



NEWSLETTER

May 2006

2nd Issue

FLORIDA Association of Drug Court Professionals

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The Honorable Gisele Pollack

The Honorable Jose Rodriguez

Jim Santangelo

Robin Wright

Letter from FADCP Board Chair, Martin Epstein, Assistant State Attorney, 15th Judicial Circuit:

As Chair of the Florida Association of Drug Court Professionals, I wish to thank the FADCP Board for all their hard work this year in addressing our goals and objectives. The FADCP has been successful in implementing the substantive legislation that we have fought hard for the last five sessions. We have also begun planning a statewide drug court conference tentatively scheduled for the first quarter of 2007. The FADCP has been involved in coordinating the "National Drug Court Month" (NDCM) celebration with the Supreme Court's Task Force on Treatment-based Drug Courts and the Office of Drug Control. The highlight of NDCM will commence with 13 drug court graduates being recognized during the Drug Control Summit on June 7th in Tallahassee. What a wonderful showcase of the success of Florida's drug courts!

During 2005-2006, we had 264 FADCP members who have given their support and input to the FADCP Board on legislative issues and communication needs. We hope to increase our membership to encompass a larger portion of our drug court teams during 2006-2007. Our goal is to increase communication to our members and to receive input on how we can better serve your needs as a drug court professional.

I would like to applaud our FADCP Board who volunteer their time and expertise to work on initiatives that directly impact our drug courts. A huge thank you to Judge Melanie May and Jim McDonough who championed the substantive legislation, The Robert J. Koch Drug Court Intervention Act, designed to help institutionalize and advance Florida's drug courts. They worked very closely with Representative Adams, Senator Lynn, and Jennifer Grandal at the OSCA to move these initiatives through the legislative process. Although the funding bill did not pass, we need to extend a thank you to Representative Quinones and Senator Posey for their support and effort on these bills. We also appreciate our FADCP member support in contacting your legislative delegation to try to garner support for these bills. A special thank you goes to Judge Rosinek who has helped guide the hotel contract negotiations for venues being considered for the statewide training conference and for keeping our finances and obligations in order. We appreciate Gail Holly, Drug Court Coordinator, and her court in Tampa for volunteering to serve as conference chair for the next statewide drug court training. Through the guidance and organization of Mike Jewell, we have addressed the goals and objectives the FADCP identified through June 2006.

The new slate of directors and executive officers for the FADCP Board will be voted on June 23rd during the FADCP Annual Membership meeting in Seattle. We have accomplished many goals during my tenure to better organize the FADCP to achieve important initiatives to help our drug court programs in Florida. I look forward to continued success and hope that you as members will take the initiative to get involved with the FADCP. Through the leadership of the FADCP Board and our membership, we have impacted Florida's drug courts and made a difference! I have enjoyed my tenure as Chair and wish continued success to the FADCP.

CHILE'S DRUG COURT INITIATIVE

By Martin Epstein, Chair FADCP

I had the distinct honor of being invited by the Chilean Government along with Judge Kofi Barnes from Canada and Judge Laura Safer from New York to speak at a national conference on drug court problem solving mechanisms. Over three hundred people from Chile were invited to attend the conference including judges, state attorneys, public defenders, and treatment personnel. The event was sponsored by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes and Fundacion Paz Ciudadana. The agenda included a trip to Valpariso where the first drug court in Chile has been implemented. Conference attendees were invited to the graduation ceremony for the drug court's first graduate. This graduation was truly a momentous occasion not only for us, but for all the people in Chile. We met with judges, state attorneys, public defenders, and treatment personnel to recommend procedures for the implementation of numerous other startup drug courts throughout Chile. The Chilean Government was represented at the conference by the Attorney General, Minister of the Interior, President of the Catholic University of Chile School of Law, United Nations, and the Minister of Finance. It was an extremely rewarding experience to provide the Chilean Government with input modeling our successful drug court programs to help them implement their programs so they can fight substance abuse that impacts their citizens and criminal justice system.

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2006 Legislative Session Recap
By Judge Melanie May, Vice Chair, FDCP

Well, it's over. I can't thank the membership enough for its advocacy and support during this legislative session. We have good news and not so good news, but I am very happy with our progress this year.

