



Minnesota Association of Pretrial Service Agencies

MAPSA MATTERS



Letter from MAPSA President

As the winter months are winding down, we at MAPSA are thrilled to be looking around the corner to April as we present our *new and energized* 16th annual conference! You will likely have already received the conference announcement and registration form. We are excited to bring to you excellent, relevant presentations, and an opportunity to network with each other in a fresh new setting. Mystic Lake Casino and Conference Center is in a wonderful setting, and a great place to get re-energized for the sometimes very difficult work that we do. The planning committee has been working very hard to bring to you this new conference format. We look forward to receiving your registration and seeing you in April!

The annual conference also brings me to the end of my term as your President and active participant in the MAPSA leadership. I have been involved in some way or another since the beginning of MAPSA in 1995, and was instrumental in planning the first and many subsequent conferences offered by MAPSA throughout the years. My roots began at Operation De Novo, in pretrial diversion, and my working philosophy has always been that despite the charges, our clients are people first – with a history, story, family and experiences that make up who they are. It is our obligation in this work to not forget why we do the work we do, who we are working with and for. If rehabilitation is appropriate and necessary, then it is our obligation to do what we can with the resources we have to make that happen for our clients. My hope is that the day away at Mystic Lake will give you a sense of renewal in your work.

Finally, we will be accepting nominations for President, Treasurer, and Regions 2,4,6 and 8. I will talk further about this at the conference in April. If you are interested in joining us on the MAPSA Board, or have any questions regarding the process, feel free to email me at dianawilkie@co.hennepin.mn.us.

Thank you for your support and patience with us during the last year. We have changed a few things for the better and I only hope that this momentum will be continued in the next years with the same excitement and commitment that I have been able to experience from your strong leadership team! Get involved! MAPSA NEEDS YOU!!!



MAPSA Board of Directors Award Nomination

This award will be given to a person or program who has demonstrated outstanding dedication and professionalism in the field of diversion, pretrial screening or pretrial services. Please visit www.mapsa.us to submit your nomination. Make sure your peers are recognized for all their hard work! The award recipient will be announced at the 2013 MAPSA Conference on April 11, 2013.

Financial Report:

December 2012:

\$4,957.54

January 2013: \$4,848.19

February 2013:

\$4,847.94

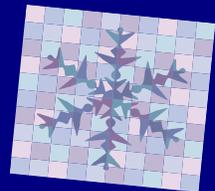




HIGHLIGHTS



2013 MAPSA Conference Mystic Lake Casino April 11, 2013



Register Online at www.mapsa.us

Hennepin County
went LIVE with
CSTS on 01/22/13

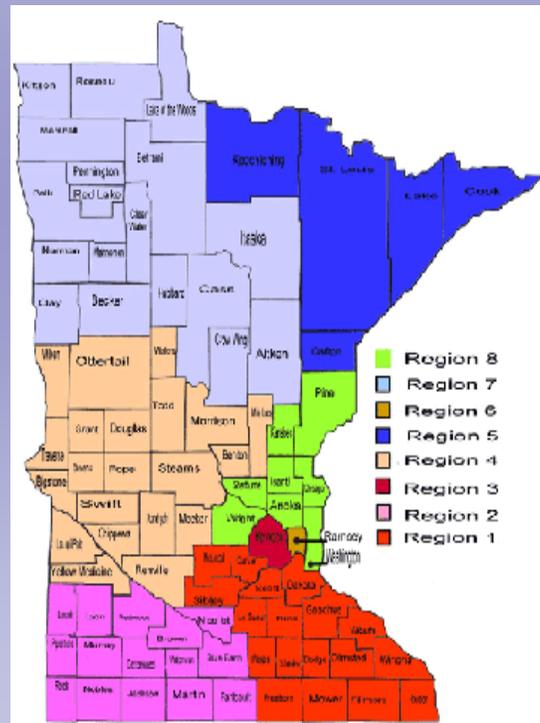
Nominations will be accepted for
Open Board
Positions at the 2013 MAPSA
Conference: President, Treasurer,
Regions 2,4,6 and 8 . Terms are for
two years. Please consider joining
us!

National Victims' Rights Week: April 21-27, 2013

The theme for NCVRW 2013 is
"New Challenges. New Solutions."

Check out your county and local
agencies for events during this week.
Or visit the website below for more
information:

www.ovc.ncjrs.gov



Rubber Survival Bracelet

The survival bracelet pictured to the right, also known as the “Gummy Bracelet,” is a seemingly regular rubber bracelet. When the bracelet is opened, it contains a standard handcuff key made of plastic which can completely bypass metal detectors. This bracelet represents a significant threat to Law Enforcement as it is east to conceal and deploy when hands are cuffed behind a suspect’s back.

Corrections should remain aware and keep vigilant as hidden handcuff key items may be mistaken for ordinary everyday items.

This information was taken from Southeast Florida Fusion Center . Sent by PPWA.



Meet the Board: Kelly Kalla– Region Three Representative

What is your current job and where do you work? Career Probation Officer for Hennepin County - currently supervising Adult Felony DWI Offenders.

How long have you been involved with MAPSA and what is your current position? Aside from taking a year off, I have been the Hennepin County Representative for MAPSA since 2006. I was Newsletter Editor for the first few years and traded that for Webmaster duties in the past few years.

Where did you attend college? I earned a Bachelor of Arts in Peace Studies from the College of St Benedict's in 2003 (couldn't decide what to study) and a Masters of Criminal Justice from Concordia St Paul in 2008 (no one knew what Peace Studies was so I finally had to pick something else) .



What is your favorite thing about Minnesota Winters? The kind of snow that sticks to the trees and all the little birdy and squirrel tracks in the fresh white stuff. Gorgeous!

