

Passing the Baton



President's Message

Welcome to the second edition of the Florida Association of Community Corrections 2022 Newsletter! As promised, FACC's Board of Directors has been diligently at work this past quarter to plan and produce the upcoming Annual Institute! This year's theme, Reengage, Restore, & Reentry; Making a Difference in 2022, is quite in line with the needs and lived experiences of our clients, staff, and communities. With this in-person conference, the Board hopes to leave attendees energized and poised to effectively serve our community while facing the challenges ahead.

The Board's Education Committee, led by President-Elect Michael Anderson, also delivered a webinar in June on Stress and Mental Health Well-Being of Professional, where Dr. Guerda Nicolas led a discussion on how we can improve mindfulness and improve the ways we address the stressors of the times. We learned that this is no easy feat and that many of us are struggling to find balance, but that with purpose, teamwork, support, and the right strategies and practices, we have the power and potential to see it through.



Isabel Perez-Morina

*Chief Executive Officer
The Advocate Program, Inc.*

It has been a unique challenge for me to serve as FACC's President for the last four years. Leading the organization along with the FACC Board of Directors and producing the first virtual institute in 2021 were not things we set out to do! Yet, I am happy to report that the association is strong fiscally, and our virtual institute was a success. Throughout it all, I have been inspired by our field and membership. I hope that during my time as President, I have been able to impart a feeling of connection and that the work done by the association has helped each of you in your professional development. I am certain that as the baton is passed to the next FACC President, FACC's commitment and excellence will persist.

As I write my final President's message, allow me to thank all of you and the entire Board of Directors for honoring me with this privilege. I look forward to seeing and connecting with you once again from July 19th through the 21st at the Rosen Plaza in Orlando, Florida as we kick off the Institute during the National Pretrial, Probation, Parole Supervision Week!

On behalf of the Board of Directors of FACC, thank you for your support and your commitment to the field of Community Corrections.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Isabel', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Isabel Perez-Morina, Ph.D.

About FACC

Executive Board

Isabel Perez-Morina.....	President
Michael T. Anderson.....	Vice President
Joe Lipsey.....	Treasurer
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Mission Statement

To promote excellence in community corrections through quality training, networking, and leadership.

The primary goals of the association shall be to:

- Provide quality, state-of-the-art training & education. Promote communication and networking among membership and community corrections organizations
- Increase public awareness and the acceptance of the effectiveness of community corrections in prevention, reduction, and deterrence of criminal and delinquent behavior
- Encourage and promote the growth of FACC
- Provide representation to decision makers on community justice issues
- Facilitate partnerships and affiliations with other justice components to enhance public safety
- Assist community corrections agencies in responding to the needs of victims
- Advocate and support implementation of evidence-based practices

[FACC By-Laws](#)

GPS Monitoring of Offenders

A Review of GPS Monitoring of Offenders as a condition of supervision. What are the Pros and Cons; How is it used by Florida Department of Corrections?



Part I

This research paper is about using GPS tracking to assist with supervising offenders on community supervision. The paper reviews the history of electronic monitoring and GPS tracking of offenders and then narrows down to Florida's history. It also reviews the technology associated with the electronic monitoring and GPS tracking. The uses and effectiveness of GPS along with some of its limitations is also covered in this research paper. This research paper also examines data compiled through surveys completed by correctional professionals from the Florida Department of Corrections regarding the effectiveness of GPS tracking on offender compliance and overall public safety.

Community Corrections supervision such as probation, parole, and pretrial release has used electronic monitoring to include Global Positioning System (GPS) tracking to assist with supervising offenders for several decades. GPS tracking technology allows supervising officers to know the exact location of an offender at any given time and continuously track the offender's movements in real time. It is used in many locations throughout the world for different types of offenders and with different objectives for its use. The continued advancements and accessibility of the technology continue to make the use of GPS tracking of offenders a common use for criminal justice agencies.

This research project will review the history of electronic monitoring of offenders to include the use of GPS tracking. It will review how the electronic monitoring and GPS tracking technology works. Additionally, this research project will review the different uses of electronic monitoring in supervising offenders. There will also be a review of what previous literature indicates about the effectiveness and limitations of GPS tracking of offenders.

