

**U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services
District of New Hampshire**

Personnel Changes and Highlights

U.S. Probation Officer Kathleen Mattei resigned on October 11, 2013

Jonathan Hurtig transferred from the District of Massachusetts on January 13, 2014 to succeed Chief U.S. Probation Officer Thomas Tarr who retired on January 31, 2014

Steven Seero was hired as a U.S. Probation Officer on February 24, 2014

Sean Buckley was promoted to Probation Officer Specialist on June 2, 2014

Matthew DiCarlo was promoted to Probation Officer Specialist on June 2, 2014

Eric Czapka was hired as a Student Intern through the Pretrial Services Student Program on June 30, 2014

Pretrial Services

In FY 2014, the District of New Hampshire realized a 34% increase in pretrial activations, with 195 activations (180 within District and 15 transfers received). This was the first increase since FY 2011 to FY 2012. In FY 2014, we received 54 defendants for supervision (41 regular, 10 courtesy, and 3 diversion). New Hampshire's pretrial detention rate increased by 3% from FY 2013 to FY 2014; however, it remains 10% below the First Circuit average of 63%.

Pretrial supervision investigations increased in FY 2014. Despite that increase, pretrial violations decreased by 32%. There were 15 pretrial supervision violation investigations in FY 2014, reaching its lowest number since FY 1994 (15 investigations).

Presentence Investigations

A total of 146 presentence investigation reports were completed during FY 2014; a 3% decrease from the number of reports completed in FY 2013. This number has consistently decreased since FY 2011. The FY 2014 average submission time for presentence reports increased in efficiency by 4%.

FY 2014 saw a continuing trend in the types of cases received by our office. Specifically, the office has seen more multi-defendant prescription medication cases, as well as increases in the number of immigration and sex-related cases.

Post-Conviction Supervision

In FY 2014, the Supervision Unit underwent changes with respect to both personnel and practices, including the hiring of a new officer, the promotion of an officer, the departure of a seasoned officer, and the transfer of an officer from the Investigations Unit. The Supervision Unit also

continued its focus on the timely submission of case plans by USPOs, where dramatic improvements had begun in FY 2013. In fact, the District of New Hampshire was among the higher ranked districts nationally in terms of the timely submission and approval of post-conviction case plans. Other changes involved more emphasis on using data to inform decisions and supervision practices in general, an increased use of alternative work sites, and the switch from a long-time vendor of location monitoring services to another vendor that was awarded the national contract. Lastly, the Supervision Unit continues to implement evidence-based practices to help change offender behavior. Progress will continue in FY 2015.

There were a total of 344 cases on active supervision in FY 2014, which was a 12% decrease from FY 2013. There were 192 cases closed from active supervision in FY 2014; 60 of which were closed due to revocation.

FY 2014 saw an increase in revocations for the fourth straight year with 56 offenders accounting for 60 revocations. Similarly, the average Risk Prediction Index (RPI) score among active supervision cases increased nearly 3% from 4.26 in FY 2013 to 4.37 in FY 2014. The average RPI of offenders who revoked was 6.05 in FY 2014. Of those revocations, 40 were considered technical violations (67%), 12 were major violations (20%), and 8 were minor violations (13%).

In FY 2014, 23 cases were terminated early from supervision, which realized a total savings of \$85,924.52.

LASER Docket Program

The District of New Hampshire began a pilot “front-end” drug court program in July 2010. The Law-Abiding, Sober, Employed, and Responsible (LASER) Docket is a cooperative effort between the Court, the United States Attorney’s Office, the United States Probation Office, the United States Marshal Service, and the Federal Public Defender’s Office. LASER Docket is a rehabilitative court program for individuals involved in the federal criminal justice system which offers a creative blend of treatment and sanction alternatives in an effort to effectively address defendant/offender behavior, promote rehabilitation, and reduce recidivism, as well as ensure the safety of our communities. During FY 2014, 1 pretrial defendant and 2 post-conviction offenders were approved for the program, bringing the total number of participants for the fiscal year to 8. During the course of the fiscal year, 3 participants graduated from the program while 4 were terminated.

Treatment Services

Post-conviction substance abuse treatment costs were decreased by 18%, while post-conviction sex offender treatment costs were increased by 4%, which has been a continuing trend since FY 2012. Post-conviction mental health treatment costs were decreased in FY 2014 by 20%. Copayments for post-conviction substance abuse treatment decreased by 32%. Copayments for post-conviction mental health services increased by 38%, and copayments for post-conviction sex offender treatment also increased by 54%.

Overall services rendered to pretrial defendants slightly decreased by 6% from FY 2013 to FY 2014. Copayments made by pretrial defendants increased by 11% in FY 2014.

Second Chance Act

On April 9, 2008, the *Second Chance Act of 2007*, Pub. L. No. 110-199, was enacted which authorized the Director of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Court to contract for “treatment, equipment and emergency housing, corrective and preventative guidance and training, and other rehabilitative services designed to protect the public and promote the successful reentry of the offender into the community.” The aim of the Act was to reduce recidivism, help offenders rebuild ties with their families, assist them in establishing a self-sustaining life, support evidence-based practices, and protect the public. Districts were allotted funds under the Second Chance Act for offender/defendant support in emergency and transitional services situations. The effective use of these funds is designed to reduce recidivism and mitigate crisis situations that offenders and defendants under supervision often encounter. The funds are “not to confer luxuries or privileges upon offenders” (42 U.S.C. § 17501(a)(4)). In FY 2014, Second Chance funds were expended on housing, transportation, clothing, and other miscellaneous items.

