



News Release

FROM: Chambers of the Chief Judge
19th Judicial Circuit
Lake County
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JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICERS HONORED

Lake County juvenile probation officers were honored recently at this year's annual fall meeting of the Illinois Probation and Court Services Association (IPCSA), said Chief Judge Fred Foreman. "The 19th Circuit is very proud of its probation officers who continue to demonstrate a strong work ethic and dedicated service to the organization while having to work with increased caseloads and demands," said Judge Foreman. "We are pleased to have our staff recognized throughout the state for their leadership and all of their hard work."

Joe Kelroy, Assistant Director of Juvenile Probation, was honored as the recipient of the William C. Albertson Award. This award is annually presented to a probation officer, who, in the opinion of IPCSA's Awards Committee, has exemplified the highest standards of the profession in the field of achievement. Mr. Kelroy has contributed over 30 years of dedicated service to the 19th Circuit and has been in a management position since 1995. He has worked in all areas of the juvenile division including probation, detention, and intake. He received a B.A. at Eastern Kentucky University and earned an M.S.Ed. from Northern Illinois University.

Professionally, Mr. Kelroy's more recent and currently active achievements include, among others: the initiation of COG (Thinking for a Change) training for all probation staff; a representative of the SMAART Performance Measurement Program which ensures that court activities are aligned with the court's strategic plan and are being conducted in an effective and efficient manner; a key participant in the development of the existing juvenile

probation job's program (grant) which provides a training curriculum, job placement, and pay for youth on probation (this program's success is largely due to the efforts of Mr. Kelroy to convince public and private employers to take a chance on hiring probation clients); assisted in the development and success of the Positive Community Takeover Organization (PCTO), a community partnership with police, schools and probation in the city of North Chicago that has graduated 65 boys since inception (2006) and has shown dramatic reduction in recidivism and police referrals to the court from that community.

Bob Cesar, Director of Juvenile Probation and Detention Services, commented, "There are many dedicated, hard-working probation officers throughout Illinois and so it is a great honor for Mr. Kelroy to have been selected by IPCSA for his outstanding achievements in Lake County as well as his contributions and positive impact to the Illinois probation community." "We are all very proud of him."

Three other Lake County juvenile officers were recognized at the meeting, each receiving the Distinguished Service Award. This award is presented to an officer for his dedication and commitment to his clients, peers, and the community. These officers are Lori Sandquist, principal probation officer, who earned a B.S. at Western Illinois University and began working for the 19th Circuit on September 19, 1996; Tim Craig, juvenile counselor, received a B.S. from National Louis University and began employment in Lake County on October 12, 2005; and Courtney Alexander, probation officer with a B.A. degree, who was hired on January 8, 2007.

The Illinois Probation and Court Services Association fall conference and awards banquet took place October 17-19 at the Clock Tower Inn in Rockford.

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