Senate Bill 114/444 and House Bill 175

THANK YOU to Representative Sandy Adams and Senator Evelyn Lynn! HB175 and SB114/444, otherwise known as the substantive bill, The Robert J. Koch Drug Court Intervention Act, passed this year after five long years of work. This is the bill that infuses the drug court model into dependency legislation, authorizes the use of sanctions, mandates a drug court coordinator in each circuit, brings the juvenile delinquency statute into line with the adult eligibility criteria, tweaks the transfer statute, and does some minor housekeeping. We hope that the Governor will sign the bill into law at the Drug Control Summit on June 7th in Tallahassee.

Drug Court Programs; cites act as "Robert J. Koch Drug Court Intervention Act"; provides additional legislative purposes & intent re treatment of substance abuse, including use of drug court program model; authorizes court to order specified persons to submit to substance abuse assessment upon showing of good cause in connection with shelter petition or petition for dependency, etc. Amends Ch. 39, 397.334, 910.035, 948.08, 16, 985.306. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.

Senate Bill 940/House Bill 709

The funding bill passed the Senate, but died in the House. This is disappointing, but we made great progress this year. And, as you all know, we never give up. Thanks to Representative John Quinones and Senator Bill Posey for their valiant effort in supporting these bills. **It's only in its second year of real progress so there is hope for another day!**

Court Costs for Drug Court Programs; authorizes counties to provide by ordinance for funding of drug court programs through assessment of additional mandatory court cost; provides for assessment to be imposed against persons convicted of certain violations of drug abuse prevention & control provisions, violations of municipal or county ordinance, or traffic violations involving alcohol or other substance use or abuse & resulting in payment of fine or penalty, etc. Creates 938.20. EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.

Slate of Directors for 2006-2007 FADCP Board:

The following individuals have been nominated for the 2006-2007 FADCP Board of Directors. The slate of directors will be voted on during the June FADCP Annual Membership meeting in Seattle at the NADCP conference. The FADCP membership meeting will be held on Friday, June 23, 2006 in Room 4-C from 12:00 pm to 1:15 pm during the "Lunch on your Own" time slot of the NADCP Conference. Members are encouraged to purchase lunch items prior to or after the brief meeting. The elected FADCP Board of Directors will meet immediately following the general membership meeting to convene as the Board and elect the Executive Officers for 2006-2007.

Ken Allison, 5th DCA, Treatment, 9th Circuit
Judge Ruth Becker-Painter, 3rd DCA, County Court Judge, 16th Circuit
Chet Bell, 5th DCA, Treatment, 7th Circuit
Linda Burd, 1st DCA, Coordinator, 14th Circuit
Martin Epstein, 4th DCA, Assistant State Attorney, 15th Circuit
Judge Jack Espinosa, Jr., 2nd DCA, Circuit Court Judge, 13th Circuit
Tim Fell, 1st DCA, Probation, 14th Circuit
Dena Geraghty, 2nd DCA, Treatment, 20th Circuit
*Jennifer Grandal, 1st DCA, Statewide Coordination, OSCA
Gary Hilko, 4th DCA, Coordinator, 17th Circuit
Eileen Hibbert, 3rd DCA, Probation, 16th Circuit
Gail Holly, 2nd DCA, Coordinator, 13th Circuit
*Bill Janes, Director, 1st DCA, Office of Drug Control
Michael Jewell, 5th DCA, Coordinator, 7th Circuit
Judge Melanie May, 4th DCA, DCA Judge, 15th Circuit
James R. McDonough, 1st DCA, Secretary, Department of Corrections
Rudolph Morel, 4th DCA, Assistant Public Defender, 17th Circuit
Toby Olson, 4th DCA, Law Enforcement, 19th Circuit
Judge Gisele Pollack, 4th DCA, County Court Judge, 17th Circuit
Judge Jose Rodriguez, 5th DCA, Circuit Court Judge, 9th Circuit
Judge Jeffrey Rosinek, 3rd DCA, Circuit Court Judge, 11th Circuit
Jim Santangelo, 1st DCA, Coordinator, 8th Circuit
Robin Wright, 1st DCA, Coordinator, 1st Circuit

*Ex-Officio Directors

Drug Court Training Opportunities

National Association of Drug Court Professionals

Location: Washington State Convention and Trade Center
800 Convention Place
Seattle, WA 98101

Dates: from 6/21/2006 7:00 am
to 6/24/2006 11:30 am (Eastern Time)

NADCP's Annual Drug Court Training Conference is the largest conference in the nation focusing on substance abuse and criminality. Its principal objectives are to receive training from peers and experts alike on the current practices and trends in the treatment of addiction, to connect with policy makers on the direction of funding and relevant legislation, to network with fellow practitioners and to interface with providers of products and services developed to meet the needs of the field.