The Florida Department of Corrections (FDC) like many other community corrections agencies across the country utilizes electronic monitoring to include GPS tracking. This research project will narrow down to focus on FDC's historical use of electronic monitoring and GPS tracking of offenders along with its current utilization of the technology. By reviewing literature and surveying corrections professionals, this research project will attempt to conclude if FDC's current utilization and practices with GPS tracking of offenders are effectively assisting them in supervising and holding offenders accountable.

GPS Monitoring of Offenders

History of Electronic Monitoring

The technologies of electronic monitoring systems to track offenders are dated back to 1964 at Harvard University. Ralph Schwitzgebel along with William S. Hurd patented an electronic monitoring system. Their system experimented with monitoring juvenile offenders in specific locations where there were repeater stations located. When the offender's receiver activated the repeater station, their location was identified and would display on a lighted map at a base station. (Gable, R.K., Gable R. S. 2005) This tracking device was known as "Dr Schwitzgebel's Machine". It utilized multiple radio receivers to trace the offender's movements. The offenders wore a 1kg transmitter and a battery pack that automatically emitted radio signals. The signals could be picked up within a range of a quarter mile where they are fed into a modified missile tracking device that determined the offender's position and displayed it on the map. (FOX 1987)

Just a couple of years later, Ralf Schwitzgebel's twin brother Robert Schwitzgebel who was a professor at UCLA experimented with a modified prototype system. Neither Ralph nor Robert's radio-frequency transmitter and receiver systems continued due to economic and technical issues and they were never commercially used. Their systems were too expensive, and the electronic technology was primitive. (Gable, R.K., Gable R. S. 2005)

Several years later in 1977 after being inspired by a Spiderman comic book series, a New Mexico Judge by the name of Jack Love explored the possibility of using electronic monitoring for offenders. In the comic, Spiderman was tagged with an electronic bracelet that allowed a villain to track Spiderman's every move. (John Howard Society 2006)

Judge Jack Love approached major computer companies to see if any could design a system that could verify an offender's geographical location. None of the companies were willing to take on the project. However, Michael Goss who was an employee at one of the computer companies, left the company to pursue and develop Judge Love's idea through his own company. (Fox 1987)

It was not until 1983 when Judge Love sentenced the first offender in New Mexico to house arrest with an electronic monitoring device utilizing the system designed by Michael Goss. Florida quickly followed New Mexico with using electronic monitoring and by 1987, there were 21 states using electronic monitoring programs with more than 900 offenders being tracked. (Gable, R.K., Gable R. S. 2005)

The use of electronic monitoring was rapidly growing in the United States and by 1988, there were 32 states using the technology and 2300 offenders being monitored. This growth continued and by 1998, there were more than 95,000 electronic monitoring devices in use. The growth in prison populations due to mandatory minimal prison sentences along with technical infrastructure improvements such as telephone and computer technologies were credited with the rapid growth of electronic monitoring of offenders. (Gable, R.K., Gable R. S. 2005)

History of GPS tracking of offenders

In the late 1970s through the early 1980s, the Department of Defense launched the first generation of GPS satellites. These satellites were not authorized for public or commercial use and were only used by the military. In 1983, President Ronald Reagan decided to permit non-military uses of the GPS technology. The first non-military uses of the GPS technology was primarily for aviation and surveying. Second generation GPS satellites were launched and became fully operational in 1995 and more uses of the GPS technology was explored. In the late 1990s, electronic monitoring of offenders began evolving to include GPS technology with the RF technology giving agencies the ability to track offenders' movements. (Brown, T.M., McCabe, S., & Wellford, C. 2007)

After the GPS tracking technology started being used, it was thought that the future of community corrections would include all violent offenders released from prison or on probation would be tracked utilizing GPS. However, only two percent of the country's correctional population is monitored with GPS. (Sipes Jr. 2016)

