

**Tompkins County  
Department of Probation and  
Community Justice**

**2010 Annual Report**



*Opening Doors to New Opportunities*

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# Table of Contents

<b>Director's Message</b>	.....	<b>4</b>
<b>Mission Statement</b>	.....	<b>5</b>
<b>2010 Accomplishments</b>	.....	<b>6</b>
<b>2011 Goals</b>	.....	<b>7</b>
<b>Staff Listing</b>	.....	<b>8</b>
<b>Department Milestones</b>	.....	<b>9</b>
<b>Restitution Collections</b>	.....	<b>10</b>
<b>Family Court Diversion</b>	.....	<b>11</b>
<b>Family Court Investigations</b>	.....	<b>14</b>
<b>Family Court Supervisions</b>	.....	<b>15</b>
<b>Pre-Trial Services</b>	.....	<b>16</b>
<b>Criminal Court Flow Chart</b>	.....	<b>18</b>
<b>Criminal Court Investigations</b>	.....	<b>19</b>
<b>Criminal Court Supervisions</b>	.....	<b>20</b>
<b>Specialized Supervisions</b>	.....	<b>22</b>
<b>Specialized DWI Supervisions</b>	.....	<b>23</b>
<b>Technology Tools</b>	.....	<b>25</b>
<b>Treatment Court Programs</b>	.....	<b>29</b>
<b>Community Supervision Programs</b>	.....	<b>31</b>
<b>Day Reporting</b>	.....	<b>32</b>

# Director's Message



*Patricia Buechel*  
*Probation Director*



**TOMPKINS COUNTY DEPARTMENT  
of PROBATION and COMMUNITY JUSTICE**  
320 West State/Martin Luther King Jr. Street  
Ithaca, New York 14850

**April 2011**

The year 2010 has been a productive year for the department—we have accomplished our set goals for the year, made evidenced based practice initiatives part of the ethos of probation work and survived a challenging budget process. The Department led the way in the development of the county Ignition Interlock Plan per Leandra's Law and has acted as a resource to the courts regarding the implementation of this plan. In all, Probation staff has risen to the daily demands and expectations placed on them with both professionalism and proficiency.

The theme for this year's Annual Report, *Opening Doors to New Opportunities*, reflects this department's ongoing mission to effect change in our probationers. Through direct supervision, Probation Officers afford offenders and youth the opportunity to examine their actions, to make amends to their victims and to make changes in patterns of behavior that have not served them well in the past. Everyday, we encourage our clients to examine their personal issues and urge them to take a look at the possibilities that lie ahead. We are instrumental in providing the support our clients need to take that initial step through the door that can lead to a better way of life. It is this putting into motion new ways of thinking and behaving in our clients that makes Probation work so challenging and rewarding for staff.

So we are excited to be able to open two new doorways to opportunities for our youth population in the upcoming year. First, the Department will be expanding the evidenced based curriculum *Thinking for a Change* to our adjudicated PINS and JD population. Participation in this program will present youth the opportunity to develop new methods of thinking that can be put into practice on a daily basis, thus increasing the likelihood for more positive behavioral outcomes. Second, Probation staff will be collaborating with the school district to pilot an anti-bullying program for elementary school children. This program is designed to empower and teach children the skills and tools to deal with bullying situations, with the goal of minimizing the impact on the victim. Both of these initiatives are being started with the goal of reducing future involvement in the family court system.

Our commitment to our clients and to public safety remains strong as we face new challenges and demands in the coming year. I am confident that we, as a department, will meet these challenges and advance our approach to successful outcomes.

Patricia Buechel,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Buechel".

Probation Director

# Our Mission

**It is the mission of this Probation Department to provide the community with mandated as well as voluntary criminal and family court services in order to reduce reliance on incarceration and the court system by facilitating the rehabilitation of individuals in a manner which promotes personal responsibility, improved family functioning, public safety, and reparation for victims.**

## Our Guiding Principles

### **Our beliefs about the people we serve:**

1. We believe that community protection and public safety is a priority in the delivery of rehabilitative services to our clients.
2. We believe that clients should be held answerable to their victims and the community whom they have harmed by their actions.
3. We believe that all people possess strengths and have the potential to make positive changes and better decisions in their lives.
4. We believe that clients can learn to take personal responsibility for their actions through the use of graduated sanctions.

