



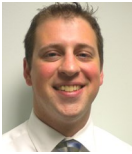
Meeting the Public Where They Are

Officers Tucci, Paganello, and Nicholson working STOP DWI Night at Dwyer Stadium in Batavia, NY

County Building #1, 15 Main Street, Batavia, New York 14020

(585) 344-2550 x2255

probation@co.genesee.ny.us



Why Probation Departments Should Participate in Community Outreach

Benjamin Heale, Probation Officer

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Over the last year, the Genesee County Probation Department participated in a number of outreach events such as Community Night Out, Trunk or Treat, Family Game Night, Stuff the Cruiser, and Stop DWI Night at the Ballpark. So why does our Department participate in these events, and what benefits could it offer the community and our Department?

Participating in community outreach events promotes visibility. Speaking from personal experience, prior to becoming a probation officer, I had never actually seen a probation officer out in the community and was fairly unaware of what their job responsibilities entailed. Attending events such as the Community Night Out gives people a chance to see what we look like and how we dress when we are out interacting in the community. Probation Departments have differ-

ent philosophies when it comes to dress code. Do they dress in plain clothes? Do they have a uniform? Attending outreach events helps the public

become familiar with our appearance which can be very important in emergency situations.

Participating in community outreach events promotes accessibility. A number of times in my years attending these events, I have personally had people come up and share information, positive or negative, that they might not have otherwise been comfortable shar-

ing if we were not standing there in person.



Officers have an opportunity to engage with the public in a constructive manner.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 4]


Genesee County Probation Department

County Building 1, 15 Main St, Batavia, NY 14020 Tel: 585-344-2550

Staff Directory 2024




Timothy Michalak
Probation Director
Ext. 2270




Rachel Sanfratello
Probation Supervisor
Ext. 2252




Jason Mindler
Probation Supervisor
Ext. 2254




Michele Tucci
Senior Probation Officer
Ext. 2262



Jeremy Barber
Senior Probation Officer
Ext. 2259




Traci Russo
Senior Probation Officer



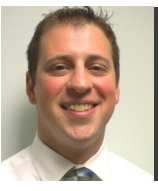
Carly Luttrell
Senior Probation Officer
Ext. 2272



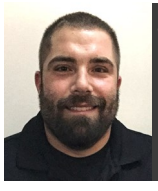
William Bogan II
Probation Officer
Ext. 2309




Terri Buchholz
Probation Officer
Ext. 2216




Benjamin Heale
Probation Officer
Ext. 2263



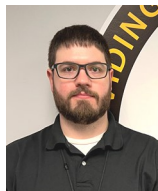
Jeffrey Hyde
Probation Officer
Ext. 2266



Bryan Pike
Probation Officer
Ext. 2283




Brianne Paganello
Probation Officer
Ext. 2271



Dakota Nicholson
Probation Officer
Ext. 2274



Rebecca Zeitvogel
Probation Officer Trainee
Ext. 2273

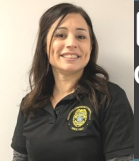


Vicki Athoe
Principal Clerk
Ext. 2257



Jennifer Draper
Principal Financial Clerk
Ext. 2255

Genesee County Probation Department Newsletter



Domestic Violence Supervision

Carly Luttrell, Senior Probation Officer

Domestic Violence, or more specifically Intimate Partner Violence, requires special methods of probation supervision. Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) is abuse or aggression that occurs in a romantic relationship, and it is unfortunately common. One in three women and one in four men have experienced severe physical violence from an intimate partner. Cases of IPV present a serious risk to the victims: according to the *Centers for Disease Control*, one in five homicide victims are killed by an intimate partner, and over half of all female homicide victims in the United States are killed by a current or former intimate partner.

Probation supervision requires a different strategy for IPV cases. Rehabilitation must be a secondary consideration to community safety. Probationer accountability is vital, and swift sanctions for violating terms are crucial when victims' safety is placed in jeopardy. Specialist probation officers work to open lines of communication with current intimate partners of IPV probationers in order to

gauge risk, something challenging due to the fluid and sensitive nature of the intimate relationship. These officers utilize specialized risk assessment tools to properly

assign supervision levels and assign domestic violence accountability programs to educate IPV probationers on the nature of their actions. Other needs are also addressed, such as substance abuse and mental health, through treatment.

By being an advocate for IPV victims, specialist probation officers can recruit a variety of community partners such as domestic violence counseling, social services, independent living resources, and more to surround the victims and buffer them from further violence. By raising awareness to both the frequency and the danger that Intimate Partner Violence presents, specialist officers can help turn the tide for future generations.

