



# MAPSA MATTERS

## Winter 2014/2015

### Letter from the MAPSA President

Greetings MAPSA Members,

I hope you enjoyed the holiday season and you are staying warm.

The MAPSA board has been busy. We met with PJI's Executive Director, Cherise Fanno Burdeen this past summer to discuss pretrial reform and how MAPSA can be valuable to your agencies and others across the state. PJI has been working with three states on the SMART pretrial demonstration initiative which will test the cost savings and public safety enhancements that can be achieved by improving pretrial policies and practices. We hope to continue to have discussions with PJI moving forward. Some board members recently met with research analysts from the State Court Administrator's Office. The Judicial Branch is conducting a statewide study on evidence based tools utilized in making pretrial release decisions. MAPSA is excited to collaborate with the state to collect the information and hopefully help move forward with the outcomes.

MAPSA's Fall Training "Evidence Based Pretrial Risk Assessments" was held at the Sherburne County Government Center on November 18, 2014. Daniel B. Ryan facilitated the training. Mr. Ryan became

involved with MAPSA in the summer 2014. He has a history of training United States pretrial services and probation officers and has taught criminal justice courses at The University of New Haven and Long Island University. Mr. Ryan's training focused on the benefits of utilizing a pretrial risk assessment tool, with much discussion about how one tool may not work for all Minnesota agencies. The involvement and variety of attendees was great and the discussion about pretrial practices in Minnesota was valuable.

We hope to continue to gather information, collaborate with other organizations and educate ourselves on pretrial practices. Please contact MAPSA if you are interested in becoming involved.

MAPSA is excited to announce the date for the 2015 Conference. It will be held on April 29, 2015 at Mystic Lake Casino Hotel. We are excited to hold another conference at this location. Look for registration information in your emails and on the MAPSA website in the upcoming months.

Enjoy the rest of your winter and we look forward to seeing you at the 2015 Conference.

Amy Olson

MAPSA President

### MAPSA Board of Directors Award Nomination



This award will be given to a person or program who that has demonstrated outstanding dedication and professionalism in the field of divers, pretrial screening or pretrial services.

Please visit

[www.mapsa.us](http://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 2015 MAPSA Conference on April 29, 2015.

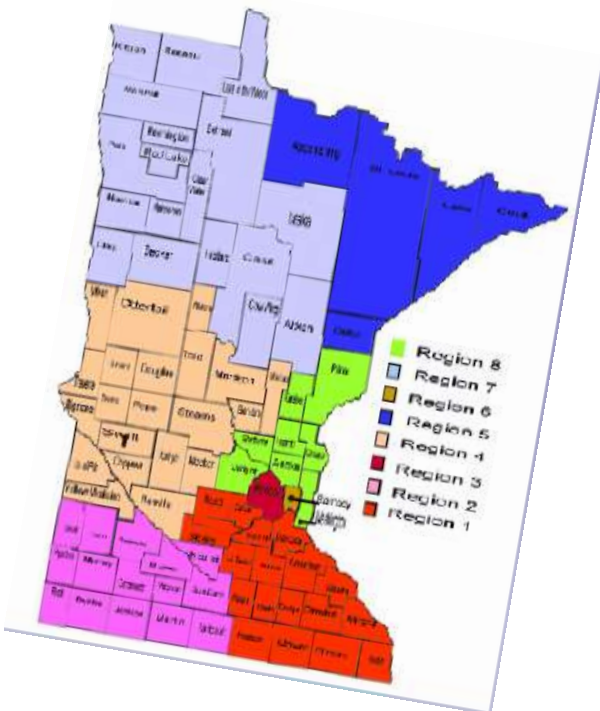
**Financial Report:**  
September 2014: \$6,099.47  
October 2014: \$6,099.47  
December 2014: \$6,027.03

# SAVE THE DATE



**2015 MAPSA Conference**  
**Mystic Lake Casino Hotel**  
**April 29, 2015**

Nominations will be accepted for open board positions at the 2015 MAPSA Conference. **President, Treasurer and Regions II, IV, VI and VIII**



**RESERVE YOUR ROOM NOW!**

Discounted rates available  
Contact the Mystic Lake Casino Hotel at 952-445-9000

## 2014 MAPSA Fall Training

### *"Evidence Based Pretrial Risk Assessments"*

Daniel B. Ryan, J.D, Former Chief of Operations of the  
Federal Probation and Pretrial Services System

This training explored the benefits of various validated pretrial risk assessment instruments aimed at enhancing agencies pretrial effectiveness and included interactive exercises.