GPS Monitoring of Offenders

Even though the percentage of supervised offenders that are being tracked with GPS as a condition of supervision is relatively low, the number of offenders supervised with electronic monitoring in the United States increased about 140 percent from 2005 to 2015. This is contributed to the utilization and improvements of GPS technology. (Pew Charitable Trusts 2016) Other contributing factors to this significant increase were legislative mandates to track sex offenders. In 2015, it was reported that more than 40 states had passed laws that required GPS tracking of sex offenders and that 13 states required it for domestic abusers. (National Criminal Justice Technology Research, Test and Evaluation Center 2016)

Electronic Monitoring Technology

During the continued expansion of electronic monitoring of offenders, the technology of electronic monitoring continuously improved and miniaturized. Electronic monitoring tracking were only being used to verify the offender's location at a specific time. When GPS technology began to be used, it provided the ability to continuously track an offender's movements from one location to another. (John Howard Society 2006)

Prior to GPS being used, the electronic monitoring devices utilized Radio Frequency (RF) devices. These types of devices were utilized to confirm an offender's presence or absence from a specific location. They were most commonly used to monitor an offender's compliance with house arrest or curfew requirements. The RF systems used a battery-operated tamper resistant transmitter that was normally worn on the offender's ankle. There would also be a stationary receiver in the offender's home that could verify that the offender was within a specific distance of that receiver. (Pew Charitable Trusts 2016) When the transmitter and receiver are not within specific distance parameters, the stationary receiver will alert vendor software using either a landline or cellphone technology notifying supervising authorities. (Brown, T.M., McCabe, S., & Wellford, C. 2007)

The RF monitoring devices utilized either an active or passive system. The active system is a continuously signaling system. The stationary receiver picks up signals from the offender's transmitter when it is within range and reports it to a central computer and the computer compares the signals with the offender's curfew schedule. The passive system does not continuously signal but utilizes a computer programmed to call at specific or random times. With this type system, the offender's presence at home is only confirmed when the computer calls. (John Howard Society 2006)

GPS Technology

The United States Air Force maintains GPS satellites orbiting earth and are committed to keeping 24 of them operational at all times. There are 5 ground stations around the globe that make orbital corrections and updates to these satellites. The constantly operational satellites along with some needed GPS equipment to include a GPS receiver and a tamper-resistant bracelet make GPS tracking of an offender possible. The way that GPS tracking occurs is the distance to the GPS receiver is triangulated and measured by three satellites while a fourth satellite measures the time to the GPS receiver. The data from the four satellites determines the location of the GPS receiver. The tamper-resistant bracelet that is usually worn on the ankle uses radio frequency that ensures the offender is in close proximity to the GPS receiver. GPS offender tracking technology uses either an active system or a passive system. With the active system, data points collected by the GPS receiver are transmitted back to vendor software by cellular communications at real or close to real time to be immediately processed. With the passive GPS system, the GPS receiver collects GPS points throughout the day and the tracking points will be transmitted once the offender arrives home and places the GPS receiver in a charging unit. (Brown, T.M., McCabe, S., & Wellford, C. 2007)

GPS Monitoring of Offenders

Uses of GPS tracking of offenders

Within community corrections supervision, there are three stages where electronic monitoring or GPS is utilized. These stages include primary sentencing, pre-trial supervision or release, and post-prison supervision. (Black, M., Smith, R. 2003)

An agency's use or objective for using a GPS program can vary. The type of offenders such as low-risk, moderate-risk, high-risk, sex offenders, and habitual offenders can vary as well. There are several key objectives that are identified for offender GPS tracking programs. Deterring future criminal activity, holding offenders accountable to requirements of supervision, and protecting the public by more closely supervising the offender's movements are three common objectives for GPS use. Another use is having GPS tracking be an added sanction imposed on an offender for non-compliance to traditional supervision. Other key objectives for GPS programs are utilizing GPS to monitor offenders in the community instead of being in an overcrowded jail or prison. Providing additional victim safety by having a victim alert notification is another way GPS monitoring can be used. Two other objectives that are primarily for pre-trial uses are ensuring offenders location remains known to prevent absconding from court proceeding and allowing the offender to maintain community involvement while awaiting trial. (Brown, T.M., McCabe, S., & Wellford, C. 2007)