Milestones

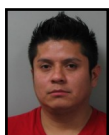
Left to Right: Officer Nicholson graduation from Probation Academy, Officer Zeitvogel graduation from Probation Academy, Officer Hyde DCJS Instructor Certification, Officer Pike celebrating 15 years, Officer Bogan celebrating 15 years

PROBATION'S MOST WANTED

If you have any information regarding the whereabouts of these individuals, please call
Genesee County Probation Department
(585) 344-2550 x 2255



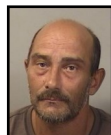
Jeffrey Balk



Gerardo Carrera-Sanchez



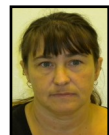
Duty Caswell



Jason Duffina



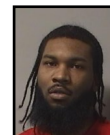
Carolina Frias



Janet Grossman



Deavin Herman



Daquan Butler



Anthony Welch



Jan Luca Krumm

Genesee County Probation Department Newsletter

Why Probation Departments Should Participate in Community Outreach

Continued

Benjamin Heale, Probation Officer

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1] In some of these situations, information was obtained on warrant suspects and drug activity in our community. Through these events, we have also had the opportunity to have positive interactions with individuals already under our supervision and some that previously were under our supervision. Our officers love to hear of how well an individual is doing in the community and how they have continued to become a contributing, law-abiding member of society. One of the many goals of our Department is to help rehabilitate offenders and guide them through appropriate treatment so that poor choices do not become a life-long pattern of behavior. Hearing how an individual has now chosen to better themselves and contribute back to society is an encouragement to us in knowing that the work we do is bettering our community.

Participating in community outreach events promotes agency communication and connections. During one of the outreach events this summer, a connection was made with the Core Learning Center who also had a booth at the event.

Representatives from their agency and our Department struck up a conversation about some of the perceived shortcomings in our community in regards to youth and adult education services. This conversation led to their agency attending a staff meeting and presenting how they believed they could best assist our Department in helping individuals under supervision reach their educational goals.

Lastly, participating in community outreach events promotes awareness of the services our Department offers and how we link individuals to other agencies based upon their needs. As previously mentioned, prior to my career path as an officer, I had little idea of what a probation officer did. In attending community outreach events, I have often been asked, “so what is it exactly that you guys do?” These opportunities to educate our community are welcomed as we are proud of the work and services that our officers provide to the community.

So, in conclusion, should probation departments participate in community outreach events? After participating and seeing the benefits of our interactions with the community over the past nine years, I would wholeheartedly encourage every probation department to take every opportunity to engage with their community as we mutually work towards our goal of a safer, better society.



Officers see, first hand, their impact on the community.

In the Community

Stuff the Cruiser 2023



- The Probation Department coordinated the annual “**Stuff the Cruiser**” event with the Genesee County Sheriff’s Office, the Batavia City Police, and the Genesee County Department of Social Services, providing for over 400 Genesee County children in need!
- Probation Officers participated in the **Stop DWI Night at the Ballpark**, **Family Game Night**, **Trunk or Treat** and the **Community Night Out**.
- The Probation Department collected money for a donation to the Genesee County **Holiday Tote Project**, this year benefitting senior citizens in Genesee County.
- Probation staff dressed in Buffalo Bills apparel during the NFL playoffs this year, donating money to a variety of causes.

Community Night Out 2023



Genesee County Probation Department Newsletter



Director's Corner

By Timothy Michalak
Probation Director

At the Genesee County Probation Department, we have embraced the concept of officer-led programming. Treatment and education are the key to success for individuals under our supervision. Quality programming leads to better outcomes and safer communities.

One program that we developed and facilitate is our Petit Larceny Reduction Program. The goal of the program is to reduce retail theft recidivism, increase awareness of the true harm that retail theft causes to the victims, and introduce offenders to the process of changing their behavior. We utilize a hands-on approach and participants are able to hear from a former probationer who went through the change process. Then they have the opportunity to develop their own change plan. At the end of the program, they are given a guide to local resources to help them in their journey.

Our officers are also using Interactive Journaling to make positive changes in the lives of the adults and youth under our supervision. Interactive Journaling is a structured and experiential writing process that motivates and guides participants toward positive life change. This evidence-based practice brings consistency to service delivery while keeping program participants engaged and focused on their personal change goals. Interactive Journaling is delivered by our probation officers in one-on-one sessions while we assist the participants in making positive changes to their thoughts, feelings and behaviors.

Our Department is also planning on expanding our use of Interactive Journaling to include financial literacy for any individual under our supervision that would benefit from it. During this calendar year we are hoping to conduct classes where participants will be able to explore their money management skills and their beliefs about finances. Our officers will discuss strategies that will assist probationers in meeting their financial goals and obligations.

We hope that by adding in-house, officer-led programming to the outside programs we already utilize, we will be able to better assist the individuals under our supervision while improving the overall safety of our community.

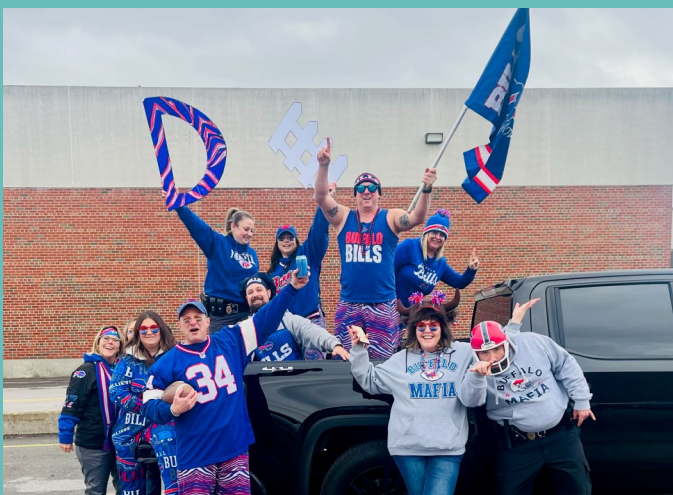
Welcome to Our New Staff Members!



