguished Service Awards are presented to the Probation and Court Service professionals who, in the opinion of their Chief Managing Officers, deserve individual recognition for their dedication and commitment to their clients, peers, and the community.

Bill Aberthany

Lake County

Evelyn Alejandre

Lake County

Bethany Arnold

McHenry County

Jessica Branch

McDonough County

Lacey Busboom

Champaign County

David Cardani

Champaign County

Abigail Cary

Champaign County

Ariana Cortez

Lake County

Brooke Daugherty

Coles/Cumberland County

Jenni Fredrickson

DeKalb County

Cheryl Gilleran

Lake County

Danny Guerrero

Lake County

Emily Highlander

Madison County

Logan Ingram

Vermilion County

Joe Kinsey

Madison County

Kimberly Lauf

St. Clair County

Alicia Mehnert

Kendall County

Jeff Nugent

Champaign County

Teresa Nunn

Champaign County

Kristine Paulson

St. Clair County

Linda Peskuski

Lake County

Tammra Reck

Champaign County

Christopher Schulte

Madison County

Nathan Schuster

Kendall County

Christopher Simonds

Madison County

Niki Stark

Coles County

Zach Stewart

Peoria County

Rachel Stroh

Woodford County

Brittany Taylor

Pike County

Teaghan Thome

McHenry County

Jason Townsend

Madison County

Patrick Varda

McHenry County

Max White

Champaign County

Raechel Williams

Kane County

Melissa Wilson

9th Judicial Circuit

Thomas Wolfer

Lake County



IPCSA SCHOLARSHIP

\$500 Scholarship available only to IPCSA Members

Application Period is April 1-June 30, 2026

Watch www.ipcsa.org for additional information

2025 IPCSA AWARDS PRESENTATION



Gene Hughes Award Highest Professional Standards **LORI TROUT** **McHenry County**

The Gene Hughes Award is given to a Probation Officer who has exemplified the highest standards of the profession.

Lori Trout has quietly and powerfully shaped the fabric of probation in Illinois for nearly four decades. Since beginning a career in this field in 1987, Lori has been a steady voice of reason, innovation, and compassion—both in their home county and well beyond.

Known for the familiar reminder, “*let’s not reinvent the wheel,*” Lori brings a rare balance of pragmatism and boldness—challenging others to explore new approaches while remaining grounded in what truly works. Her influence can be seen in the many professionals now serving in leadership roles across the state, all of whom carry forward the values and vision shared with them.

But Lori’s impact goes beyond professional achievement—it’s personal and enduring. Whether guiding new officers to discover their purpose or offering steady support through challenging moments, she leads with heart, humility, and conviction. Lori has played a central role in shaping innovative programs like Juvenile Diversion, Home Detention, and Adult Pretrial Services—always with a focus on what best serves clients and communities.

Lori’s long-standing involvement in professional organizations, coalitions, and advisory boards demonstrates a deep commitment to collaboration, equity, and continuous improvement. While never one to seek attention, her legacy is undeniable and is reflected in stronger systems, more resilient teams, and countless lives changed for the better.

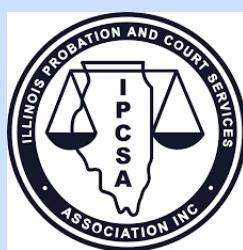
Congratulations, Lori Trout, as this year’s recipient of the Gene Hughes Highest Professional Standards Award.

Free Virtual Roll Call-**Probation Promenade**

Featured Speaker-IPCSA Member
Linda O’Brien, Cook County Social Service

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 @2:00 p.m.

Learn More [HERE!](#)



Membership Benefit



Darrel O. Smith President's Award TINA QUICK Vermilion County

Darrel O. Smith began his career in probation in Madison County as a student intern and rose to the position of Chief Probation Officer. During his tenure and under his leadership, Madison County initiated numerous progressive programs in adult probation. Darrel was also known for his tireless efforts in working with legislative and judicial leaders, and the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts on behalf of the profession. His contributions to the Association are immeasurable and a standard for all to follow. In memory of Darrel O. Smith, the Association presents an annual award to the member, or members who, in the opinion of the President of the Association, have made an outstanding contribution to the Association, and the profession.

As President of IPCSA, you quickly realize that this position would be impossible without certain people—those who go above and beyond for the Association and for the person holding this role. These are often the people in the background, quietly doing their part to make both the Association and the President look professional and organized.

Tina Quick is one of those people. Tina began her career in 2006 as a Juvenile Officer in Vermilion County, where she continues to serve today. In 2011, she became co-chair of the Program Committee, and since that time, she has worked tirelessly to organize *two* conferences a year for IPCSA. That, my friends, is roughly 30 conferences that Tina has been an integral part of.

Here's a quick look at what that means. First, she coordinates with hotels and conference centers—negotiating room rates, arranging meals, snacks, and beverages, and determining breakout room sizes, technical needs, and more. Next, she works with the host county to ensure they have everything they need—assisting with licenses, donations, and fundraisers. She coordinates with vendors to make sure they have the right space, tables, and equipment. She works with the presenters to arrange their sessions, rooms, fees, and technical needs. And she works closely with the President and the Board on budgets, contracts, keynote speakers, and accommodations. And all *that* happens before the conference even begins.

Once the conference begins, Tina transforms into something between an air traffic controller and a superhero. She's everywhere at once — solving problems, juggling schedules, putting out fires (only metaphorical ones, thankfully), and still managing to smile while doing it. She is finding rooms for counties whose reservations were lost, rearranging rooms and walls to fit sessions, hunting down flip charts, extension cords, and projectors, wrangling board members (which should count as cardio), and even standing her ground with a hotel manager who was not quite living up to their end of the deal.

Most amazing is how she does it all with *joy* and that signature smile. Her laugh is contagious, and when you're on the verge of losing your mind, she's the one who says, "Hey, we'll make it work," and somehow... it does.

Let's just say the phrase "there's a method to the madness" was probably written *about* her. Tina is someone who moves in directions at the same time. She has everything — and everyone — exactly where they need to be. She answers questions, fixes issues, and keeps everyone happy (and that's no small task), and she never sits down. Ever.

2025 Fall Conference was Tina's *last* conference as Program Committee co-chair. However, she will be kept on speed dial just so she can tell the President to breathe and say, "It'll be fine — we've seen worse."

Tina was chosen as this year's recipient because she embodies exactly what this award stands for. Darrel Smith would have been proud to work alongside her. She's dedicated, tireless, humble, and makes this Association — and all of us — better.

Tina has given 150% to IPCSA since 2011 without complaint, without fanfare, and always with humor, kindness, and grace.

Congratulations Tina Quick as this year's recipient of the Darrel O. Smith President's Award.



William C. Albertson Award Field of Achievement

JEFF POIGNEE St. Clair County

The William Albertson Award is presented to the recipient who has exemplified the highest standards of the profession in the field of achievement.

Jeff Poignee has dedicated over three decades of his life to the St. Clair County Probation Department, consistently demonstrating exceptional leadership, unwavering commitment, and a deep understanding of every facet of the organization's operations.

As one of the Deputy Directors, Jeff plays a pivotal role in overseeing various critical functions of the department, including budget management, procurement, policy development, training, and information technology. His strategic oversight has been instrumental in maintaining the department's efficiency and effectiveness, ensuring that it continues to meet the evolving needs of the community it serves.

What sets Jeff apart is his hands-on leadership style. He not only knows the responsibilities of every role within his department, but he is also willing to step in and perform those roles when needed. His readiness to "roll up his sleeves" and support his team reflects a deep respect for his colleagues and a commitment to shared success. Jeff's approachability and consistent guidance have earned him the well-deserved reputation as the "rock" of the organization.

Under Jeff's leadership, the department has benefited from a culture of clear communication, collaboration, and strategic thinking. His efforts have enhanced team performance, encouraged professional development, and driven innovative initiatives that align with the department's mission of rehabilitation and community safety.

Jeff also plays a key role in advancing the department's strategic priorities-whether through expanding community partnerships, adopting new technologies to increase efficiency, or securing grant funding to support critical programs and services. Jeff's leadership has been vital in addressing the challenges of limited resources and high caseloads, always with a focus on improving outcomes for both staff and the community.

Through his exemplary service, Jeff has helped shape a resilient and responsive organizational culture. His dedication, integrity, and visionary leadership make him a truly deserving recipient of this honor. It is leaders like Jeff who not only drive success within their departments but also leave a lasting impact on the communities they serve.

Congratulations Jeff Poignee as this year's recipient of the William Albertson Field of Achievement Award.



Pauline Gansauer Award

Field of Dedication

EVAN DRIVER

Pike County

The Pauline Gansauer Award is presented to the probation officer who has exemplified the highest standards of dedication to the profession. An individual who has their own goals that align with probation and court services. An officer who strives to improve their personal growth, their department and field of probation and court services.

Evan Driver's journey began humbly, working in a county detention center before entering the field of probation. Possessing not only a strong work ethic, but also a deep sense of compassion and purpose, she earned the trust of her peers and leaders alike, and risen to a leadership position where she has continued to inspire those around her.

Evan has been instrumental in reviving a Drug Court Program in her county, in order to provide more opportunities for people in her community. Through strong community partnerships and evidence-based practices, she has created meaningful paths to recovery for those struggling with addiction. Her leadership has not only strengthened her department but has touched lives far beyond the courtroom.

Holding herself to the highest professional standards, Evan recently completed the Leadership Academy while managing one of the most challenging caseloads in her department. She gives her time and energy to the Association, where she has been doing a remarkable job as a co-chair of the Resource Committee.