Advantages of GPS tracking of offenders

Monitoring an offender with GPS instead of incarcerating them can be a significant financial advantage. There are also many other advantages identified with using GPS monitoring systems to track offenders. The ability to have constant real time tracking of an offender along with being able to receive immediate alarm notifications when an offender tampers with the GPS equipment are some of the advantages. The ability to establish inclusion zones at locations such as the offender's home or work location, or exclusion zones such as victim locations or places where children congregate along with the ability of receiving immediate notification of the inclusion and exclusion zone violations are some other advantages. (Downing 2006)



Effectiveness of GPS tracking of offenders

There was a study sponsored by the National Institute of Justice conducted in California on high-risk sex offenders on parole. The study included 516 high-risk sex offenders released from prison between 2006 and 2009 where half was placed on GPS monitoring in addition to traditional parole supervision and the other half had traditional parole supervision only. This study assessed both the cost and effectiveness of the GPS monitoring. The study concluded that those with GPS monitoring had significantly lower recidivism rates than those who only had traditional parole supervision. It also concluded that the GPS monitoring was more expensive but more effective. (Bulman 2013)

There was another study supported by the National Institute of Justice on California gang offenders released from prison where half received GPS monitoring supervision and the other half only had traditional parole supervision. This study concluded that technical violations were greater for the offenders on GPS, however the offenders on GPS were 26 percent less likely to be rearrested. (Gies 2015)

GPS Monitoring of Offenders

An extensive evaluation of electronic and GPS monitoring was completed in 2006 by Florida State University's College of Criminology and Criminal Justice. The study reviewed 75,661 Florida offenders that were on home confinement from 1998 to 2002. The study found that electronic and GPS monitoring significantly reduced the probability of new criminal activity, technical violations and absconding from home confinement. (Padgett, K.G., Bales, W.D., & Bloomberg, T.D. 2006)

A more recent study was completed by Florida State University College of Criminology and Criminal Justice in 2010. This comprehensive study researched 5034 medium-risk to high-risk offenders on GPS and electronic monitoring and 266,991 offenders not placed on GPS or electronic monitoring over six years. The study also included interviewing offenders, officers, and administrators throughout Florida. The research showed GPS and electronic monitoring reduced the likelihood of failure on community supervision by 31 percent. (Bales, W., Mann, K., Bloomberg, T., Gaes, G., Barrick, K., Dhungana, K., & McManus, B. 2010)

Limitations and challenges of GPS tracking of offenders

There are some limitations and challenges associated with GPS tracking of offenders. A major limitation is that there is no guarantee that the offender will behave lawfully or that authorities can intervene before a crime is committed or a victim is harmed. There is also an expense associated with the necessary equipment needed and the added staffing needed for the 24 hour and 7 days a week monitoring. (Bottos 2007)

Equipment failures and other technology issues can also be challenges and limitations with GPS tracking of offenders. This could include such things as a lost signal, a loss of power, inadequate broadband capacity, and lack of communication between various databases. (Belur, J., Thornton, A., Tompson, L., Manning, M., Sidebottom, A., & Bowers, A. 2020)

Another challenge or limitation that could impact the GPS tracking of offenders is the GPS receiver's ability to record the offender's location. Some locations such as a large or dense urban area, some terrain, and being inside some buildings or vehicles can interfere with the GPS receiver. Weather conditions can also impact the GPS receiver from tracking. (Bishop 2010)



Florida Department of Corrections use of Electronic Monitoring and GPS tracking of offenders

In December of 1984, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department was the first agency in Florida to use an electronic monitoring device to monitor an offender who was released to their work release program. This device was used to make sure he remained in his residence when he was not working. (Schmidt 1988)

Electronic monitoring was first used by The Florida Department of Corrections in 1988 after it was authorized by the Florida Legislature in 1987. They used the RF electronic monitoring for offenders sentenced to community control which is commonly known as house arrest. A condition of community control required the offender to be at home at specific hours of the day. When the offender violated the home curfew time, the supervising officer would be alerted. (Bales, W., Mann, K., Bloomberg, T., Gaes, G., Barrick, K., Dhungana, K., & McManus, B. 2010)