### **Our beliefs about our Staff and Department:**

1. We believe employees shall strive for professional excellence for themselves and the Department.
2. We believe employees shall perform their duties with honesty, integrity and professionalism that is free of any form of bias or discrimination.
3. We believe employees shall embrace and strive to understand issues of cultural diversity amongst our clients and staff.
4. We believe that staff shall be an agent and motivator for change by using best practices in the field of probation.

# Our 2010 Goals - What We Accomplished

## 1. Review and Update the Department's Policy and Procedure Manual

- ✓ Achieved-After an arduous review and revision, the manual was completed in December 2010.

## 2. Provide Training to the Tompkins County Magistrates Association

- ✓ Achieved-A training titled The Use of Technology in the Supervision of Offenders was held at the Probation Department in December 2010. This training was well received by the judges in attendance.

## 3. Creation of a Judicial Resource Manual

- ✓ Achieved-A reference guide relating to Probation procedures and practices, availability of ATI programs and eligibility requirements, and other resources used in supervising offenders was developed and distributed to Tompkins County Judges in early May 2010.

## 4. Staff Development and Training in Motivational Interviewing

- ✓ Achieved-A two day training in the use of Motivational Interviewing, an evidence based practice technique in the supervision of offenders, was held at the Probation Department in May 2010.

## 5. Explore the case record management system and digital storing of records.

- ✓ Partially Achieved- Staff attended training on implementing the retention of digital records and held discussions within the department to familiarize ourselves with the issues of record storage and record retention rules. This goal will continue in 2011.

## Our 2011 Goals

1. **Continue to be a Resource for the Judiciary** by providing continuing education regarding probation procedure and changes in the law as necessary and appropriate.
2. **Expand the Thinking for a Change Curriculum**, currently in use with our medium to high risk adult offenders, to the juvenile population. This curriculum is a 22 lesson plan evidence based practice initiative that addresses cognitive thinking errors and is designed to improve behavioral outcomes.
3. **Develop and Implement a Pilot Bullying Program** in collaboration with the school system, that teaches elementary school age children techniques and skills to stop being bullied by their peers.
4. **Advance the case record management system** in the department with respect to digital storing of records.

# 2010 Staff Listing

## Probation Director

Patricia Buechel

## Deputy Director

David Wolf

## Administration

Probation Administrator

Faith Newkirk

Administrative Assistant

Laurel Rockhill

Systems Analyst

Susan Moore

Senior Account Clerk Typist

Kelly Blake

Senior Typist

Linda Hubert

Administrative Services Coordinator

Ujjal Mukherjee

Probation Assistant

Bernadette Stranger

## Probation Supervisors

Criminal Court Supervisor

Dan Cornell

Family Court Supervisor

Jan Gorovitz

Day Reporting Supervisor

Eileen Sommers

## Senior Probation Officers

Family Treatment Court

Robert J. Devens

Ithaca Community Treatment Court

Stacie Burgos

Ithaca Community Treatment Court

Linda Heberle

Intensive Supervision Probation

William Bell

Intensive Supervision Probation

Diane Burke

Juvenile Intensive Supervision Probation

Karla Brackett

Tompkins County Felony Drug Court

Harold Gregoire

Tompkins County Felony Drug Court

Jarrold Newcomb

## Probation Officers

Criminal Court Sex Offenders

Abigail Bixby

Criminal Court

Karen Burns

Criminal Court and Child Support

Carmen Collazo

Criminal Court

Karen M. Curione

Family Court

Denise Hayden

## Staff & Department Milestones

### Probation Officers (con't)

**Criminal Court - DWI**

**Criminal Court**

**Criminal Court**

**Family Court**

**Criminal Court and Domestic Violence**

**Family Court**

**Family Court**

**Criminal Court**

Michael Herrling

Kate Horey

Judith B. Johnson

Gladys Larson

Paul Neugebauer

Tom Partigianoni

Christine Porcheddu-Ion

Susan Robinson

### Work Project Supervisors:

William Apgar

James Bond

### Security Officers:

Richard Brewer

James Perkins

### Transition Workforce Employment Specialist:

Kathy Lind

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## *Years of Service to the Probation Department*

