



News Release

FROM: Chambers of the Chief Judge
19th Judicial Circuit
Lake County
Waukegan, Illinois 60085-4359

Date of Release: 5/25/12

Point of Contact: Fred Foreman

Diane Flory

Telephone: 847.377.4500

847.377.3818

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

PROBATION OFFICER SELECTED TO ATTEND TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE FOR CORRECTIONS

Robert A. Zastany, Jr., a principal probation officer in adult probation, has recently been selected by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to attend this year's Technology Institute for Corrections. The program is presented by NIJ's Office of Science and Technology (NIJ/OST). Participants will learn about NIJ's initiatives in the area of corrections, and the goal is to further the sharing of information between correctional agencies.

Rob Zastany is one of thirty corrections professionals who were selected for the available positions from across the country. The selection process is very competitive, and numerous applications were considered. Chief Judge Fred Foreman said, "We are always happy to learn about staff accomplishments." "It is a noteworthy achievement by the individual and an honor for the 19th Circuit." Rob Zastany stated, "I am very excited about this opportunity and honored to be able to represent the 19th Circuit at this year's Technology Institute for Corrections."

The attendees will participate in general sessions as a group; however, the majority of time will be spent in breakout sessions according to jurisdiction – institutional corrections and community corrections. As part of their training, individuals will give a twenty minute PowerPoint presentation on a technology-related issue or initiative that was identified in the application process. Rob's area of interest and PowerPoint presentation involves "The Use of Social Media within Probation." The presentation gives an overview of the project with background information, identification of specific issues associated with the project, and recommendations for improvements and future upgrades.

Rob Zastany graduated from Northern Illinois University-DeKalb with a BA in English, and obtained an MA in Public Policy from New England College. Rob also is a Certified Court Manager through the Institute for Court Management (ICM) in Williamsburg, Virginia and will become a Certified Court Executive at the end of June 2012. He plans on using the topic, "The Use of Social Media within Probation" as his court project in becoming a Fellow of ICM in the spring of 2013. He was originally hired by the 19th Circuit as a juvenile public service clerk in 2001 and remained in that position until 2003, when he returned to complete his BA degree. He was rehired as a juvenile counselor in November 2005. He transferred to adult probation in 2007 where he has a caseload in the general field of probation. He is also an instructor and certified trainer for the Cognitive Outreach Group (COG) Program and has facilitated several trainings for probation officers statewide.

The training will be held this summer in Arlington, Virginia. All expenses associated with the training are funded by the National Institute of Justice.

###

www.19thcircuitcourt.state.il.us