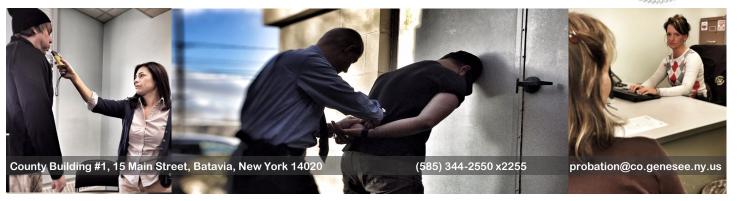
#### **Genesee County**

# **Probation Department**

#### Newsletter





### Gone, But Not Forgotten

Jeremy Barber, Senior Probation Officer, Warrant Officer

bation Department has embarked on initiatives to apprehend warrant suspects and long term absconders. Cooperation among law enforcement agencies has led to the successful extradition of a number of offenders from the States of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina.

obtained through a variety of methods. Our Department processes wanted posters for offenders which generates a number of leads that are then investigated. In addition, anonymous information is often received which provides location information regarding the defendant. This allows for a thorough investigation on the offender's whereabouts. Different online resources allow for geographic location of the defendant and help pinpoint specific areas to search. Perhaps the most valued resources are leads that are developed in the community. Forging relationships with community members, family members and other offenders instills a level of trust that information provided will remain highly confidential.

Offenders that flee the State of New York are often surprised at the diligent efforts made to locate them and extradite them to the respective Court of juris-In addition to apprehension of offenders from other States, we

In recent years, the Genesee County Pro- have begun pursuing bail jumping charges when appropriate.

During 2016, there was approximately a 91% increase of cleared warrants over 2015. This was in connection with the collaborative efforts of local and out of State law enforcement. In addition to the increased clearance of probation warrants, our Offic-Information regarding the offenders' whereabouts is ers have assisted in taking a number of probation offenders into custody on warrants issued by other jurisdictions.

> In short, the increased efforts and communication between law enforcement agencies in our community has helped to hold offenders accountable for their actions as well as provide enhanced safety.



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# **Genesee County Probation Department**

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

# **Staff Directory 2017**



Timothy **Michalak** Probation **Director II** 

Ext. 2270



Kevin Wright Probation Supervisor Ext. 2271



Rachel Sanfratello Probation Supervisor Ext. 2252



Michele Tucci Senior Probation Officer Ext. 2262



Jeremy Barber Senior Probation Officer



Traci Russo Senior Probation Officer



Sarah Welker **Probation** Officer Ext. 2274



William Bogan II Probation Officer

Ext. 2309



Carly Luttrell **Probation** Officer

Ext. 2272



Jason Mindler Probation Officer Ext. 2254



Terri **Buchholz Probation** Officer

Ext. 2216



Benjamin Heale **Probation** Officer Ext. 2263



Nicole <u>Willia</u>ms **Probation** Officer Ext. 2273



Jeffrey Hyde Probation Officer Ext. 2266



Bryan Pike **Probation** Officer Ext. 2283



Vicki Athoe **Principal** Clerk Ext. 2257



Carrie **Everett Principal** Financial Clerk Ext. 2255



You do not have to look far to read or hear about violence against law enforcement officers. Social media and news outlets are awash in accounts of officers who have been killed or severely injured in the course of performing their duties. On December 8, 2016, CNN published a story noting that across the county, 63 officers had been killed in the line of duty in 2016. It is easy to say that Genesee



Trauma kit contents

County is a small, rural community, and that such behavior would not happen here, yet on December 1, 2015, emergency personnel in Leroy responded to a fire and were shot at by an individual. On March 7, 2016, an individual shot at a Deputy while he sat in his vehicle in Byron. In neighboring Orleans County, on March 21, 2015, an Officer from the Orleans County Sheriff's Department was shot twice

in the stomach when responding to a domestic incident. The question must be asked: how are we equipping ourselves to handle a life threatening situation?

Many law enforcement agencies, drawing on experience from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and tapping advances in medical technology, have begun utilizing trauma kits. Some agencies are gifted these through organizations in their communities, others through grant funding, or by finding money in their budget to provide their officers with lifesaving measures in the field. On November 29, 2016, two members of

the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation were investigating some illegal hunting activity in Gallatin, New York, when one of the Officers was shot. His partner was credited with saving his life due to her rapid application of gunshot wound management equipment in the field. It is critical in these situations to stop the bleeding in order to increase the chance of survival.

In 2017, the Genesee County Probation Department is preparing to implement augmented trauma kits and obtain increased training in this area for all personnel. We have sought advice from other agencies in order to find the most effective and efficient components for our kits. Each officer will be equipped with a kit that will include a tourniquet, one-handed compression dressing, and hemostatic gauze. Each vehicle will also have additional items including tactical shears, chest seals as well as other first aid items. Each member of our Department, including the support staff, will be trained in how to use these items so that all members of our Department will be able to assist others if and when needed.