GPS Monitoring of Offenders

The use of GPS technology by FDC began in 1997. They used an active GPS system until 2001 when they started using a passive GPS system as well. The passive system required more follow up due to generating more false alarms than the active system. The cost associated with the passive GPS system compared to the active GPS system resulted in discontinuing the passive system in 2006. (Bales, W., Mann, K., Bloomberg, T., Gaes, G., Barrick, K., Dhungana, K., & McManus, B. 2010)

The Florida sentencing authorities orders the placement of offenders on and off GPS monitoring. Prior to 2004, Florida Statute authorized electronic monitoring at the officer's discretion for community control. At the end of 2004, 30% of offenders on GPS were habitual offenders or sex offenders while 43% were convicted of less serious crimes such as drug offenses and property crimes. (Bales, W., Mann, K., Bloomberg, T., Gaes, G., Barrick, K., Dhungana, K., & McManus, B. 2010)

The use of GPS monitoring was significantly changed in 2005 due to the 2004 kidnapping, rape, and murder of nine-year-old Jessica Lunsford by a previous convicted sex offender. The Florida Legislature passed the Jessica Lunsford Act (JLA) that in addition to several other things created mandatory GPS monitoring of certain sex offenders. The number of offenders that FDC had on electronic monitoring in 2005 was 1,619. In 2009, that number increased to 3,177. (Bales, W., Mann, K., Bloomberg, T., Gaes, G., Barrick, K., Dhungana, K., & McManus, B. 2010) In 2018, FDC monitored around 5000 offenders on GPS and 61% of those were registered sex offenders. (Florida Department of Corrections Annual Report (2018-19).

[Click Here for References](#)

Stay Tuned for Part II coming this Fall!



About the Author

Thomas J Magorrian, Regional Director

Tom Magorrian is the Regional Director for Region I Community Corrections with the Florida Department of Corrections. He has been with the department since 1996 where he started as an intern and has worked in every position working his way up to Regional Director.. Director Magorrian currently over sees 16 counties in Region I. He is a Blue Courage Inclusive Leadership and a Heartmath instructor.

1st Annual Father's Day Luncheon for Probationers



On June 15, 2022, Angelo Tucker, Correctional Probation Senior Officer (CPSO), from the Pensacola Central Office (018) hosted the first Father's Day Luncheon for probationers. Mr. Tucker coordinated this event with a small group of fathers on supervision along with numerous probation officers who showed support, including Circuit Judge Bergosh.

This event was spearheaded after Mr. Tucker hosted a Father's Day luncheon last year for officers. This year he extended the event to probationers. The purpose of the event was to encourage probationers on how to be better fathers and provide support by sharing stories and words of encouragement.

Judge Bergosh was the keynote speaker. He discussed the principles instilled in him by his father and that he passed on to his children. He encouraged probationers to set good examples for their children and although they have made a mistake, they can still turn their lives around and be better fathers and productive citizens. He shared that children with fathers in their lives are more likely to complete high school and stay out of the legal system. Those probationers who attended made a commitment to be better fathers and therefore better citizens.

Don't Trash That Treasure

You know the old adage, "One man's trash is another man's treasure?" The idea of turning Orange County Community Corrections Division (OCCD) trash into treasure came about when Unit Supervisor Barbara Haynie, was hosting a sustainability meeting. She jokingly presented her stylish recycling bin to the team. It was a plain cardboard box that once held reams of paper. She had recovered it from the supply closet and thought now might be as good a time as ever to doll it up a bit.

What started out as a fun conversation about motivating staff to recycle has now become the Division's latest sustainability initiative. Come to find out, there are plenty more empty boxes where these came from and even more staff who wanted their boxes decorated as well. The first roll out of 15 boxes has been dispersed and the team is now taking orders to make more. There is no better way to promote recycling than by having your personally decorated bin/box staged proudly in your work area.



Interstate Compact Application Fee



The Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision Florida State Council met on March 9, 2022, in Tallahassee. As a result of the meeting, an Application Fee of \$100.00 was established for offenders requesting to transfer their supervision to another state effective July 1, 2022.