### *10+ Years*

Abigail Bixby

James Bond

Karla Brackett

Diane Burke

Daniel Cornell

Karen Curione

Rob Devens

Ujjal Mukherjee

Jarrold Newcomb

Christine  
Porcheddu-Ion

Judith Johnson

### *15+ Years*

William Apgar

William Bell

Kelly Blake

Carmen Hockett

Laurel Rockhill

### *20+Years*

Patricia Buechel

Stacie Burgos

Linda Heberle

David Wolf

Diane Burke

Eileen Sommers

### *25+ Years*

Janice Gorovitz

Harold Gregoire

Faith Newkirk

Bernadette Stranger



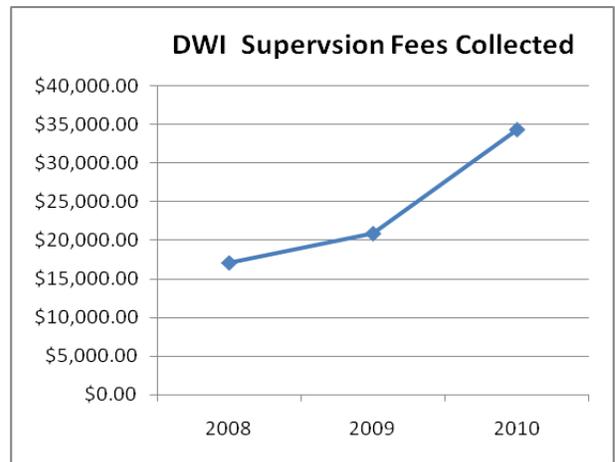
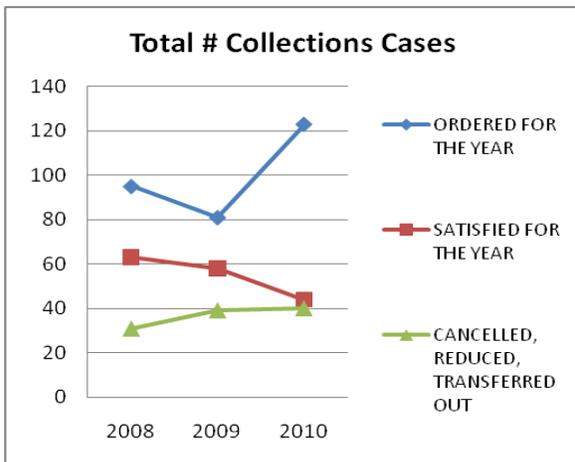
# Restitution and Fee Collection

*Submitted by Laurel Rockhill, Administrative Assistant*

Charges are sometimes levied by the local courts against defendants in the form of fines, surcharges and/or restitution to crime victims. The Probation Department is frequently ordered by the Courts to collect such levies, monitor payments, disburse monies to the victims, and report on the status of each case to the appropriate Court.

Additional efforts were made in 2010, in conjunction with the implementation of a new financial module in our case management database, to increase the supervision fees collected, and we are going forward to continue those efforts.

2010 ACTUAL DOLLARS COLLECTED AND DISBURSED						
	Criminal Court Restitution	Designated Surcharge	Family Court Restitution	Fines & Mandatory Surcharges	Interest & Other	Totals
Beginning balance carried from 12/31/09	\$8,827.57	\$129.90	\$3.00	\$780.00	\$29.48	\$9,769.95
Money Received 01/10 - 12/10	\$65,851.47	\$3,476.97	\$6,141.93	\$1,665.00	\$39.25	\$77,174.62
Money Disbursed 01/10 - 12/10	\$60,131.80	\$3,290.84	\$5,914.00	\$1,355.00	\$1.00	\$70,692.64
End Balance 12/31/10	\$14,547.24	\$316.03	\$230.93	\$1,090.00	\$71.63	\$16,251.93



**Probation Facts:**

*“Restorative justice is a response to crime that focuses on restoring the losses suffered by victims, holding offenders accountable for the harm they have caused, and building peace within communities.”*

# Family Court Diversion Services

*Submitted by Jan Gorovitz, Probation Supervisor*

## DIVERSION SERVICES

As an alternative to court involvement, the Family Court Act provides for local Probation Departments to offer diversion services. The purpose of diversion services is to **divert** cases from going to Family Court. Diversion services are the **only voluntary service** offered by the Department of Probation and Community Justice and the only service able to be accessed on a walk-in basis and without a court order. Our department concentrates its diversion efforts on matters related to youth. These youth are identified as Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS) or Juvenile Delinquents (JD).