Information Technology

The U.S. District Court Information Technology Department has continued to work closely with Robert Birdsey, the Systems Administrator for the U.S. Probation Office on several key IT initiatives. Over the course of FY14, the New Hampshire U.S. Probation Office achieved the following goals:

- Upgraded staff from Lotus Notes 8.5 to IBM Notes 9
- Migrated from Internet Explorer 9 to Internet Explorer 11
- Upgraded staff from Microsoft Office 2010 to Microsoft 2013
- Implemented Cisco IP Communicator and Cisco Jabber for additional communication options for Telework\COOP
- Standardized all staff hardware and software with one model laptop and image
- Implemented Biometric authentication and password management
- Implemented IBM Notes Roaming Profiles and ID Vault for staff
- Provided quarterly IT training for staff
- Consolidation of printers and rollout of Xerox multi-function copiers
- Installation and implementation of Comply / PACTS UA Phase scheduling
- Launched new Drupal-based website

Several IT projects and upgrades are slated to be completed in FY 2015. The Probation Office looks forward to working with the U.S. District Court Information Technology Department on these tasks.

Officer Safety

The Officer Safety program for the District of New Hampshire had a productive FY 2014. Firearms qualifications took place in October 2013 and May 2014. Both sessions included training blocks designed to enhance an officer’s weapon-handling skills and accuracy. In addition, the District utilized the New Hampshire Department of Corrections’ monthly practice range sessions. At these sessions, officers received one-on-one training from the District’s certified firearm instructors.

The practice sessions were well attended by officers and allowed them to focus on individual improvement in a controlled environment.

In November 2013, Officer Response Tactics (ORT) training was held at the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council facility in Concord, NH. This training covered a range of techniques from the national ORT curriculum culminating in a dynamic stress drill. In April 2014, ORT training was held at the Howard Recreation Center in Concord, NH. This training focused on the development of officers' strike techniques, such as punches and kicks. In May 2014, a hemorrhage control classroom training was conducted by C.I.R. Associates. This training demonstrated to officers the proper application of tourniquets and other hemorrhage control techniques.

The final training session of the fiscal year took place in September 2014. The full-day Non-Lethal Training Ammunition (NLTA) session was held at the New Hampshire State Prison. It focused on the development of tactical movement, weapon handling, and judgment shooting drills. Our District's Safety instructors also continue to develop their skills in order to continue to provide quality training to the District.

Training and Professional Development

In FY 2014, the District of New Hampshire participated in a number of national and local training seminars, as attendees and/or presenters, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Hemorrhage Control Techniques
- BI Incorporated Equipment & Software Overview
- 2014 USSC National Guidelines Training
- Active Shooter Security Training
- Sig Sauer Academy – Intermediate Practical Handgun Skills
- Writing for Clarity
- Criminal Intelligence Sharing/Protecting Privacy
- STARR Implementation Training
- Moral Reconciliation Therapy
- Home Inspection & Plain View Seizure Course
- IT Quarterly Training
- National Data Quality Academy – Phase 1
- PTI Trainer Training (*Real Colors*)
- ORT New England Regional Training
- Comply Drug Testing Call-in Program

Employee Recognition

During FY 2014, and consistent with the recommendations of the year's peer-based Employee Recognition Committee, the following staff members were cited for outstanding work:

District Award for Sustained Superior Performance – Karin Kinnan

Karin Kinnan was chosen to receive this award based on numerous areas where she was recognized by her peers for sustained superior performance. First, treatment providers have the utmost respect for Karin's work as the district's Drug and Alcohol Treatment Specialist. Vendors have relied heavily on her contractual expertise, and her knowledge of policy as it pertains to procurement requirements is exceptional. Second, in anticipation of her retirement in April of 2015, Karin has worked diligently with staff on the procurement of treatment services to ensure a seamless transition, including the technical aspects of the solicitation process, monitoring visits, and billing procedures. Third, Karin recognizes the value of a team approach and has worked collaboratively with staff and vendors to ensure compliance with protocol and efficient billing. Finally, Karin possesses a tremendous work ethic, and has served as a role model to her colleagues, both in terms of the quality of her work, as well as the dedication required to sustain her performance at a superior level during her long career. Congratulations Karin Kinnan!

Chief's Award for Quality Improvement – Dan Whitmoyer

Dan Whitmoyer was chosen to receive this award based on the way he has changed the face of the Data Quality Analyst position in the district by maximizing the use of Decision Support System (DSS) and its reports. Specifically, Dan has taken on the task of educating himself about DSS, combing through filters to create customized reports that are relevant to all levels of the organization, and scheduling them for regular distribution. Dan also has assimilated himself well into the Supervision Unit, and is viewed as an integral component of the team. As one officer wrote, "Dan has quickly proven himself to be a team player. He often offers assistance to line officers during the busy work days, and has never declined a request for help . . . Dan's demeanor and conduct confirm that his only goal is to make the Supervision Unit a more effective tool for community safety." In addition, Dan possesses excellent organizational, time management, and communication skills, all of which are critical to thriving in his current position. He is a highly motivated employee, and is constantly searching for training opportunities to expand his skill set. Similarly, Dan often requests additional and varied work assignments-which often involve more responsibility-in order to broaden his skills and expand his utility within the organization. Congratulations Dan Whitmoyer!