Rebecca Zeitvogel
Probation Officer Trainee



Jennifer Draper
Principal Financial Clerk

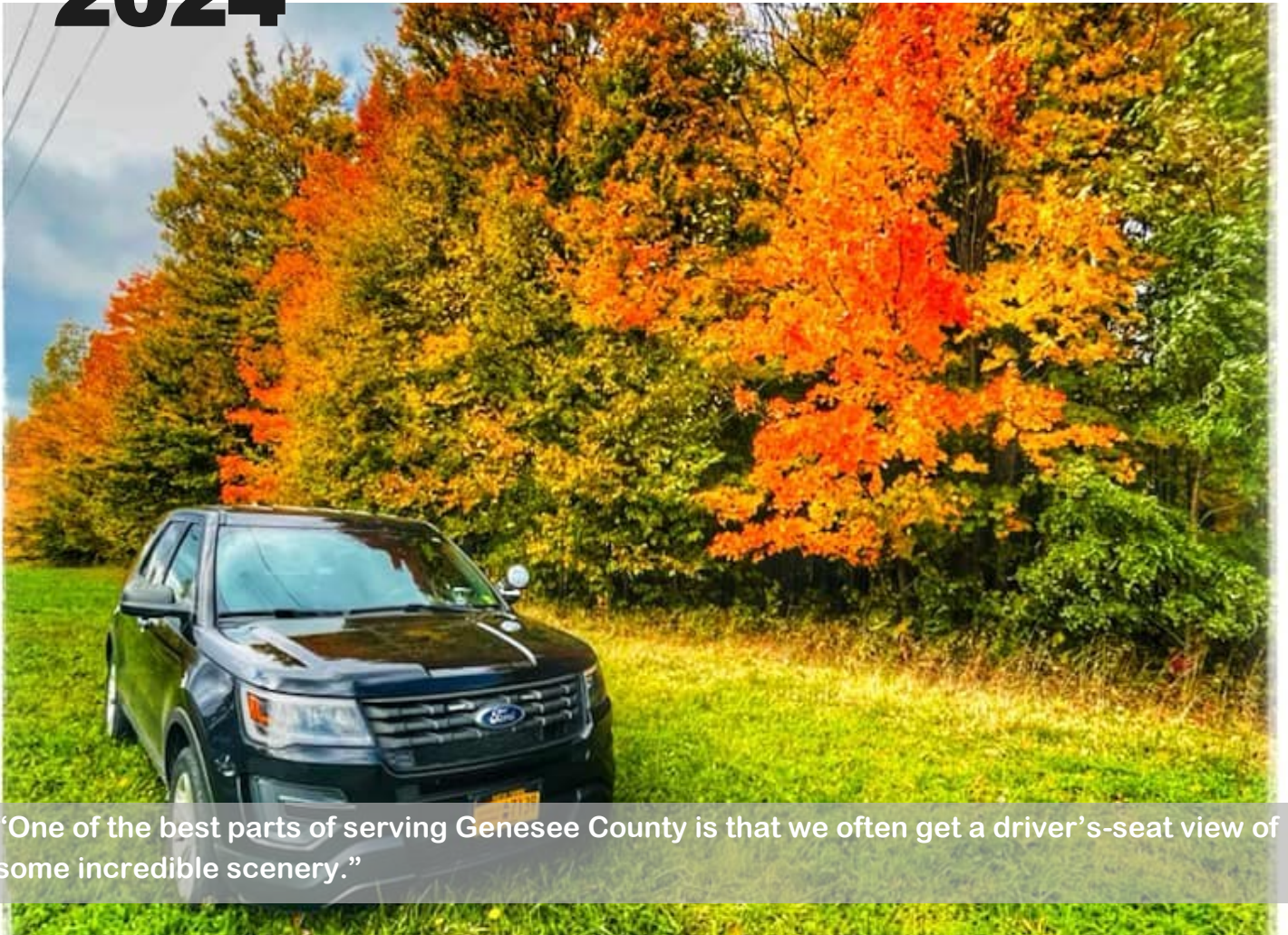


Team Spirit

Staff dressed up as Buffalo Bills "Super Fans" for Halloween and threw a lunch-hour tailgate party

Genesee County Probation Department Newsletter

2024



“One of the best parts of serving Genesee County is that we often get a driver’s-seat view of some incredible scenery.”

The Mission of the Genesee County Probation Department is to enhance the safety of victims and communities through the fair and effective supervision of community-based offenders, community partnerships, and results-driven management

Contact Information:

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