Always seeking ways to lift others up, Evan's colleagues describe her as someone who never closes a door until every effort has been made to help someone succeed. She brings professionalism and empathy to every task, setting an example of what dedication to this profession truly looks like.

Evan has been recognized with the Distinguished Service Award and was part of a team honored as Stakeholder of the Year for her department's partnership with community treatment providers. But beyond titles or recognition, it's Evan's belief that people can change—and her relentless commitment to that belief—that defines her legacy.

It's been said, "*It's a beautiful thing when a career and a passion come together.*" For Evan, that truth is seen every single day in her work, her leadership, and her compassion.

Congratulations Evan Driver as this year's recipient of the Pauline Gansauer Field of Dedication Award.



S. William Ettinger Award Field of Service MARY STOCZYNSKI Cook County Social Service

The S. William Ettinger Award is presented to the individual who, in the opinion of the Executive Board and the Awards Committee, has exemplified the highest degree of dedication and service to the Association. S. William Ettinger worked with the Association for many years, and his leadership style has long been recognized as a true catalyst for progress.

This year's award recipient has embodied that same spirit of leadership and commitment throughout their 26 years with the department. Their career began as a caseload officer working with female DUI clients—an experience that sparked her lifelong passion for ensuring that women, and their unique needs and strengths, are recognized and supported within the court system.

Over the years, this awardee has played an integral role in both intra- and interstate initiatives and has been an active member of the Human Advocacy Committee. They serve as an ARA and Case Planning Trainer through UCCI, helping to strengthen best practices across the system.

This awardee has also been instrumental in developing and updating departmental policies and was one of the first casework officers to participate in the transitional female DUI program. The commitment to women's success continues today through the facilitation of MRT groups.

Outside of their professional life, this awardee is deeply devoted to their children, grandchildren, and her beloved dog, Tucker. Following the unexpected passing of her son in July 2022, she established a scholarship in his honor—awarded each year to a high school football player who exemplifies the strong work ethic her son demonstrated both on and off the field.

She is known for her integrity, compassion, and unwavering support of those around her. She is truly a person of great character.

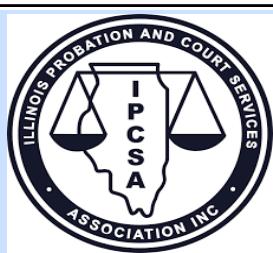
Congratulations Mary Stoczynski as this year's recipient of the S. William Ettinger Field of Service Award.

Pop Up Training –Real Colors-Edwardsville, IL

**Featured Speakers-IPCSA Members Tesha Robertson
and Jessica Durbin - Peoria County**

Tuesday, March 10, 2026 9:00–4:00p.m.

Learn More [HERE!](#)



**Membership Benefit-
Reduced Rates**



Robert E. Burdine Award Officer of the Year ED ZABOTKA Madison County

The Robert E. Burdine Award holds a special place in our profession. Robert E. Burdine served as the Chief Probation Officer for Morgan County Probation and Court Services Department from 1985 until his passing in 1999. He was a highly respected leader who devoted 26 years to IPCSA and helped shape the very standards of professionalism and integrity that guide us today.

The Court Services Officer of the Year Award was first created in 1994 and later renamed in Bob's honor, recognizing his extraordinary service and lifelong commitment to our field. It is presented each year to a line officer-juvenile or adult-who demonstrates the highest standards of our profession through dedication, integrity, and meaningful impact.

Ed Zabotka embodies the very qualities that Bob valued most. For more than three decades, Ed has shown unwavering commitment, professionalism, and compassion. From his earliest days, he stood out for his ability to hold clients accountable while helping them succeed-always firm, always fair, and always caring.

Ed has taken on some of the most demanding roles in our field-from intensive probation to problem-solving courts and, most recently, supervision of the sex offender population. Each position required technical expertise, emotional intelligence, and tremendous resilience-and he rose to every challenge.

Among his colleagues, Ed is known as a mentor, a steady presence, and a trusted expert. He's the one others turn to for guidance, wisdom, and perspective. He leads quietly, teaches generously, and makes those around him better.

Ed represents the best of our profession-integrity, humility, and heart.

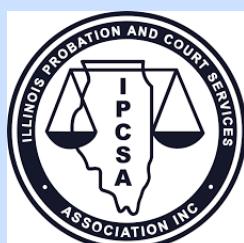
Congratulations Ed Zabotka as this year's recipient of the Robert E. Burdine Officer of the Year Award.

Free Virtual Roll Call-Topic TBD

Tuesday, March 31, 2026 @2:00 p.m.

Additional Information Coming Soon to

www.ipcsa.org



Membership Benefit



Cheryl Meyers Excellence in Service & Innovation Award

CHERYL MEYERS IPCSA

This award honors the legacy of Cheryl Meyers, a longtime Director of the Effingham County Probation Department and a dedicated contributor to the Illinois Probation and Court Services Association. Cheryl was known not only for her innovative leadership in the field, but also for her deep commitment to building a stronger, more connected professional community. This award recognizes a member whose work within the Association reflects her spirit of forward-thinking service, collaboration, and dedication to the mission of probation and court services.

Every so often, someone comes along who makes an enormous impact—not just in the field, but also on the people within it. Cheryl Meyers retired from the Effingham County Probation Department after 39 years of dedicated service. She started her career with Effingham County in 1986 and was promoted to Director in 1999. As Director, Cheryl brought many programs to Effingham County including Juvenile Redeploy, Adult Redeploy, Integrated System of Care (ISOC) Program, and the Go Out and Lear (GOAL) Program. Working with the local school district and the Regional Office of Education, she created a probation based alternative classroom for children who were on probation but suspended from school. The creation of this classroom, allowed students to receive credit for subject work even though they were suspended from school. She was also instrumental in securing her department's licensure as a SUPR site through the Department of Human Services that allowed the department to offer free clinical services to their clients. Cheryl was awarded the Effingham Youth Commission Award for outstanding dedication to the youth and families of Effingham County and the CEFS Community Service Excellence Award.

Over the years, Cheryl has shared her wisdom by serving on both local and statewide workgroups, councils and committees. She served as a board member of the Effingham Victim's Awareness (EVAS) Program, multiple committees of CEFS, the 4th Judicial Circuit Juvenile Justice Council, Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Court board member, IPCSA Board member, COPE committee member to assist in the development of the training curriculum for management, and was appointed to the inaugural Illinois Supreme Court Probation Advisory Board by Supreme Court Justice Thomas Kilbride.

As a member of IPCSA for nearly four decades, Cheryl has been a driving force in countless ways. She served as the Region 3 Representative for two terms before stepping into the role of Executive Assistant, a position she continues to hold today—even after retiring from the field. Since 2004, Cheryl has received nearly every honor IPCSA can bestow, including the Pauline Gansauer Award, the William Albertson Award, three time winner of the Michael Rohan Award and two time winner of the Gene Hughes President's Award. Even with her retirement on the horizon, Cheryl's commitment has not wavered. In fact, in recent years, she has been instrumental in the vision, development and implementation of both the IPCSA Leadership Symposium and the IPCSA Leadership Academy.

Cheryl leads with integrity, passion, and vision. She doesn't just strive to do her best—she pushes herself and those around her to be their best. She has led her department, the 4th Judicial Circuit, and the Association—not necessarily from the position of president—but through her deep knowledge of the field, her understanding of IPCSA, and her example of what true leadership looks like. Cheryl loves the St. Louis Blues. She loves the field of Probation. She loves the Association. But more than anything, she loves her family—and she loves them hard.

Tod Dillard, IPCSA Past President shared these words, “ *While I've always admired the work Cheryl has done for Effingham County, it was during my four years as President of IPCSA, working closely with her, that I gained a true understanding of how exceptional she is. She is the steady hand behind the scenes, keeping things organized and making sure our work for the Association actually happens, always with patience, kindness, and a sense of humor. She has a unique ability to balance professionalism with genuine warmth. For me personally, Cheryl has been more than a colleague. She has been a teammate, a sounding board, and a person who reminded me that while the challenges we face are serious, we don't always have to take ourselves too seriously. She never sought the spotlight, but her fingerprints are on every success we've achieved.* ”

Cheryl is grounded, genuine, and unforgettable. She embodies the very qualities this award represents—leadership, dedication, innovation and commitment to service that inspires others.

Congratulations Cheryl Meyers as the first recipient of the Cheryl Meyers Excellence in Service and Innovation Award.



Frank Calkins Committee Member of the Year Award

BANEE' ULRICI Montgomery County

The Frank Calkins Committee Member of the Year Award is presented to an individual who demonstrates dedication and support of the Association through committee work. They encourage new members to join and encourage involvement in both the Association & committee work. The recipient is an individual who works with committee to develop workshops, distribute information, and is an asset promoting the betterment of the field.

Banee' Ulrici has been a dedicated member of IPCSA since 2000. She has contributed her time and talents across various committees throughout her membership. Banee' is a previous recipient of the William C. Albertson Field of Achievement Award and the William S. Ettinger Field of Service Award.

The Research Committee was tasked this year by the Executive Board to compile a statewide survey to gather information on AOIC funded positions and retention data. 100% of the departments responded. The departments provided the information but it needed to be converted into usable data and the Committee was on a tight deadline. Banee' worked tirelessly to transfer the raw data into software and developed clear, visually impactful graphs and charts that illustrated the survey results. Her passion was earned her the nickname "official Data Nerd." These visuals provided the Executive Board valuable information to share with state legislators to advocate for full funding with counties. This task was done outside of Banee's normal job responsibilities and came at cost of her personal time with family. Banee's dedication ensured the Committee delivered a polished, professional produce that served the entire Association.