If you could go on vacation anywhere, where would it be? Jamaica. Definitely Jamaica. Ya Mon!

What is your favorite part about working in Corrections? Tough one, but as cheesy as it sounds, being able to help people. I enjoy helping offenders find change within themselves and also promoting and protecting public safety. At the end of the day, I know I am providing a valuable service, regardless of how hard that is to see some days.

Consultant: Too many inmates stay in St. Louis County jail too long

Taxpayers across St. Louis County spent nearly \$1.5 million last year to send local criminal suspects to other counties because the jail in Duluth was full.

By: **John Myers**, Duluth News Tribune

Taxpayers across St. Louis County spent nearly \$1.5 million last year to send local criminal suspects to other counties because the jail in Duluth was full.

Over the past decade, that price tag hit more than \$11.7 million — not including staff time and transportation costs for deputies to bring prisoners nearly every day to jails in Pine, Aitkin and Mille Lacs counties in Minnesota and Douglas County in Wisconsin.

All those jails have extra beds and are eager to charge about \$50 a day per inmate to take St. Louis County's overload.

The problem isn't that the St. Louis County Jail in Duluth is too small, it's that too many of the prisoners are staying too long, a consultant told county commissioners on Tuesday.

More specifically, the problem is the amount of time suspects and convicted criminals spend in jail awaiting hearings, pre-sentence investigations, sentencing and appeals, said Ken Schoen, former commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Corrections and former director of the University of Minnesota Law School Institute of Criminal Justice. "It's not because you have more crime or your jail's too small; it's because you have a segment of the (jail) population who is using up all your available space with very long stays," Schoen said. St. Louis County is "experiencing jail overcrowding issues unlike anywhere else in Minnesota."

The average person in a St. Louis County courtroom has 5.1 hearings per case. In Rochester courts in Olmsted County, the average person has 4.1 hearings, Schoen said. That difference adds up to hundreds more hearings annually and additional jail time for suspects waiting for hearings, Schoen said. In 2011, the difference meant an extra 2,742

hearings in St. Louis County.

The court system and judges should hold fewer hearings and reduce the amount of time between hearings and reduce the number of continuances, Schoen recommended. "Some of this is really saying to the judges: 'Take control of your courtroom.'"

Schoen and others said changes already are under way, and that 6th Judicial District Chief Judge Sean Floerke is working with county staff to institute changes that might reduce the jail problem. Floerke was out of town Tuesday and unreachable for comment. But assistant chief Judge Gary Pagliaccetti said all judges in the district are aware of the overcrowding problem and are "exploring options to try to solve it."

Crime rate down, inmates up

On average in 2011, the county paid to house 255 inmates every night, 170 in its own jail and the other 85 in other county jails.

About 51 percent of the stays at the St. Louis County Jail are three days or less, and 75 percent stay 15 days or less. But 587 long-term inmates — about 12 percent of the total jail population in 2011 — stayed an average of 106 days. Several stayed for more than a year. And one suspect, eventually convicted of murder, stayed 1,523 days, nearly four years, in the county jail awaiting his hearings, trial and sentencing before finally moving on to the state prison system.

Those 587 long-term inmates essentially gobbled up the jail's capacity for the entire year, Schoen said. Schoen noted the problem has worsened even as overall crime rates have dropped in recent years. The county jail went from a 10 percent overage a decade ago to 50 percent in 2011, Schoen found. Schoen looked at the number of jail beds both per capita and per crimes committed in the county, and the Duluth lockup is nearly dead-on average among Minnesota counties with similar populations

and similar crime rates.

Only Carlton County is experiencing the same kind of overcrowding and expense of using jails, Schoen noted. Both Carlton and St. Louis counties are in the 6th Judicial District.

Alternatives to jail

Schoen said the problem has many contributing factors and many potential solutions:

The county lacks a less-expensive option for nonviolent offenders and should consider upgrading and adding on to the Northeast Regional Correction Center outside Duluth to take some inmates now going to the jail.

Many inmates in the region are too poor to afford bail, so they remain in jail. Options for nonviolent offenders — including electronic monitoring, at a cost of about \$17 per day compared to \$50 for a neighboring jail — should be considered, Schoen said.

Courts should give priority to cases where the person is in custody, rather than to those where the person has been released, to get hearings concluded and the person potentially out of jail. Courts should reduce the amount of time for pre-sentence investigations for criminals already convicted and probably heading to state prison but awaiting one last appearance in court before the sentence is ordered.

Courts should reduce the use of jail time for probation violations. Court officials say they already are testing a new system of probation violation diversion in the Hibbing area to keep those offenders out of jail.

This article was taken from:

*Duluth News Tribune | Duluth, Minnesota
www.duluthnewstribune.com/event/article/
id/259259/ Published February 20, 2013,*

Board Members

President: Diana Wilkie, Hennepin County
Vice President: Amy Olson, Dakota County
Secretary: Tara Rother, Hennepin County
Treasurer: Levi Scheeler, Hennepin County

Regional Representatives

Region I: Aaron Langer, Rice County
Region II: Lynette Wellmann, Brown County
Region III: Kelly Kalla, Hennepin County
Region IV: Jeremy Gallagher, Stearns County
Region V: OPEN
Region VI: Ronalea Lahti, Ramsey County
Region VII: OPEN
Region VIII: Vicki Netjes, Sherburne County
Federal Rep.: Gary Smith, U.S. Federal

MAPSA is always looking for new members to help with ideas, trainings and to bring attention to pretrial and probation. If you are interested in becoming a member or becoming a representative for your region, please contact us at: mapsa@mapsa.us.

Our Mission:
The mission of the Minnesota Association of Pretrial Services Agencies is to create a more safe and just criminal justice system by providing quality training to our members, promoting information to improve pretrial programs and Promoting the importance of pretrial services in Minnesota.