#### Overheard...

"Has anyone ever asked to hug you after one of these?" - *Probationer after a clean drug test* 

"I was gargling mouthwash when my four-year-old grandson punched me in the stomach, causing me to swallow it." - *Probationer after testing positive for alcohol* 

"I was emptying the garbage cans at Darien Lake and some of the beer from the empty cans may have dripped into my mouth." - *Probationer, prior to a drug* test

"Is it okay if I buy alcohol as long as its for somebody else?" - *Probationer with alcohol restrictions* 

#### **Probation's Most Wanted**



If you have any information regarding the whereabouts of these individuals,

Genesee County Probation Department (585) 344-2550 x2257

















#### **Probation Searches**

Jason Mindler Probation Officer / Instructor

of 2016, Probation Officers fanned out across the property of a probationer, converging on the residence to conduct a search. A report had been received that the probationer, a Violent Felon with a weapons prohibition, was in possession of firearms. After a sweep of the perimeter, evidence was discovered warranting calls to additional agencies, including the Department of Environmental Conservation and the Genesee County Sheriff's Office. Hours later, the search concluded with the probationer in custody and multiple rifles, shotguns, illegal deadly weapons, drugs and alcohol were taken into evidence. Stories such as this echoed throughout the year, as Probation participated Officers in further searches, locating contraband and securing it.

On a cold morning in March community-based sentence. Its pur- and preserve evidence in a legallypose is rooted in the need to shine sound manner. a light into the dark corners of a probationer's existence and expose hidden impediments to their successful rehabilitation. It is an invasive procedure that requires the probationer to surrender a portion of their constitutionally - guaranteed protections, in the hopes that the added scrutiny will aid in the quest to address their criminogenic needs. Searches have an important role in public safety; searches resulting in the discovery of contraband immediately remove drugs, paraphernalia, and weapons from the streets and from those prohibited from their possession.

Careful preparation must go into a property search. It is imperative that it is conducted with safety as the foremost concern, and that respect is given to the belongings of The probation search is one the probationer. Officers must be of the most unique aspects of a apprised of possible risks as well as

the particulars of each individual case so that the search can be conducted as intelligently as possible. Care must also be taken to collect

The Genesee County Probation Department continues our commitment to community safety and offender rehabilitation by investing in the tools and skills required to carry out this sensitive and important task.





Contraband recovered during **Probation searches** 

#### **Giving Back**

Staff donated money during the Department's annual "Chili Thanksgiving" party to a local veteran family in need.

In lieu of exchanging gifts, Department Staff also donated money in December to the Holiday Tote Project run by the Kiwanis Club of Batavia.



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#### **Director's Corner**

By Timothy Michalak
Probation Director

Here at the Genesee County Probation Department, it is our mission to enhance the safety of victims and communities through the fair and effective supervision of community-based offenders, community partnerships and results-driven management practices. We have a team of seventeen people working to successfully carry out this mission. We provide intake services, conduct court ordered investigations, and of course, supervise offenders in the community.

Our officers have a demanding schedule conducting home visits, writing reports, meeting with offenders and their family members, working with victims, consulting with treatment agencies, coordinating with local law enforcement, executing warrants, making arrests, conducting searches, completing risk and need assessments, testifying in court, effecting drug and alcohol testing, monitoring ignition interlock devices, collecting DNA samples from offenders, along with a host of other responsibilities. Department staff is also responsible for collecting restitution, fines and DWI supervision fees.

As you can see, being a Probation Officer is certainly a challenge. I believe it takes an intelligent, conscientious and even-tempered individual to face this challenge and be successful in rehabilitating offenders, making victims whole and helping to keep our community safe. Fortunately our Department is full of individuals like this. They take pride in their work, they are professional, and they want to make a difference. Taking the time to hire quality people is so vitally important to the success of any organization, including ours. There is true teamwork and family-like atmosphere at our Department and that is a credit to the individuals we currently employ.

As the Director, I take our mission very seriously and I can sleep much better at night knowing we have a dedicated staff that feels the same way.

#### Welcome to Our New Probation Officers



Bryan Pike and Jeffrey Hyde

**Genesee County Probation Department** 2016 Highlights

- 6/16/2016: A search of a probationer resulted in the discovery of crack cocaine, a hypodermic needle, and a crack pipe.
- 7/5/2016: A probationer was found to be in possession of a hidden apparatus designed to cheat a urine drug test.
- 7/27/2016: A home search of a probationer resulted in the discovery of drugs and drug paraphernalia. A subsequent search of the residence in November resulted in the discovery of more drugs and drug paraphernalia.
- 12/1/2016: A search of a probationer's residence revealed alcohol, guns and ammunition which the probationer was prohibited from possessing.
- 12/29/2016: During a search of the home of a registered sex offender, the offender was found to be in possession of drugs, drug paraphernalia, pornography, women's underwear, and a pair of child's tights.
- 42 Warrants were cleared in 2016
- 661 Court-Ordered Investigations were completed.



#### **Contact Information:**

#### **Genesee County Probation Department**

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15 Main Street, Batavia, NY 14020

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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
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on Facebook!