Banee' also serves on the Committee for Probation Education's (COPE) juvenile workgroup, and on IPCSA's Executive Board, formally as Region III Representative and now as Secretary. Outside of her professional roles, Banee devotes her time to family and church.

Congratulations Banee' Ulrici as this year's recipient of the Frank Calkins Committee Member of the year award.

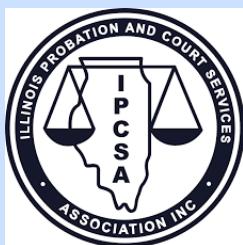
IPCSA Leadership Symposium

Featured Speaker-Arbinger Institute

June 23-24, 2026 Bloomington, IL

Additional Information Coming Soon to

www.ipcsa.org



**Membership Benefit
Reduced Rates**



Exemplary Service Award

DR. ALEXANDRA WALKER

Alliance for Community & Justice Innovations

The Exemplary Service Award, previously designated as the Citizen's Award, is presented to an individual in the Community, who has served to further Probation and Court Services through their dedication and commitment to the private sector.

Dr. Alexandra (Alex) Walker is the co-founder and Director of the Alliance for Community & Justice Innovations (ACJI). Throughout her career, Alex has championed innovative justice reform strategies in organizations both large and small. She has worked in residential treatment, jails, prisons, and community re-entry programs, and most recently served as Vice Chair of the Colorado Board of Parole. Alex is deeply committed to the idea that organizations can and should take ownership of their outcomes. Through ACJI, she has partnered with numerous justice agencies and organizations to help them identify alignment issues, address adaptive challenges, and clarify their desired outcomes; then guided them through the challenging and complex job of implementing transformational change.

IPCSA has had the privilege of working closely with Alex in many capacities over the past several years. She was the keynote speaker at IPCSA's first Leadership Symposium in 2023. She has presented at multiple IPCSA conferences, roll calls and virtual training sessions. In 2024, Alex and ACJI partnered with IPCSA to launch an ambitious new initiative: the Association's yearlong Leadership Academy. This was an entirely new undertaking for IPCSA, and Alex's expertise was instrumental in making it a reality. She designed an immersive learning experience to cultivate adaptive, passionate, and emotionally intelligent leaders in probation, detention, and pretrial services.

The inaugural Leadership Academy class graduated in May 2025, with participants repeatedly expressing heartfelt admiration for Alex. They described her as someone who *"created a safe space to learn and expand mindsets,"* who *"didn't just teach us; she invested in us, supported us, made us laugh, and made it an overwhelmingly positive experience,"* and who consistently brought *"guidance, knowledge, and passion"* to the table. Many summed up their experience by simply calling her *"phenomenal."*

Alex embodies the very principles she teaches. She is knowledgeable, compassionate, and genuine—qualities that make her not only an exceptional leader but also someone we are fortunate to continue to work with and learn from. Through her work with IPCSA, Alex has helped expand our Association in bold, innovative directions that will shape leaders in our field for many years to come.

Congratulations Dr. Alexandra Walker as this year's recipient of the Exemplary Service Award.



John McCabe Legislative Service Award

THOMAS GREGORY

Vermilion County

The John McCabe Legislative Service Award is presented to the individual who, in the opinion of the Executive Board, has displayed legislative leadership which prioritizes criminal justice legislation that positively impacts probation and court services.

Thomas “Tom” Gregory is a graduate of Illinois State University, with both a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree. He began working as an adult probation officer in 1997 and joined IPCSA. Tom worked as an Intensive Probation Officer, and Probation Supervisor, and eventually Department Director.

After the appropriate committee work, Tom joined the IPCSA Board as President-Elect in 2011, as part of the Dave Beery administration, succeeding him in 2013.

Tom was also appointed to the inaugural Probation Policy Advisory Board by Supreme Court Justice Thomas Kilbride. As IPCSA President, he would always testify before the Senate and House Appropriations Committees concerning the Supreme Court budget. AOIC would always inquire whether Tom would be testifying, so they could relay that information to the next Chief Justice, Rita Garmen, also from that same county.

Tom was also very active with American Probation and Parole Association, serving as Regional Representative, Treasurer and Vice-President. He was also a 2016 graduate of the APPA Leadership Academy.

After his term as President, Tom stayed active in IPCSA, by taking over as Chairman of the IPCSA Legislative Committee for Mike Shaughnessy in 2015, until stepping down this year. He also teamed up with the IPCSA Ad Hoc Committee to help design and implement the IPCSA Leadership Academy.

This award was presented to Thomas Gregory as a symbol of appreciation and gratitude for his consistent and diligent work to support and improve funding and legislative issues within the field of probation and court services.

Congratulations Thomas Gregory as this year’s recipient of the John McCabe Legislative Service Award.

Learn more about IPCSA Committees

Visit our [website!](#)



Connie Kaiser Restorative Justice Award AMY SIERRA Kane County

The Connie Kaiser Restorative Justice Award is presented to the person, persons, or Court Services Department, who in the opinion of the Awards Committee, exemplifies the highest standards of the profession in the area of promoting restorative justice principles, practices and activities for youth in detention.

Amy Sierra has been with the Kane County Juvenile Justice Center for 34 years. She worked her way up from Youth Counselor to Supervisor to Assistant Superintendent to now Assistant Superintendent/PREA Coordinator. She graduated from the University of Illinois, Champaign, in 1992.

Over the years, Amy has received several distinguished awards. These include Certificate of Appreciation in 1997 for helping lead the transition team to the new juvenile detention building. She received a Certification of Recognition from the 16th Judicial Circuit in 2003 for developing and providing several trainings, including gender affirming care, sexual misconduct, staff boundaries and controlled force. In 2005, she received the Bob Raider Detention Service Worker of the Year Award through the National Partnership and Juvenile Services (NPJS). In 2007 she received the Employee of Distinction Award for Kane County Court Services and in 2017 she received the Partners in Peace Award for her work with the Community Crisis Center.

Amy has been heavily involved in the implementation of evidence-based programming at the Kane County Juvenile Justice Center. She has lead the Kane County Juvenile Justice Center through three PREA certification audits. The Kane County Juvenile Justice Center was one of the first facilities in Illinois to be PREA Certified and this would not have been possible without Amy. She has also been instrumental in developing specialized programming for girls and creating a nurturing / supportive culture within the facility, which is based on praise, rewards, and incentives.

Congratulations Amy Sierra as this year's recipient of the Connie Kaiser Restorative Justice Award.

2026 IPCSA Roll Calls featuring the talent among us!

The IPCSA Executive Board of Directors will be highlighting our members by featuring them in the 2026 Roll Call line up. If you are specialized in a topic and willing to provide an hour virtual workshop, contact Cheryl at association1969@ipcsa.org.



Michael Shaughnessy Superior Service Award

JOYCE TASTAD St.Clair County

The Michael Shaughnessy Superior Service Award is awarded throughout the year to IPCSA members who have demonstrated superior service to their department, to the Association, and to the field of probation prior to their retirement.

Joyce Tastad started her career with St. Clair County Probation as a part-time corrections officer at the St. Clair County Detention Center. In 1997, she transitioned to the Probation Department where she demonstrated an incredible level of care and compassion for the individuals she supervised. She proved herself to always be fair and impartial when working with the individuals on her caseload, easily developing a supportive rapport to assist them during their probation journey. Her passion and commitment didn't end with the individuals on her caseload as she made several contributions to the department as well. Joyce organized and supervised the Adopt-a-Highway program for community service, she assisted in the establishment of the Viva Jr. Drug Testing Analyzer and was instrumental in training new officers on the proper way to interview/complete a Pre-Sentence Investigation and conducting criminal history reports for the Court.

After graduating from Parks College with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Social Psychology, Joyce dedicated over 33 years of service to the St. Clair County Probation Department. In her career she helped individuals move towards change while serving in the DUI Unit, Domestic Violence, Investigations & Drug Testing, and administrative transfers. She was promoted to Supervisor in 2022.

Joyce's involvement in supporting her community does not end with her profession. She also volunteered with the Junior Achievement Program at the Millstadt Grade School, was active with the PTA, served on her church council, taught Sunday school, and was a member of the Millstadt Community Choir.

Over the years, Joyce was awarded the following distinctions:

- ⇒ 2007 Recognized by Supervisor for assisting in special projects and assignments
- ⇒ 2010 IPCSA Distinguished Service Award
- ⇒ 2016 Recognized by Federal Probation for assisting with numerous Pre-Trial Investigations
- ⇒ 2023 St. Clair County Distinguished Service Award for 30+ years of service

Joyce's supervisor stated they had the privilege of supervising Joyce for the last 15 years and watched as she became efficient in her knowledge of LEADS, REJIS and Interviewing. He noted her statistics in regards to completion of investigations are astonishing:

- ⇒ 1,311 PSI's
- ⇒ 7,604 Criminal History Reports
- ⇒ 1,312 assist to requests for records from other counties/states

Over her 33 years of service at the St. Clair County Probation Department, Joyce never stopped working on improving herself professionally.

Congratulations Joyce Tastad as this year's recipient of the Michael Shaughnessy Superior Service Award.

IPCSA CUBS GAME

May 1, 2026 @ 1:20 p.m.
Cubs
VS.
Diamondbacks

We have 235 tickets in the 200-level reserved.
Ticket cost is \$30 each.

Please reserve your tickets by emailing Frank Morelli at FMorelli@lakecountylil.gov . He will need to know your name, county, number of tickets, total cost of the order and your phone number. Ticket orders will not be confirmed until payment is received.



Payments can be made by Venmo:



Frank Morelli
@Frank-Morelli-7



Scan this code to pay

Or by check made out to **IPCSA** and sent to Frank Morelli at
Lake County Adult Probation, 215 West Water Street,
Waukegan, IL 60085. Once your payment has been received you will
get an email confirmation that your order has been accepted.
*No refunds will be issued unless we can resell your ticket.