Presumptive Strikes

This past quarter, officers in Circuit 2 have been working diligently with local law enforcement agencies in getting weapons and drugs off the streets. During the month of May, an offender's residence was fired upon, fearing a retaliatory strike, the Chattahoochee Police Department, conferred with Correctional Probation Senior Officer (CPSO) Ameer Harley, out of the Quincy Office (022), regarding the incident. In response, CPSO Harley, and Correctional Probation Specialist (CPS) Roger Ryals, along with Sergeant Dixon, of the Chattahoochee Police Department, conducted a warrantless planned search of the offender's residence, which was fired upon. During the search, FDC staff recovered a 9mm carbine rifle, a 9mm handgun, 92.7 grams of marijuana, \$90 in cash and a digital scale.

A week later, on the other side of the Circuit, CPS Leona Massey, out of the Monticello Office (023), was working in conjunction with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, where they planned a warrantless planned search on a violent felony offender. During the search, items recovered included: 57.2 grams of marijuana, digital scales and a fully loaded 9mm handgun.

These efforts by our staff working in conjunction with our local law enforcement partners, are making a difference in keeping our communities safe.



Statewide News

National Corrections Officer's Week

On May 5, 1984, President Ronald Reagan signed Proclamation 5187 creating "National Correctional Officer's Week." Governor Ron DeSantis proclaimed the week of May 1-7, 2022, as Florida Correctional Employees Week.

Circuit Administrator (CA) Stephanie Ditroia visited field offices during the week of May 1st to thank Circuit 12 staff for all that they do. Each day she handed out tokens of appreciation. On May 6, 2022, the Sarasota Intake Office (120) parking lot was transformed into a picnic area for a Circuit wide BBQ. Staff enjoyed the opportunity to fellowship with co-workers and partake in some delicious food! We were honored to have Assistant Deputy Secretary Joe Winkler, Regional Director Mike Anderson, and Assistant Regional Director Stephanie Perry join us for such a great afternoon of friendship and camaraderie.



Officers Participate in Local Career Day

On May 8, 2022, Correctional Probation Supervisor (CPS) Miranda Wright of the Boynton Beach Office (152) and Correctional Senior Probation Officer (CSPO) Sarah Thornton of the Military Trail Office (155) had the pleasure of participating in Lake Park Elementary School's Career Day. They saw a total of nearly 400 students in grades Pre-K to 5th grade. Supervisor Wright and Officer Thornton spoke to the students about the duties and responsibilities of a probation officer and did a little role playing to engage them with some aspects of this type of career. The students were so excited, and they asked a ton of questions. Some of the students even said, "I want to be a probation officer when I grow up!"



Special Olympics Torch Run

On May 11, 2022, Circuit 17 officers joined various Broward County agencies at the 41st Annual Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run event held in Fort Lauderdale. Participating officers included Correctional Probation Senior Officers (CPSO) Daniele Atelean, Carole Wan, Loren Reynolds-Clayton, Chris Kelly, Christine DeCicco, Sandra Marengo, Patricia Solenski, and Maggie McGlashan, Correctional Probation Specialist Barry Marr, Correctional Probation Supervisor Tammy Marcus, and Retired Correctional Probation Supervisor Angella Lewis. Officers ran, walked, or biked the designated route which stretched along A1A Beach Boulevard. Most of the participating officers took part in the first leg of the run which was a distance of two miles. A special congratulations goes to Correctional Probation Senior Officer Patricia Solenski who completed the full 10 miles of the Torch Run.



Reentry Simulator

On May 23, 2022, over 70 staff from Region III Community Corrections participated in the first Community Corrections Simulator.

The Reentry Simulator simulates the struggles and challenges faced by individuals who are transitioning from incarceration back into society.

By experiencing these complex obstacles and barriers that these individuals must navigate, we not only gain visibility into the individuals' perspectives but also discover innovative ways to help these individuals succeed.

An education piece has been implemented to the Community Corrections Reentry Simulation to include incentives and alternatives to violation that can be utilized to assist the offender population.