Payments must be received by Friday, May 26, 2006, to register in advance (Pre-Registration). Registration received after May 26, 2006 will be at the higher on-site rate (an additional \$25.00).

<http://ga4.org/drugcourts/events/06conference/details.tcl>

Florida's 2006 Family Court Conference

The OSCA is coordinating the Family Court Conference scheduled for August 3-4 in Orlando at the Rosen Centre Hotel which will include plenary sessions on substance abuse issues and training tracks for family and juvenile drug courts. **Conference registration began on May 1st and will commence on June 16th.** For more information, contact the Office of Court Improvement in the OSCA at 850-414-1507 or visit www.flcourts.org (click on Family Courts).

FADCP Drug Court Training Conference

The FADCP Training Conference Committee has begun targeting locales to coordinate a statewide drug court training conference for adult, juvenile and family drug courts. Dates in the first quarter of 2007 are tentatively being pursued. The Committee discussed coordination of an adult drug court training conference in October to compliment the training the juvenile and family drug courts will receive through the Family Court Conference in August but has determined that FADCP membership and drug court teams would be served better with a statewide drug court conference in the first quarter of 2007.

See "FADCP Member Appreciation Contest" on Next Page



“FADCP Member Appreciation Contest”

Please complete and submit the coupon below to enter the “FADCP Member Appreciation Contest”. The selected coupon entry will provide the winning FADCP member with free registration and hotel lodging for the 2007 Florida Statewide Drug Court Training Conference tentatively scheduled during the first quarter of 2007. The drawing will be held at the FADCP Annual Membership meeting on June 23, 2006 at the National Association of Drug Court Professionals conference in Seattle, Washington. FADCP Members do not have to be present in Seattle to win. Return by e-mail or snail mail by JUNE 12, 2006 to:

Mr. Michael Jewell
Drug Court Manager
Seventh Judicial Circuit
Volusia County Courthouse
101 North Alabama Avenue
DeLand, FL 32724
mjewell@circuit7.org

“FADCP Member Appreciation Contest Coupon”

Name _____

Circuit/County _____

Drug Court Role/Position _____

Phone Number/E-mail _____



Florida's Statewide Drug Court Graduation

In celebration of "National Drug Court Month", the Statewide Drug Court Graduation will be held on Wednesday, May 17th in Jacksonville hosted by the Fourth Circuit. Eleven circuits comprising 29 drug court programs will recognize 178 drug court graduates statewide. Governor Bush and Chief Justice Pariente have been invited to attend the event in Jacksonville.

"National Drug Court Month Celebration"

In addition to the Statewide Drug Court Graduation on May 17th, the Governor and drug courts statewide will sign proclamations declaring the month of May as drug court month in the state of Florida. Through a collaborative workgroup formed from the Supreme Court's Task Force on Treatment-based Drug Courts, the FADCP and the Office of Drug Control, a special event to honor 13 drug court graduates at the Florida Drug Control Summit on June 7th in Tallahassee has been coordinated. These most worthy and dedicated drug court graduates were nominated by their circuits and selected by the workgroup. The graduates will be recognized at the Summit and presented with a plaque dedicated to their commitment to sobriety and service to the community.

2006-2007 FADCP Membership Drive

The 2006-2007 FADCP Membership Drive will begin in July. It is through volunteers that we are able to accomplish initiatives that support Florida's drug court programs. If you wish to join or get involved with FADCP initiatives, please submit your membership application. For questions, please E-mail Eve Janocko, FADCP Executive Administrator at evejanocko@aol.com.

Future FADCP Newsletters

Do you have an article you would like to write for the next newsletter or topics you wish covered? If so, please E-mail Eve Janocko, FADCP Executive Administrator at evejanocko@aol.com or contact her at 904-825-2615.