The un-official Pre-IPCSA Cubs Game Outing is confirmed for Murphy's Bleachers. I have again reserved the upstairs (South) bar at Murphy's Bleachers. The gathering will start at 10:30 am and will conclude at approximately 12:30 pm with the raffle. As always, the cost is free to attend (food and drinks are on your own).



IPCSA ICON RETIRES



For 39 years, John McCabe has served as a lobbyist for the Illinois Probation and Court Services Association. As President of John McCabe & Associates, Ltd., John and his full-service government affairs consulting firm have effectively represented the organization's interests in Springfield with professionalism.

John has not just been our lobbyist....his official title is Governmental Affairs Officer.... he was unofficially the IPCSA historian and officially/unofficially the IPCSA Photographer.

John has twice been awarded the IPCSA President's Award, and twice awarded the Legislative Service Award, including in 2022, when the award was also named after him.

John is a native of Illinois. He was born in Clinton, Illinois, and was raised on Chicago's South Side. As you would expect, he is an avid Chicago White Sox fan. John is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

John has worked for the Champaign News-Gazette, the Illinois House of Representatives, and the City of Chicago. He was the director of Legislative Consultants of Illinois and later John McCabe & Associates. He has been a lobbyist for more than 45 years.

John knows more about Probation than most. John has worked tirelessly to get full funding as the norm. His work, and every line officer's work has led the Supreme Courts to make probation as the centerpiece of their budget presentation every year. What that means to you and me is that John has worked hard, and successfully, for Probation Officers in Illinois to earn a livable wage and stabilize your local probation budget.

IPCSA presidents and members of the Legislative Committee have made trips to Springfield to speak with legislators about full funding for probation and other important topics related to what we do. John always promotes probation when meeting with legislators. It is never about him but always about the hard work of probation officers and the great work that we all do.

Because of John, the Presidents of IPCSA and Legislative Chairs have had the opportunity to testify before both the Senate and House Appropriations Committees and meet with legislators individually. Because of John we have been invited to speak before joint committees on Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Frankly, it would be impossible to list all of the great accomplishments and hard work that John has done for IPCSA in Springfield. The hard work of John McCabe has helped get us to where we are today as a profession. This is who John McCabe is.

John and his wife Nancy Nash live in Chicago and have two adult children, Jimmy and Melissa. In his free time, John enjoys attending sporting events (especially White Sox games), watching The History Channel and walking his daughter's dog. This is who John McCabe is.

As mentioned earlier, John is an avid White Sox fan and every year he puts on a fund raiser at Guaranteed Rate Field (aka Comisky Park) for ALS a disease with no cure that has affected some of us. That is who John McCabe is. He bleeds probation blood!

Thank you John McCabe for your unwavering support and passion to IPCSA over the past 39 years!

FEATURED MEMBER-DEBORAH NORMAN



My journey with IPCSA began when Frank Morelli encouraged me to learn more about the organization and how I could become involved. Frank spoke highly of IPCSA and emphasized the importance of building connections with others in the field. At the time, my knowledge of probation was limited to what I had learned during my internship with Cook County Social Services, but I was eager to understand how probation operated throughout the state of Illinois.

My coworker Vanissa and I attended our first IPCSA conference together, where I truly enjoyed both the trainings and the social activities. During the conference, I learned about the various committees available to members, which sparked my interest in becoming more involved. I was drawn to the Membership Committee and the Substance Abuse Committee (SAC).

I attempted to gather more information about the Membership Committee but was not very successful. However, when I emailed the Substance Abuse Committee (SAC), I received an immediate response with details about their next meeting. At that time, SAC meetings were held on the Illinois State University campus in Normal, Illinois. My coworker and I didn't hesitate—we got in the car and took the road trip.

From the moment I joined, the Substance Abuse Committee made me feel so welcome that I never looked back. Being part of SAC taught me the importance of giving back to the community. Each fall conference, we organized fundraisers such as silent auctions, collection drives, or other activities to raise funds. In turn, we selected an agency within the host county that served clients or families affected by substance abuse. My favorite fundraiser was the Jail and Bail. Not only did we raise a significant amount of money for our chosen charity, but we also had an incredible time. We laughed all night while chasing "offenders" and "escapees" around, bringing them to justice for a great cause.

I will admit, I was content being a member of the Substance Abuse Committee when an unexpected opportunity presented itself. At the time, Tracy was serving as Representative Chair and was preparing to step into the role of Vice President. She asked if I would be willing to take on the position of Representative Chair. My initial reaction was, *um, no!* I was comfortable where I was. Outside of the Substance Abuse Committee, I didn't know much about the organization, and the thought of sitting at the head table with everyone looking at me was intimidating. I also was curious about how the organization worked and made decisions for so many. Once I got approval from my director I moved into position of Representative Chair.

Tracy encouraged me to step outside my comfort zone, and I am so glad I listened. Accepting that role was one of the best decisions I made in my probation career. Along the way, I had the opportunity to be part of something truly special. I learned and grew within the organization, attended top-notch trainings, and gained insight into the inner workings of the Association in Springfield — you know, where the money comes from!

I strengthened my speaking and leadership skills and became more confident in myself and my abilities. During some of the most challenging times in my career, I was able to lean on people who helped me navigate the difficulties of this field. For that, I will be forever grateful. Attending conferences became my source of recharging you know a place where I felt supported, inspired, and renewed.

There has always been a *thing* about me and hotel rooms at our yearly board meetings. Somehow, I always managed to be assigned a room with some kind of malfunction. I once had a room with no running water. Another time, I was given a room with no furniture, not even a bed. When I was reassigned, all the furniture was stacked *on top* of the bed. I was placed in a room with an open window. I think the funniest was being given a key card to a room that had no door. I never got mad; it just became a thing. And honestly, they're great memories.

I want to say thank you to the executive board members I've had the opportunity to work with. Being on the board is not an easy task. At times, the board has had to address serious issues. While we don't all share the same views or values, the executive board always works to represent *all* probation officers, social service officers, and detention officers across the State of Illinois. The focus has always been the betterment of this great organization and its members.

I am truly honored to have served on the executive board as Representative Chair. A special thank you to Tracy, I would have never stepped outside my comfort zone and into that position. I was perfectly content sitting in the crowd, thinking, *that could never be me*. And then one day, it was me. It was me for a long time, and I value every experience I've had as part of this board. This is an incredible group of individuals to learn from. John, I miss the chocolate! I could go on and on, but I simply want to say thank you for this opportunity. Remember to invest in IPCSA and its committees, because this organization truly invests in you. I'll be seeing you around at conference.

Grateful and Thankful
Deborah Norman—Lake County Adult Probation

FEATURED MEMBER-THOMAS GREGORY

When you think about legacy, we often think of something left behind...something finished.

But the true definition of a legacy isn't what ends when someone leaves; it's what continues because they were here.

A legacy is the people shaped, the standards set, and the courage passed on long after the title is gone.

Today, as we celebrate Tom Gregory and his 28 years of service, it's clear that his legacy is not confined to policies, programs, or achievements, though those are many.

His legacy lives in us.



For nearly three decades, he showed us what dedication truly looks like.

Not the easy kind, but the kind that shows up even when life is heavy, when answers aren't clear, and when the work is hard.

He reminded us, simply by being present, that commitment isn't about convenience; it's about responsibility and care.

He taught us that change matters.

That progress doesn't always come in sweeping moments, but often through consistent effort, thoughtful leadership, and the willingness to do the right thing again and again.

Because of him, things are better than they were before, and that impact will continue to ripple forward.

But perhaps the most meaningful part of his legacy is this: he showed us how to be human.

He never pretended to have it all figured out.

He allowed himself to grow, to evolve, and to learn alongside us.

In doing so, he gave us permission to do the same.

He reminded us that leadership is not about perfection, it's about authenticity.

After 28 years, what he leaves behind is more than an organization that's stronger.

He leaves behind people who are more confident, more capable, and more inspired because of his example.

So, today, this isn't goodbye.

It's a thank you.

Thank you for your time, your dedication, your resilience, and your humanity.

Your legacy is alive, and it will carry forward in every person whose life you've touched.

Congratulations on your retirement and on a legacy that truly lasts.

With much love,
Your Probation Family

IPCSA BUSINESS MEETING 10/10/25

Call Meeting to Order – Carla

Meeting called to order at 9:04 am

President's Comments – Carla

Spring Conference-Lake County and the keynote is Joe Arvidson- check out the Criminologist podcast.

Legislative Report-Mark Jarmer

**Summer of Love Tour-meeting with key legislators around the state
Veto Session-Beings next week Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and then again the next week;**

Legislative Tracking-Mark, Carla, Lisa, and Tod meet to review and then send out to committees.

Report Submitted by Mark Jarmer

Post Conference Financial Info/Treasurer's Report – Steve

Association is in Good Financial standing.

\$310,000 accessible in our funds, prior to conference

50/50 Raffle \$191

Two Organizations WIN Recovery and Street College will each receive at least \$1740 each.

WIN Recovery thanked the committee for the assistance.

Post Conference Wrap Up (Updated Names needed for Committees):

Committee Reports – Lissa

Great job to Champaign County!

