# Best in the Business

Missouri
Board of
Probation &
Parole

Parole Board

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## 2010 Annual Report

### From the Chairman



P & P
Supervision
\$3.92

Dear Fellow Missourians:

As Chairman of the Parole Board I am proud to present the 2010 Annual Report for the Missouri Board of Probation and Parole. This report highlights agency outcomes and trends while spotlighting "Best in the Business" practices at specific locations.

During the past year, over 110,000 offenders have been supervised by Probation and Parole. That supervision includes deferred prosecution, misdemeanor probation, felony probation, parole, conditional release and interstate supervision. A group of approximately 1,100 field Probation and Parole Officers provide these services for Missouri Courts and the Parole Board. Officers meet with offenders in every county in the state at a district office, satellite office or sub-office. The agency also has seven Community Supervision Centers and two Community Release Centers that provide residential beds to offenders who have no viable home plan or for offenders at risk of supervision failure due to a current violation.

In addition to the field, the agency has approximately 100 officers assigned to the 21 correctional facilities (approximately 30,000 inmates) located throughout the state. These officers prepare reports that are used by the Parole Board to make critical release decisions. Institutional Parole Officers work with field Probation and Parole Officers when an offender is released to identify the best available home plan for supervision in the community.

In addition to the 1,200 Probation and Parole Officers, the agency has approximately 800 staff who serve in custody roles at the Community Supervision and Release Centers, assist with clerical support and provide

supervisory oversight. Together, the 2,000 staff perform the many responsibilities assigned to this agency with exceptional dedication and professionalism.

The work of Probation and Parole is very challenging at times. The agency benefits greatly from the involvement of local communities through Missouri Reentry Process Teams throughout the state. The teams work to close service gaps to meet offender reentry needs. These partnerships have helped improve the offender supervision outcomes detailed in this report while keeping communities safe.

In addition to being challenging, the work of Probation and Parole is rewarding. Fostering positive change in an offender's behavior not only improves the life of that person but the safety and security of the communities in which they live. Promoting public safety is our mission and we are honored to serve the citizens of the State of Missouri.

Thank you, Ellis McSwain, Jr., Chairman

On 1/29/10, the St. Louis City Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) began at District #7B. Several studies have shown that the trauma of war has lead to addictions and criminal activity. The VTC provides an opportunity for people who have served this country, and are about to enter the criminal justice system to become stable within their home. This new approach emulates the traditional drug court model to assist veterans who enter the criminal justice system. Veterans

participating in the program must have non-violent offenses and commit to attending court, counseling and random drug testing. This court serves veterans struggling with mental illness, addiction and co-occurring disorders. The focus of the court is to assist veterans in avoiding a felony conviction and to prevent them from serving jail or prison sentences. The VTC differs from a traditional drug court program in that veterans with no substance abuse history but with a mental health diagnosis are eligible to participate in the program based solely on their diagnosis. The VTC was designed to promote stability, recovery and sobriety through a collaborative effort among non-profit, state, local & federal government agencies. The VTC is held every other week, and there are currently ten active participants. Prior to court, the team will review each veteran to assess their progress and determine if they are receiving appropriate services. The VTC team consists of P&P officers, the Court Commissioner, a Prosecuting Attorney, a representative from the Public Defenders Office, a treatment liaison, a representative from the Veterans Administration and a volunteer veteran mentor. The success of this program can be a model for future programs across the state.

#### **Our Mission**

The Missouri Board of Probation and Parole, as an essential part of the criminal justice system, is to provide for the professional assessment and release of offenders and their supervision in the community, using appropriate treatment sanctions and controls, with primary consideration being the promotion of public safety.

**Probation Cases** 

 $\Rightarrow$  52, 190

Parole Cases

 $\Rightarrow$  17,730

**Deferred Prosecutions** 

 $\Rightarrow$  1, 206

## Best in the Business

#### **FY 2010 Collections**

Restitution Paid: \$10, 542, 615.93

Court Costs Paid: \$6, 330, 452.57

Crime Victims Compensation Fees Paid: \$381, 951.80

**Community Service Hours** 

**Performed: 326, 750** 

## In October of 2010, 40 Kansas City P &P staff and their families volunteered for Christmas in October.

Christmas in October is a non-profit organization in which volunteers repair and update homes of Kansas City citizens who do not have the means to do so. P&P Officers volunteered as the house captains and organized the event. With the help of our staff and their families, in just a few hours, a 78 year old widow now has a freshly painted house. These volunteers also cleared over 30 bags of brush and prepared the house for the upcoming winter.

Program Steering Committee, hosted the third Resource Fair of the year on 9/22/2010. Each fair has provided a path for those individuals under supervision to services they may qualify for, but not be aware of. The Social Security Administration (SSA) was one of the many community agencies that attended the Resource Fair. The SSA gave pamphlets, blank applications and answers to many questions about the steps to filing for disability, obtaining a Social Security card and Medicare. Ozarks Technical Community College (OTC) was another community agency that attended the fair. OTC also provided pamphlets on obtaining a GED, enrolling as a college student and career training in a variety of fields. Appointments were given that day for those individuals that needed to enroll in GED classes as a condition of probation. The fairs were a big success thanks to the 25 community agencies and 400 individuals who were in attendance.