FDC and FCOR Meeting



On Thursday, June 16, 2022, leadership from the Office of Community Corrections and the Florida Commission of Offender Review met to discuss various topics in an effort to enhance operational awareness when dealing with post release cases. The collaboration was priceless as the flow of information sharing was incredible. Undoubtedly, the overall operations of both agencies will continue to grow because of the effective communication.

Staff Committed to Excellence



In recognition of Second Chance Month in April, Circuit 18 Employment Specialist (ES) Tiffany Raymond organized three separate Career and Resource Fairs for offenders in need. The events were held in Melbourne Office (18-5), Cocoa Office (18-2) and Casselberry Office (18-3). Over 125 offenders attended the three events with 16 offenders hired on the spot. In addition, Ms. Raymond was able to partner with 63 vendors and community resource providers including Career Source Brevard and The Brevard Reentry Center. This collaboration continues to strengthen our working partner relationships within the community.

Additionally, on June 17, 2022, Ms. Raymond was recognized by the City of Melbourne Chamber of Commerce at a special breakfast where she, along with other members of the community, were recognized for their community efforts. Ms. Raymond was presented with a certificate of appreciation for being a “Local Community Hero” from Chamber Mayor Michael Ayers. Way to go Ms. Raymond!

Agency Spotlight



Good things are happening in Manatee County! Over the past year, the Probation Division has seen significant growth in all the units. Not just in caseload size but in staffing. In Pretrial Release, there have been two new Probation Officer hires at the jail as part of the Intake/Screening staff with an additional two Probation Officers at the Judicial Center as part

of the case management team. In the Probation Unit, there has been three Probation Officer hires. There have also been two promotions from within from Probation Officers to Senior Probation Officers as well as lateral moves placing officers in other units within the Division. Once the courts reopened and started seeing defendants in person, the caseloads in both the Pretrial and Probation units have grown, hence needing the staff to supervise the cases.

Our Offender Work Program continues to be shining star to the citizens in Manatee County, saving thousands of dollars in work and allowing clients to stay out of jail while doing so. Our Manatee County Pretrial Intervention Specialist remains quite busy, with the addition of domestic violence diversion cases.

In addition, the Probation Division is in its 3rd year of the 3-year accreditation cycle. The Accreditation Team is continuing to work towards the Mock Assessment in early 2023, followed by a final assessment, with the ultimate goal of being recommended by the Assessment Team for Reaccreditation at the June 2023 Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission meeting, in Orlando.

Manatee County Probation Services

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Employee Spotlight



Amy Kinsey

Lee County's Criminal
Division Director



Amy Kinsey's criminal justice career started in 1997, working as a 911 Dispatcher. Two years later, Amy began working as a Law Enforcement Officer where she served the citizens of Roswell, GA for 6 years. In 2005, Amy relocated to southwest Florida and joined the Administrative Office of the Courts. She was fortunate to grow with the organization, starting as a supervision officer, to diversion coordinator, department accreditation manager, deputy director, and currently has served as Lee County's criminal division director since 2018, which includes Pretrial Services, County Probation and Treatment Courts.

Amy had the rewarding opportunity to be involved in the rewrite of pretrial standards and the creation of county probation standards through the Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission (FCAC). Lee County first achieved accredited status in 2009 and has remained in compliance since. Amy has volunteered as an assessor since 2009 and as the Communications Director, and senior board member, for the Association of Pretrial Professionals of Florida from 2012-2017. Amy remains dedicated to the pretrial and probation fields and was recognized as the 2017 Team Leader of the year through the FCAC. Amy also had the honor of being presented, before the commission, the 2021 Distinguished Service Award earlier this month at the FLA PAC Conference.

FACC Annual Training Institute



Reengage, Restore, & Re-entry Making a Difference in 2022

July 19 – 21, 2022

Registration

Full Institute - \$220.00

Two Day - \$165.00

Single Day - \$85.00

*(Includes lunch Tuesday and Wednesday
and Brunch Thursday)*

[Click here for individual registration](#)

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Hotel Information

Rosen Plaza - \$139.00 per night

9700 International Drive

Orlando, FL 32819

[Click here for reservations](#)

Our Keynote Speaker



Topeka K. Sam

CEO of the Ladies of Hope Ministries
(LOHM)

President of EPIC Financial

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