Awards (Lissa/Tracy Carriere)

Report Submitted by Lissa DeSplinter

CMO (Lisa Aust/Tod Dillard)

Report Submitted by Tod Dillard

Detention (Mike Davis/Dennis McMahan)

Report Submitted

Human Advocacy Committee

Report Submitted by Linda O'Brien

Interstate/Intrastate

Did not meet at conference Next Meeting will be on Oct 20th time TBD

Juvenile (Laura Bergman/Jess Brannan)

Report Submitted by Jess Brannan

Membership

Report Submitted by Deborah Norman

Nominations/Elections (Frank Morelli)

Report Submitted by Les Niemi

Officer Safety & Wellness (Kelsie Roberts/Jennifer Crites)

Report Submitted by Jennifer Crites and Kelsie Roberts

Pretrial (Mike Venditti/Tamara Williams)

Report Submitted by Michael Venditti

Program (Tina Quick/Suzanne Stamm)

Report Submitted by Tina Quick and Suzanne Stamm

Research (Alice Elliott/ Mary Colleen Powers)

Report Submitted by Banee' Ulrici

Resource

Report Submitted by Evan Driver

Sex Offender (Brian VanMeter)

No Report Submitted

Con't on next page

IPCSA BUSINESS MEETING (CON'T)

Substance Abuse/PSC

Report Submitted by Chris Winters

Supervisor (Dan Gates)

Report Submitted by Dan Gates

Technology (Ashley Dryden)

No Report Submitted

Representative (Lissa)

Report Submitted by Deborah Norman

Plaque Presentation

Carla made presentation of Host County Plaques

Seth presented the plaques Outgoing Board Member Plaques for

Brian Brown

Jennifer Crites

John McCabe

Deborah Norman

Call for Old Business – Seth

Roll Call October 28th

Submit articles for the Outlook by 12/19

IPCSA hosting virtual pop- 130-330 with Dr. Brian Lovins

Leadership Academy Application

Call for New Business – Seth

No New Business

Motion to Adjourn – Carla

Motion by Evan Driver Pike County

Seconded by Jennifer Crites Champaign County

Motion Carries.

IPCSA CONTACT INFORMATION

217-663-6728

association1969@ipcsa.org

**P.O. Box 474
Effingham, IL 62401**



2026 IPCSA SPRING CONFERENCE

April 22-24, 2026 Lake County (Gurnee, IL)

Featuring Keynote **Joe Arvidson, The Paragon Group, LLC**



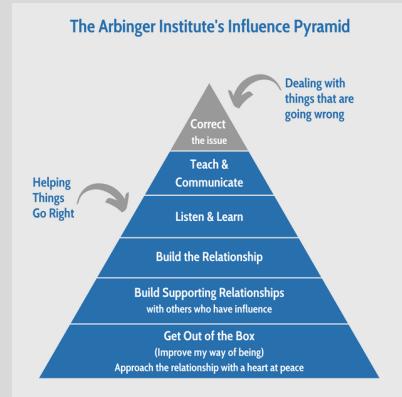
Joseph Arvidson, MS, GCERT, is Executive Director of The Paragon Group, LLC. The Paragon Group strives to promote and advance evidence-based practices in the arena of criminal justice. Their scope of services include speaking engagements, training and consulting as to RNR and desistance-based models. Mr. Arvidson's training and consulting clientele have ranged from Federal Probation to local for profit and non-profit agencies. His career in Corrections spans over 30 years. He has extensive experience training and facilitating a variety of Evidence Based Practices ranging from Cognitive Skills programs, Motivational Interviewing, and Risk Assessment. He is a Master Trainer of the Level of Services/Case Management Inventory and trainer of the Dynamic Risk Assessment for Offender Reentry tool. Mr. Arvidson has been an adjunct faculty member at Concordia University and Metropolitan State University since 2000, where he teaches a number of graduate and undergraduate level Criminal Justice courses. Mr. Arvidson received both his B.A. and M.S. degrees from St. Cloud State University in the discipline of Criminal Justice Administration. He also attained a Graduate Certificate in Project Management from Metropolitan State University. He currently serves as member of Concordia University's Criminal Justice Executive Advisory Board. Mr. Arvidson is co-host of The Criminologists podcast.

Golf Outing and Conference Registration Information Coming Soon to Www.ipcsa.org-Events Tab

2026 IPCSA LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM

June 23-24, 2026 Bloomington, IL

Featuring Keynote **Arbinger Institute**



Three essentials to shifting mindset



Build Self-Awareness

Help people recognize how their mindset influences their behavior and impacts others



Develop Accountable People

Give employees the tools to be accountable, not just be held accountable



Align Collective Effort

Bring individual and team effort into alignment to accelerate organizational results

Registration Information Coming Soon to

Www.ipcsa.org-Events Tab

IPCSA FALL CONFERENCE CALL FOR PRESENTERS



Illinois Probation and Court Services

Fall Training Conference

DuPage County

The Illinois Probation and Court Services Association is a membership organization of probation and court services practitioners across the state. IPCSA is actively soliciting workshop proposals for the 2026 Fall Conference.

IPCSA conferences examine the state of community corrections practice in Illinois and the nation, and provide a forum for practitioners to examine their roles in achieving “best practices. IPCSA welcomes workshops with a research or evaluation component as well as policy development. Workshop proposals should articulate principles which encompass evidence-based practices.

If you have any questions, or would be interested in presenting at 2026 fall conference, please complete this form and email it to tquick@vercounty.org.

Presenter(s) Information:

Name: _____
Agency/Organization: _____
Work Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name:
Agency/Organization:
Work Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone: Email:

Title of Session/Presentation:

Length of presentation: 90 minutes 3 hours other: please specify

Does your presentation assist attendees in one of more of the following areas (check all that apply):

- Gain knowledge of applicable statutes (Probation Officer's Act, Juvenile Court Act, and/or the Pretrial Act)
- Gain knowledge of evidence-based principles for effective client change
- Gain or improve understanding of the Probation Casework Model to assist attendees in identifying risk domains that contribute to offender behavior
- Gain or improve understanding of the stages of change and the attendee's role as an agent of change
- Assist attendees with interacting with clients in a non-judgmental, respective and fair manner
- Gain or improve understanding of governmental and non-governmental systems and resources both locally and statewide.

Do you charge a speaker fee? No Yes: if yes, how much?

Do you charge travel expenses? No Yes: If so, please specify.

Primary Contact/Lead Presenter:

Please send this form to Tina Quick at tquick@vercounty.org

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: July 1, 2026

IPCSA SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The Illinois Probation and Court Services Association is a professional organization that among other things is designed to *“Promote initiatives that improve the delivery of probation, pretrial, juvenile detention, and court services.”* The Executive Board has developed this scholarship opportunity to give back to members who are furthering the mission to support professional growth and development.

In 2026, the IPCSA Executive Board will award one (1) scholarship for up to \$500.00 to a member, who is **furthering their education (beyond Bachelor's level) in a related field or a member who **needs assistance in paying off student debt** related to obtaining a bachelor/master degree.**

Scholarship Criteria:

- ▶ The application period runs from April 1 through June 30
- ▶ Scholarship money can only be used towards tuition, fees and/or books for a class during the application year or previous student loan debt.
- ▶ Scholarship awarded to a current “full member.”
- ▶ Applicant must be currently employed in probation, pretrial or detention in Illinois
- ▶ Applicant must have worked for probation, pretrial or detention in Illinois for two (2) years prior to application.
- ▶ Applicant who is pursuing a higher degree in a related field must be enrolled in an accredited college or university or who will be using the scholarship for debt relief purposes (must be from an accredited college or university and the degree must be from a related field).

Scholarship Process and Selection

The Executive Board will take applications from April 1st through June 1st of each year through a google link posted on the website at www.ipcsa.org. Applications must be filled out in full and be accompanied by a current resume. A small committee of three Executive Board members will review all applications and make a recommendation to the full board, who will vote on the scholarship winner no later than July. Decisions will be based on the above listed criteria, an agreement to the scholarship conditions, contents of the application, and demonstrated commitment to the applicant's department, the Association and the profession. The board will have final approval of scholarship selection decisions and will not discriminate against applicant's disability, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or sexual identity. The small committee of the Executive Board will make notification to all applicants no later than August.

Payment and Verification

A direct payment in the form of a check will be made to the selected candidate with an announcement being made during the Fall conference.

Furthering education

The scholarship awardee will be required to submit registration verification along with copies of receipts for books for upcoming education.

Debt Assistance

For those individuals who are using the award to repay previous school related cost, verification of debt must be provided. Awardee must provide documentation the scholarship has been applied in accordance with the criteria.

In addition, awardee will be required to furnish the Executive Board with a letter from Director/supervisor verifying the recipient is not receiving competing funds.

Questions may be directed to: association1969@ipcsa.org

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE STATE.....FORD COUNTY

Ford County Probation and Court Services Adds a New Officer to its Staff

Two years ago, Ford County Probation and Court Services began the lengthy conversation and research of the numerous benefits an emotional support dog would bring not only to their clients and courthouse staff but to the citizens of Ford County. Director Harrison then embarked on the journey of the approval process through the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts and the Ford County Board, as such a dog would be the first one placed in a Probation and Court Services Department in the State of Illinois.

In the summer of 2023, the department was given the final approval to pursue an emotional support dog to join their department. Although the search was long and had several setbacks due to Federal Grant cuts, they finally had a Golden Retriever named Marshall join their staff in March of this year.

Marshall was born right here in Ford County in January and has already made an impact in the Ford County Courthouse and to the clients involved in Probation, Court Services, Pretrial and Civil Cases. Director Harrison stated “It has really changed the morale in the courthouse. He has made a profound impact in his first six months in Ford County. We are just so grateful for this opportunity.”

The criminal justice system can be a confusing and intimidating place for people. Marshall’s primary job is to provide comfort and companionship to decrease anxiety and stress, help people cope and address prior trauma, increase emotional wellbeing, and improve the quality of life for the people visiting our department and/or courthouse. Marshall will eventually partner with other stakeholders including the Ford County Victim Advocate and Clove Alliance to help support victims involved in court proceedings and testifying once he completes his training regimen.