To request a copy of the PowerPoint presentation from this training,  
or for more information, please email us at [mapsa@mapsa.us](mailto:mapsa@mapsa.us).

A big thank you to all who attended!



## Two New NIC Publications on Bail

The National Institute of Corrections has released two new papers related to pretrial justice, both authored by Tim Schnacke, the Executive Director of the Center for Legal and Evidence-Based Practices. Schnacke, a leading thinker and writer on pretrial justice addresses two important issues with the new works.



**[Click Here](#)**

### [Request for Qualifications](#)

The Pretrial Justice Institute is seeking a qualified organization or individual to serve as the researcher for the Smart Pretrial Demonstration Initiative, which is funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. [Click here for detailed information about the initiative and the Request for Qualifications \(RFQ\).](#)



**[Applications are due January 16, 2015.](#)**

Please apply if you are interested, or please forward the RFQ to any qualified organizations or persons whom you think may be interested. Contact Mike Jones at [mike@pretrial.org](mailto:mike@pretrial.org) with any questions about the RFQ or the Smart Pretrial Demonstration Initiative.

**[Click Here to open PDF document](#)**



Advancing safe, fair & effective pretrial justice practices & policies.

In yesterday's mid-term elections, New Jersey voters overwhelmingly passed Public Question No. 1 to amend the state constitution allowing for the preventive detention of pretrial defendants deemed high-risk for flight or public safety through a pretrial risk assessment.

The ability of New Jersey's courts to detain the most dangerous defendants through due process and with the assurance of a speedy trial is an historic move for the Garden State. What's more, it is a step toward repairing a broken pretrial system that has failed the state on two dimensions: it has allowed for dangerous defendants to buy their way out of detention and has resulted in the detention of many low-risk defendants for the lack of small sums of money.

The ability to preventively detain high-risk defendants complements legislation passed earlier this year that will establish pretrial services units to conduct pretrial risk assessments and provide supervision and monitoring to the defendants who are released before trial. In other jurisdictions where courts can detain based on risk, a vast majority –about 93%– are deemed appropriate for release.

The historic victory in New Jersey would not have been possible if not for the hard work of advocates and stakeholders in the state, particularly the leadership on this issue from the New Jersey office of the Drug Policy Alliance.

Congratulations to New Jersey!

[Drug Policy Alliance New Jersey Press Release](#)

[NJ.com Voters Approve Bail Reform Measure](#)

[New Jersey News Voters Approve Both Constitutional Amendments](#)



## Meet the Board: Amy Hertzog

### **What is your current position and where are you employed?**

I currently supervise conditions of release offenders and manage our random drug testing program. I am employed by Wright County Court Services.

### **How long have you been involved in MAPSA and in what position?**

I have been involved with MAPSA for one year as the Secretary.

### **What led you to work in the field of Criminal Justice?**

In college one of my criminal justice classes required us to do some volunteer work and I was matched up with Stearns County Community Corrections. I did a lot of filing and conducted a recidivism study on the diversion program, which gave me the opportunity to talk to several agents. It was at that time I decided to do my internship in corrections and ultimately completed my internship in the Sex Offender Unit in Stearns County.

### **What is your favorite thing about winter? And you're least favorite?**

My favorite thing about winter is being able to take my kids tubing, sledding, snowshoeing to name a few of our fun winter activities. My least favorite part of winter is the subzero weather that keeps me trapped indoors.

### **If your life was made into a movie, which actress would you choose to play the role of Amy Hertzog?**

Reese Witherspoon- she has a little spunk to her.