Total # of DNA
Samples Collected
in 2010
12, 098

Total # of CODIS
Hits due to DNA
collection
325

Number of Parole Hearings 9, 795

The size of the Farmington Community Supervision Center (CSC) garden was expanded in 2010 with the help of the East Missouri

Action Agency (EMAA). EMAA purchased seeds and supplies from a grant to help provide fresh food for low-income families. The garden provided 2,000 pounds of produce and over 50 pumpkins to local food pantries. Reports from food pantry workers echoed the appreciation expressed by local residents. The garden helps promote offender success, a core value of the department. Offenders involved themselves in the cultivation effort and found a sense of self-worth and pride when they talked about "their garden". Not only did the garden provide a means for CSC residents to give back to the community, recipients from EMAA worked in the garden and gained experience to start their



own. New for 2010, alongside the garden 20 fruit trees have been planted, adding an orchard for future harvests.

The Missouri Interstate Compact Unit is located at the Probation and Parole Central Office. The Missouri Interstate Compact Unit has been utilizing the Interstate Offender Tracking System (ICOTS) since its inception in October of 2008. ICOTS is a web-based system that facilitates the transfer of supervision for offenders from one state or territory to another. Nationally, approximately 106,000 transfer requests and more than one million compact activities are reviewed for nearly 115,000 active supervision cases. ICOTS also serves as a conduit for various communication exchanges and assists in promoting effective supervision strategies for offenders under supervision. Of the fifty states and three territories, Missouri currently ranks fourth in the number of supervised offenders transferring from state to state. The total number of offenders in Missouri participating in the interstate compact process is 2,778.

73, 904 Offenders Under Field Supervision-12/31/2010

The goal of the Hannibal Community Supervision Center, which has been in operation for 3 years, is to provide additional resources for those offenders that have high Criminogenic Needs.

As a part of this goal, a partnership was developed with Faithwalk Ministries in Paris, MO. This is a faith based program that provides personal spiritual counseling and is a certified Access to Recovery (ATR) agency. Within the past 18 months, Faithwalk has increased their programs and service delivery area and worked with over 200 of our offenders in 2010. As an ATR provider, they provide addiction recovery services, specifically spiritual counseling support and education. Through a Missouri Reentry Process grant they

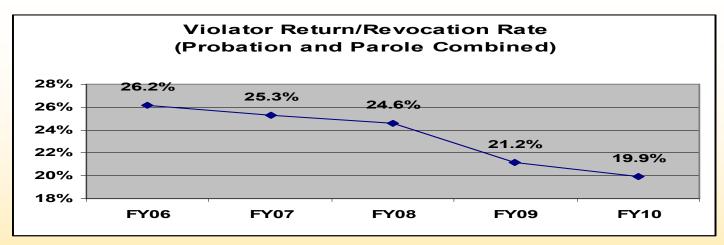


provided transportation services and medical/dental assistance to offenders this year. They enhanced their life skills counseling program by providing individual and group counseling and a budgeting class. Faithwalk works with offenders to secure stable housing. This partnership has been an asset to the offenders at the Community Supervision Center, and continues to make efforts to assist in addressing their risk factors.

Community
Release/Supervision
Center Releases
2, 494/1, 353

Parole/Conditional Releases 10, 522 The Empowerment Project in Trenton is a community partnership between the Trenton Probation & Parole Office and the Green Hills Community

**Action Agency.** The program seeks to assist offenders in obtaining and retaining gainful employment, helping them to live as productive and contributing members of society. Offenders receive wrap around services from the Reentry Team. The Reentry Team's focus is to foster a partnership that enhances offender self-sufficiency, reduce re-incarceration, and improve public safety. This team is a vital part of the Empowerment Project. One-hundred-one offenders have been referred to the program since its inception in January 2010, with forty-six obtaining employment. In the fiscal year 2011, the project will begin assessments at institutions in the area, four months prior to an offender's parole date. District 39 hopes for continued success with this program, with funding from the Second Chance Mentoring Grant.



Missouri Eastern Correctional Center, along with Institutional Probation & Parole Officers, proudly participate in the OFFENDERS OFFERING ALTERNATIVES (OOA) Program. This program is made up of carefully selected and institutionally trained offenders who desire to assist at risk Probationers. The OOA program at MECC consists of three distinct components. The first session is the educational, where the offender facilitators present facts about adjusting to prison life and give their individual life histories. The second session is the "Circle of Discussion." The offenders lead a group discussion in which all Probationers discuss their progress on supervision, and then receive helpful insight on how to make better lifestyle choices to avoid further criminal behavior. The third and final session is a guided tour of the institution. Ninety-three Probationers participated in 2010; of those, two have had their supervision revoked. These numbers indicate that the OOA Program is making a difference.

## Best in the Business