Marshall is being trained by Derek Crouse of Crouse Canine’s. Derek recently stated that “Marshall is special. Being approached to do something that will affect everyone this team corresponds with was a no brainer.” Derek is known nationally for his work across the country including Buckeye, the Therapy Dog for Clove Alliance and Ruby, the Therapy Dog for Iroquois Mental Health. Back in 2018, after scoring high in

physical and written tests, Derek was moments away from becoming an Iroquois County Sheriff’s Deputy seeking a future in Police K-9 when he decided to turn down the job and train dogs for the area instead of community policing like his grandfather did for years. Derek is also an advocate for standards of Service Dogs and dog training which will take him to Springfield in the near future to speak on behalf of the cause.

Overall, this team not only strives to provide prosocial support and mental health wellness for the people of Ford County but also hopes to encourage and help other surrounding counties adopt emotional support dogs to provide assistance and support in their area.

Marshall made an appearance at Fall Conference!



HAPPENINGS AROUND THE STATE.....PIKE COUNTY

Bringing Drug Court Back to Pike County

By Evan Driver, Chief Probation Officer, Pike County Probation Department

This year has been an exciting and meaningful one for Pike County, as we officially reestablished Drug Court—an accomplishment that began as my Capstone project through IPCSA's Leadership Academy, which I presented at the culmination of the Academy during the IPCSA Spring Conference earlier this year, and has now become a fully operational program serving our community.

Pike County previously operated a successful Drug Court after being selected as a pilot site in 2003, but the program ended in 2017 following the loss of a local treatment provider. As Chief Probation Officer, I continued to see the impact of substance use on our justice-involved population and the lack of accessible treatment options in our rural area. That reality ultimately shaped my Capstone project, intending to rebuild Drug Court in a way that was sustainable, collaborative, and responsive to current needs.

Since that time, progress has moved quickly. Through a partnership with Clarity Healthcare, we established a local Intensive Outpatient Treatment program, expanding access to evidence-based services within Pike County. I now serve as the Drug Court Probation Officer for the team, and Brittany Taylor, a Pike County Probation Officer, has taken on the role of Drug Court Coordinator. Together, with strong judicial support and committed team members, we have worked to build a multidisciplinary program grounded in accountability, treatment, and recovery.

Collaboration has been the foundation of this effort. Law enforcement, the judiciary, the State's Attorney's Office, the Public Defender, probation staff, and treatment providers came together to form a dedicated Drug Court team. We trained together, coordinated schedules, developed procedures, and ensured the program aligned with best practices. This fall, our entire team attended the Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts Conference, reinforcing our shared commitment and strengthening our readiness to serve participants.

Since the spring presentation of my Capstone project, Pike County Drug Court has obtained contingency certification through the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. We have placed our first participant into the program and continue to consider additional participants every week. We were also fortunate to receive grant funding to support the program, further strengthening its foundation as we move forward.

Reestablishing Drug Court in Pike County has been both challenging and rewarding. It stands as a reminder of what can be accomplished through leadership development, collaboration, and a shared belief in second chances. I am proud of the work our team has done and excited to see the positive impact this program will continue to have on individuals, families, and the Pike County community.



Left to Right: Rick Zimmerman, Public Defender; Walker Filbert, State's Attorney; Donna Dunn, Clarity Healthcare; Evan Driver, Probation Officer; Brittany Taylor, Coordinator; Honorable Judge Zach Boren; Mike Johnson, Sheriff's Department; and Crystal Miller, Deputy Clerk

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE STATE...CHAMPAIGN COUNTY



Champaign County Probation partnered with the University of Illinois Division of Intercollegiate Athletics "Hometown Heroes" to give back to members of the local community, youth, and recognize the work of individuals supporting the community. Champaign County was recognized on the jumbotron during the University of Illinois Men's Basketball game.

Champaign County Probation and Chick-Fil-A partnered to "Feed Families Together" prior to Thanksgiving due to the challenging times. In addition, we donated meals to the homeless shelter in Champaign County and to members of the community sleeping near the Courthouse and the parking garage. Everyone was very appreciative of the kind gesture, and it created a space for Probation Officers and Court Security to foster trust; and provided non-enforcement interactions within the community.

CHICK-FIL-A & CHAMPAIGN COUNTY PROBATION FEEDING FAMILIES TOGETHER!

Location: Champaign County Courthouse
101 E. Main Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801

Date: November 25, 2025

Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Facilitators: Daniel Harrison/Siobhan Reynolds
Nicole Roelfs/Shannon Siders

MEAL GIVEAWAY

PURPOSE:

Our goal is to support families facing food insecurities by providing a meal in this challenging time as we remind our neighbors that every meal shared makes a difference.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

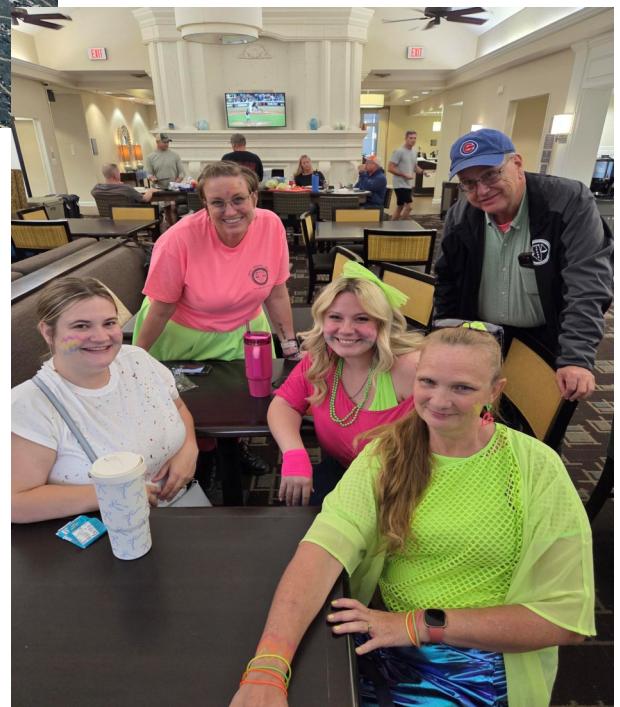
Lunch boxes will be provided for each individual person. Each meal will include a sandwich, fruit, cookies and bottled water. Meals can be picked up in the Jury Room located on the first floor of the Champaign County Courthouse, 101 E. Main Street, Urbana, Illinois on November 25, 2025, between 1:00pm – 3:00pm.

This act of kindness will include 400 meals. First come, first serve.

"Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, and working together is success." Henry Ford!

Contact Siobhan Reynolds/Nicole Roelfs at (217) 384-3753 with any questions.

FALL CONFERENCE RECAP



FALL CONFERENCE RECAP...GLO BINGO!



FALL CONFERENCE RECAP...AWARDS BANQUET



5 FOR 5

Submitting a response to the 5 for 5 at a conference automatically enrolls you in the drawing to win a free conference registration!

Name	Best Time at Conference!	Favorite IPCSA Conference Attended!	What would you be doing if you were not a Probation Officer?	Why did you choose this field?	Client's best excuse for a violation!
Christina Nunez, Juvenile PO Will County	Watching co-workers win awards	Fall 2024	Firefighter	I just love the field of CJ	"It is what it is."
Anne Meyer, DUI Officer Adams County	Glo Bingo	Champaign, Fall 2025	Spending time with my grandchildren	To make a difference	"I tested positive for cocaine because it came from using your pencils!!"
Donovan Schwanke, PO Adams County	Leading a Conga Line	Effingham	Working in a warehouse	Want to see kids get a second chance	"Well if my mom would have told me your number I would have come in."
Tammie Birmann, Deputy Director of Clinical Services Cook County Social Service	Networking with our probation departments and committee meetings	Dekalb County, Cook County (2016) or Lake County	Substance abuse counseling in a correctional setting	I believe in behavior change and 2nd chances. The ability of clients changing after making a mistake is so awesome. Being a part of the change process is so rewarding	"I had to miss my appointment because I had to go to the Cubs game. They are in the playoffs after all!"
Teresa Nunn, Compliance/PO St. Clair County	Learning new information	Find Your Voice	Actress	The desire to help others make better choices	"Other people."
Winner of the Free Spring Conference Registration Kim Reed, Senior PO	Clue game in Bloomington	Quincy, Spring 2025	Therapist	To help the community members successfully complete court requirements	"I didn't know it was a cocaine cigarette. I thought it was regular!"

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Human Advocacy Committee

Abstract:

Human Advocacy Committee: Celebrating Growth, Impact, and Heart

Celebrating its third anniversary at the Fall 2025 Conference, the Human Advocacy Committee continues to grow in both membership and impact. Formed in 2022 and renamed in 2023 to reflect a more inclusive mission, the committee is dedicated to promoting equity, understanding, and safety for all. Committee participation has increased by 30%, with members meeting monthly and staying actively engaged at conference sessions.

The Committee is committed to leaving each conference community better than it found it by supporting local organizations through donation drives and advocacy efforts. In Spring 2025, members supported Advocacy Network for Children, and in Fall 2025, Crisis Nursery, contributing an estimated \$1,535 through fundraising events and donated items.

In addition to outreach, the Committee will contribute to the Association's professional development by recommending training topics that highlight the needs of the vulnerable populations we serve, helping ensure conference programming remains relevant and responsive.

The Human Advocacy Committee meets **every THIRD FRIDAY of the month via Zoom** and welcomes new members who are passionate about advocacy, learning, and meaningful impact. Anyone interested in joining this energetic, creative, and deeply committed group of advocates is encouraged to reach out to Co-Chairs **Linda O'Brien** (Linda.Obrien@cookcountyil.gov) or **Angela Seballos** (ASeballos@lakecountyil.gov).

Full Report:

Human Advocacy Committee: Celebrating Growth, Impact, and Heart

The Human Advocacy Committee proudly celebrated its third anniversary at the Fall 2025 Conference in Champaign County—and what a journey it has been. Originally formed in 2022 through the unification of several smaller committees and formerly known as the Domestic Violence/Victim Concerns/Gender Responsive Committee, the group embraced a new, inclusive identity in 2023. The name *Human Advocacy Committee* reflects our shared commitment to equity, understanding, and safety for all.

Since coming together, the Committee has met monthly via Zoom and continues to see strong engagement at in-person conference meetings. Attendance has grown by 30% since our first meeting in 2022—a clear indicator that this work resonates deeply with our membership.

In early 2024, the Committee experienced a leadership transition when founding Co-Chair Jenee Westjohn stepped down to pursue an exciting new role with the AOIC. We remain deeply grateful for her leadership and vision. Stepping confidently into the co-chair role is Angela Seballos (Lake County), who now serves alongside Linda O'Brien (Cook—Social Service Department). Angela has long been an active committee member—so yes, she knew exactly what she was signing up for!

Beyond growing membership, one powerful goal the Human Advocacy Committee is committed to is to leave each conference community better than we found it. We do this by partnering with and supporting local organizations through donation drives—efforts that are consistently met with overwhelming generosity from the IPCSA membership.

In addition to these advocacy efforts, the Human Advocacy Committee plays an active role in supporting the Association's professional development mission. The Committee regularly suggests and champions training

Con't on next page

COMMITTEE REPORTS (con't)

Human Advocacy Con't

opportunities that align with and highlight the needs of the vulnerable populations we serve, helping ensure conference programming remains relevant, informed, and responsive. By elevating topics rooted in equity, trauma-informed practice, and human-centered approaches, the committee strengthens professional growth while reinforcing our shared values.

At the Spring 2025 Conference, the Association supported Advocacy Network for Children, an organization dedicated to protecting children, giving them a voice, and helping them grow up safe, supported, and valued. Serving multiple counties across west-central Illinois, their work spans both Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)—providing compassionate, coordinated support to children and families while ensuring children's best interests are powerfully represented in court.

At the Fall 2025 Conference, our focus shifted to Crisis Nursery, a cornerstone organization incorporated in 1983 and dedicated to protecting children and strengthening families during moments of crisis. Crisis Nursery offers a true *"Island of Safety,"* providing 24-hour emergency care for children when families have nowhere else to turn. Their services are child-centered, family-focused, voluntary, confidential, and always free of charge—without income eligibility requirements—making them the only organization in Champaign County to offer this level of accessible emergency support.

Thanks to the generosity of our membership and the support of partnering probation agencies, the Association proudly contributed an estimated \$1,535 through Sip 'n Paint fundraising, apple sales, cash and gift card donations, and items purchased through agency Amazon Wish Lists.

Adding depth to these efforts, outreach teams from the organizations we supported joined our Committee meetings to share their work firsthand. At the spring conference, Kristan Miller, Children's Advocacy Center Coordinator, and Jamie Carroll, Children's Advocacy Center Manager with Advocacy Network for Children, provided a thoughtful and engaging presentation. At the fall conference, Rachael Dallas, Director of Operations with Crisis Nursery, joined us for an informative and meaningful discussion. Each presentation concluded with dynamic Q&A sessions, reinforcing the committee's role as a space for learning, connection, and inspiration.

The Human Advocacy Committee continues to meet **every THIRD FRIDAY of the month via Zoom.** Anyone interested in joining this energetic, creative, and deeply committed group of advocates is encouraged to reach out to Co-Chairs **Linda O'Brien** (Linda.Obrien@cookcountyil.gov) or **Angela Seballos** (ASeballos@lakecountyil.gov).

Come for the advocacy  *Stay for the heart* 

IPCSA Upcoming Events:

[**Click Here!**](#)



COMMITTEE REPORTS (con't)

Juvenile Committee: Passing the Baton

I was elected to co-chair the Juvenile Committee in Spring 2018. I had been a steady member of the Committee since about 2010. In 2024, I began my journey through the inaugural IPCSA Leadership Academy, graduating in Spring 2025. Earlier in 2025, I was elected the IPCSA Region 2 Representative, necessitating a need to let my beloved Juvenile Committee go.

Throughout my time in Probation, and as an active member and title holder with IPCSA, my passion for working with the juvenile population has not waivered. I have been so lucky to have three excellent co-chairs, the recently retired and beloved Jana Haskins from Rock Island County, our fearless IPCSA president, Carla Stalnaker of Clinton County, and most recently the other “retiring” co-chair, the amazing Laura Bergman of Morgan County. These women have been true inspirations to me. Each bringing their own level of expertise and knowledge. But they are not the only ones. Two other very strong committee members have always made me want to work harder, push further and work on pertinent issues.

Prior to COVID we had a very strong Juvenile Committee. LaTanya Hill, Kane County, was one member who always stood out. She is articulate, extremely intelligent, very invested in the field and a committee member who has always gone above and beyond. Her fluid understanding of legislative issues and her passion for juvenile reform are just two of the many strengths she will bring to the committee. For these reasons, she was the recipient of the Frank Caulkins Committee Member of the Year award in 2021, nominated by the Juvenile Committee.

Ms. Julie Cho-Valdejuli, also of Kane County, is our other new co-chair taking over for myself and Laura. I first really started to know Julie in about 2019 when the Juvenile Committee and the Intra/Interstate Committee banded together to come up with the first statewide standards for the intrastate transfer of juvenile cases. Ms. Cho-Valdejuli comes to this Committee as a former co-chair of the Intra/Interstate Committee. She brings a vast knowledge due to extensive and multi-disciplinary training. She is trained to facilitate Thinking for a Change and Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT). She is also certified as a JRA trainer. She has been a MRT facilitator for a weekly adult group since 2021 and recently initiated a juvenile group in 2023 in Kane County. Ms. Cho-Valdejuli is a recent graduate of the 2025 IPCSA Inaugural Leadership Academy as well.

Needless to say, the Juvenile Committee is in VERY good hands with these two extremely impressive women. Please join myself and Laura in welcoming and supporting them as they take on this new venture!

Jessica Brannan, Adams County and Laura Bergman, Morgan County.

IPCSA
Committees...the
Backbone of the
Association!



COMMITTEE REPORTS (con't)

Membership Committee

A primary goal of the Membership Committee is to communicate the benefits of Illinois Probation and Court Services Association (IPCSA) membership. A major benefit is the superior trainings provided by the organization. IPCSA brings in national trainers to every conference. The organization also provides trainings with national trainers online for those of us unable to travel to conference. Guess what, membership gives you access to those trainings either free or at a discounted rate. We know trainers can be very expensive!

Another benefit of membership is the opportunity to network with other professionals in the field. It's always nice to have conversations with people who can relate to your experiences. It is always valuable to be able to pick up the phone and call a colleague in another county to obtain information you may need urgently. Also, you can exchange ideas on how to handle a case or what treatment agencies are available in that area. IPCSA is a melting pot where you can come together and connect with people from any of the 24 circuits.

Tell your coworkers how great IPCSA is. Share with them what makes IPCSA such a valuable organization. Look forward to seeing you at spring conference in Lake County. For more information about IPCSA and membership visit us at www.ipcsa.org, like us on Facebook, or contact Deborah Norman, Membership Chair at dnorman@lakecountyil.gov.

Nominations / Elections Committee

In the fall of 2026, the IPCSA Executive Board positions of Region II Representative, Statewide Representative and President-Elect are open for election. Region II consists of the following Circuits: 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 21, and 24th.

The following qualifications are necessary to run for office: Full membership in the Association, active participation in committees or special projects for two years, appropriate judicial officer approval to attend, travel, and devote time to the Association business, and verification of qualifications by the Nominations/Elections Committee. If you would like more information about these elections, or about becoming a committee member, please contact Frank Morelli at 847-377-3646.

Pretrial Services Committee

In 2025 beginning at Spring conference, the Committee kicked off the IPCSA Pretrial training track in collaboration with the Office of Statewide Pretrial Services (OSPS) and the Illinois Supreme Court Judicial College Committee on Pretrial Education (CPTE). At the spring and fall conference, all of the Pretrial track trainings were highly attended and received very positive reviews! Starting at Spring conference in 2026, the Committee will be partnering with the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies (NAPSA) to expand upon the Pretrial specific training track and bring national experts in the field of Pretrial to develop and provide trainings at future IPCSA conferences. Additionally Pretrial professionals from the Midwest region of NAPSA are being encouraged to join the association and attend future conferences, allowing us to further expand the diversity and number of trainings offered under the Pretrial training track.

The Committee hopes to continue to assist with networking, supporting and fostering communication among all Pretrial professionals and Pretrial agencies across Illinois.

As always, the Committee welcomes anyone to join who is interested in promoting best practices in Pretrial Services and supporting Pretrial agencies across the state.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (con't)

Representative Committee

We're pleased to announce a leadership transition within our Committee chairs. Lissa DeSplinter has been appointed as the new Representative Chair, following the departure of Deborah Norman. We extend our sincere appreciation to Deborah for her years of dedication and valuable contributions, and we warmly welcome Lissa into her new role.

During the recent Committee meeting, several key updates were shared. All Committees are asked to notify us of any changes to their chair status, including new appointments, resignations, or role transitions.

To enhance communication and streamline resource sharing, the creation of a shared Google Drive, or something similar, for all Committee Chairs is currently being considered. Additional information regarding access and usage will be provided soon.

Looking ahead to the upcoming business meeting, each Committee is expected to have a Co-Chair present to deliver a brief report. If a Co-Chair is unable to attend, a written summary of recent committee activity should be submitted in advance so it can be presented on their behalf.

For committee members unable to attend the meeting in person, Co-Chairs will be responsible for setting up and distributing a Zoom link if virtual participation is desired.

As an added highlight, the Representative Committee held three IPCSA merchandise giveaways during the meeting—thank you to all who participated!

For more information about the Association or any Committee, please visit www.ipcsa.org, like us on Facebook, or contact Lissa DeSplinter, Representative Chair, at ldesplinter@co.rock-island.il.us or 309-558-3789.

ARE YOU INTRESTED IN HOSTING A CONFERENCE IN 2027?

Contact Seth Krause, President-Elect

sakrause@22ndcircuitil.gov

Did you know?

⇒ **You don't have to have a conference center in your circuit to host a conference?**

⇒ **Your county receives a 20% discount on all conference registrations?**

COMMITTEE REPORTS (con't)

Research Committee

The Research Committee is committed to providing IPCSA members with timely, relevant research to inform professional practice. We collaborate with the Executive Board and other committees to collect and analyze data that reflects the profile of our profession and the challenges facing probation. Our current priority is compiling evidence from multiple sources to demonstrate to legislators that probation remains the most cost-effective strategy for promoting public safety.

We also host forums to share published findings and emerging research in the field.

Featured Study: Probation Officers' Perceptions of Economic Barriers to Successful Probation in Eastern North Carolina

Abstract: This qualitative study examined probation officers' views on economic challenges that hinder probationers' successful completion. Key barriers included unemployment, financial sanctions, housing instability, and debt—factors linked to noncompliance and recidivism. Using Merton's Strain Theory as a framework, the research addressed a gap by focusing on officers' experiences supervising individuals facing economic hardship. Data from semi-structured interviews with twelve officers were analyzed thematically.

Key Findings:

- Financial strain and limited job readiness significantly affect probation outcomes.
- Officers' initial assessments of economic conditions influence compliance.
- Recommendations include enhanced officer training and early financial evaluations.

Future research should broaden geographic scope and incorporate probationer perspectives. These insights support equitable practices that reduce recidivism, improve rehabilitation, and strengthen trust between justice-involved individuals and the probation system. <https://scholarworks.waldenu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=19380&context=dissertations>

Let the Research Committee know of topics you'd like more information about or studies your department is currently engaged in.

If you are interested in learning more about the Research Committee, please reach out to Alice Elliott or Mary Colleen Powers- aelliott@kendallcountyil.gov; mc.powers@dupagecounty.gov



**It's time to renew
your 2026
membership with
IPCSA.**

Renew HERE!

COMMITTEE REPORTS (con't)

Substance Abuse & Problem-Solving Court Committee

Our Committee meets at least twice per year. Twice being at Spring and Fall conferences and then we meet virtually as needed, usually in preparation for each conference. Our Committee has several goals and objectives we attempt to achieve each year.

First, we attempt to maintain and increase the membership of our Committee. We do that by reaching out to IPCSA members at both conferences through the new member receptions, as well as sending emails to all members of our Committee regarding legislation for which we may need to provide input and any other news we may have as a committee.

Second, we strive to develop ongoing professional education for the membership. We try to bring in a presenter to each conference committee member on topics relevant to our Committee and overall Association membership. At Fall Conference we had Total Court Services come speak. We were unable to sponsor a training; however, we did give recommendations to the Program Committee and will continue to do so.

Third, we work to increase public awareness regarding substance abuse and mental health related issues by having free materials at our table for the education of our membership, but also information that can be disseminated by PO's on the job. We also achieve this goal by the trainings we sponsor as well as during our Committee meetings.

Fourth, we make it a priority to work with the Legislative Committee to review any pending legislation that may be relevant to the work we do as PO's connected to substance abuse and mental health concerns.

And finally, we try to do a fundraiser at our Committee table each conference to raise funds for a non-profit local to the area in which the conference is held. In the fall we did a winter/needs drive for the 6th Judicial Circuit's Problem Solving Courts. We have a couple new goals for 2026 and are excited to work with our Committee and the Executive Board to try to bring some new trainers to IPCSA.

IPCSA CONTACT INFORMATION

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Email: association1969@ipcsa.org



Website: www.ipcsa.org

Facebook: Illinois Probation and Court Services Association

"We work in a field that changes lives every single day. I believe the time is now for us to unite across the state—to stand together in advocating for the work we do and the meaningful impact we have on our clients, our communities, and our profession. There is strength in numbers, and the larger we grow, the greater our influence will be in shaping positive change in our field."

Carla Stalnaker IPCSA President

IPCSA COMMITTEE INFORMATION



Committees provide numerous functions for the Association. Whether it is developing training, working with vendors, helping with legislation or fundraising, the Committees are vital to the future of our Association. It is necessary to receive permission from your Chief Managing Officer to join a Committee. Please contact any of the following chairpersons if you want information or would like to join a committee.

- ▶ **Awards Committee** Tracy Burke-Carriere (co-chair) 13th Judicial Circuit 815-872-9851 TBCarriere@bureaucounty-il.gov
- ▶ **Awards Committee** Lissa Desplinter (co-chair) Rock Island County 309-558-3784 ldesplinter@co.rock-island.il.us
- ▶ **CMO/Legislative Committee** Lisa Aust (co-chair) Kane County 630-232-5805 austisa@16thcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov
- ▶ **CMO/Legislative Committee** Tod Dillard (co-chair) Morgan County 217-243-9468 tdillard@morgancounty-il.com
- ▶ **Detention Committee** Dennis McMahan (co-chair) Lake County 847-377-7989 DMcMahan@lakecountyil.gov
- ▶ **Detention Committee** Mike Davis (co-chair) Kane County 847-377-7989 davismichael@16thcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov
- ▶ **Human Advocacy** Linda O'Brien (co-chair) Cook County 312-325-9017 linda.obrien@cookcountyil.gov
- ▶ **Human Advocacy** Angela Sebellos (co-chair) Lake County 847-377-4504 asebellos@lakecountyil.gov
- ▶ **Interstate/Intrastate Committee** Jamie Cates (co-chair) Tazewell County 309-241-6153 jcates@tazewell.com
- ▶ **Interstate/Intrastate Committee** Vacant (co-chair)
- ▶ **Juvenile Probation Committee** LaTanya Hill (co-chair) Kane County 630-444-22951 hilllatanya@16thcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov
- ▶ **Juvenile Probation Committee** Julie Cho-Valdejuli (co-chair) Kane County 630-444-3156 Valldejulijulie@16thcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov
- ▶ **Membership Committee** Deborah Norman (chair) Lake County 847-377-4348 dnorman@lakecountyil.gov
- ▶ **Nominations/Elections Committee** Frank W. Morelli (chair) Lake County 847-377-3646 fmorelli@lakecountyil.gov
- ▶ **Officer Safety and Wellness Committee** Kelsie Roberts (co-chair) Morgan County 217-243-9468 kroberts@morgancountyil.com
- ▶ **Officer Safety and Wellness Committee** Jennifer Crites (co-chair) Champaign County 217-384-3753 jcrites@champaign.il.us
- ▶ **Pretrial Services Committee** Tammy Williams (co-chair) Kane County 630-232-2772 williamstamara@16thcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov
- ▶ **Pretrial Services Committee** Michael Venditti (co-chair) DeKalb County 815-895-7193 mvenditti@dekalbcounty.org
- ▶ **Program Committee** Jacqueline Juodis (co-chair) Kendall County 630-553-4180 jjuodis@kendallcountyil.gov
- ▶ **Program Committee** Susanne Stamm (co-chair) Will County 815-545-7676 sstamm@willcountyillinois.com
- ▶ **Representative Committee** Lissa DeSplinter (chair) Rock Island County 309-558-3789 ldesplinter@co.rock-island.il.us
- ▶ **Research Committee** Alice Elliott (co-chair) Kendall County 630-553-4180 aelliott@co.kendall.il.us
- ▶ **Research Committee** Mary Colleen Powers (co-chair) DuPage County 630-407-8379 mc.powers@dupagecounty.gov
- ▶ **Resource Committee** Nick Buccieri Dekalb County 815-895-7193 nbuccieri@dekalbcounty.org
- ▶ **Resource Committee** Evan Driver (co-chair) Pike County 217-285-2041 edriver@pikecountyil.org
- ▶ **Sex Offender Committee** Brian VanMeter (co-chair) Kendall County 630-553-4180 bvanmeter@co.kendall.il.us
- ▶ **Sex Offender Committee** Caleb Lawrence (co-chair) Tazewell County 309-478-5754 clawrence@tazewell-il.gov
- ▶ **Substance Abuse Committee** Christine Winters (co-chair) Effingham County 217-347-7931 cwinters@co.effingham.il.us
- ▶ **Substance Abuse Committee** Kim Reed (co-chair) 16th Judicial Circuit 630-406-7191 ReedKimberly@16thCircuit.IllinoisCourts.gov
- ▶ **Supervisor Committee** Brooke Plachno (co-chair) Ogle County 630-762-2774 bplachno@oglecountyil.gov
- ▶ **Supervisor Committee** Dan Gates (co-chair) 16th Judicial Circuit 630-762-2774 GatesDan@16thCircuit.IllinoisCourts.gov
- ▶ **Technology Committee** Ashley Dryden (chair) Effingham County 217-342-8411 adryden@effinghamcountyil.gov