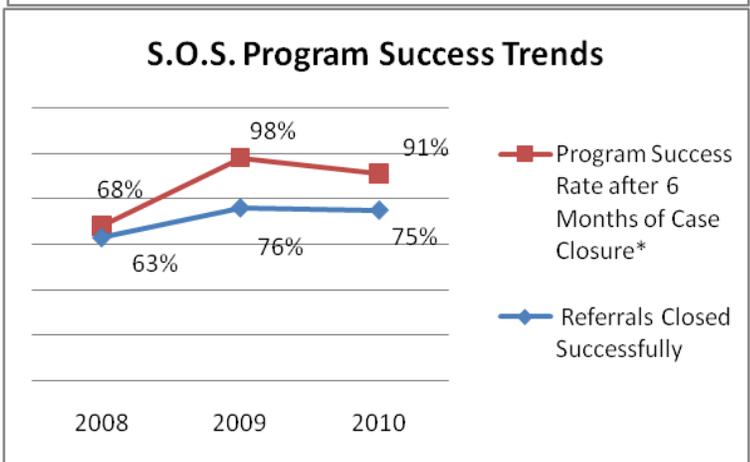
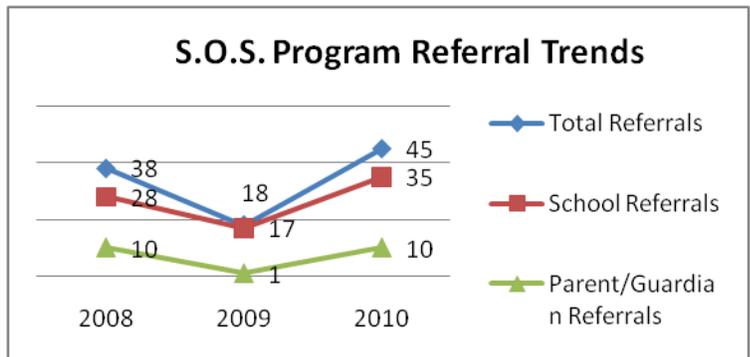
Family Court Probation Officers also provide daily intake coverage Monday through Friday. This means that they are the designated contact for the Probation Department if and when people from the community come looking for information or guidance for any family related matter. This type of request is referred to as an “information only” request. Calls are often from parents looking for advice or help with their “out of control” child. The Probation response may encompass a review of departmental services or resources available in the community.

### Strengthening Our Students (S.O.S)



In an attempt to identify youth that exhibit PINS-like behaviors before those behaviors become ingrained and fixed, the department developed a “Pre-PINS” program now called **Strengthening Our Students**.

- ~ This program allows schools and parents to make early identification of children who show a tendency for truancy, ungovernability, or run-away behavior.
- ~ A probation officer connects with the youth as soon as the parent or school administrator identifies concerns about the youth’s behavior and before a “pattern of behavior” is established.
- ~ This program is short-term, usually four to eight weeks, and is geared toward diverting youth from a referral to the more formal PINS Diversion Program.



**\*Program success** is defined as those youth who have completed the program and have avoided further contact with the Juvenile Justice System.

### Probation Facts:

*To date, 91% of the youth referred for S.O.S services in 2010 who successfully completed the program have avoided further contact with the Juvenile Justice System.*

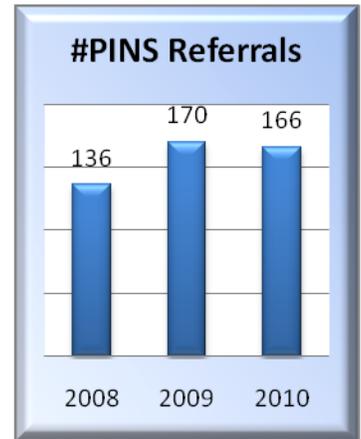
# Family Court Diversion Services

*Submitted by Jan Gorovitz, Probation Supervisor*

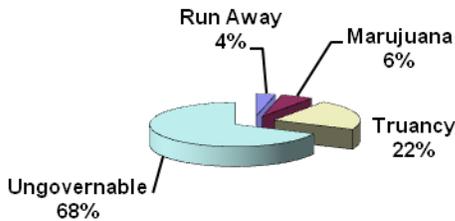
## PINS

A Person in Need of Supervision is a youth under the age of eighteen who is showing a pattern of habitual disobedience, running away, curfew violations, substance abuse, violent behavior, or school truancy problems. Most PINS referrals are made by parents or school districts. PINS Diversion Services attempt to resolve the conflicts that brought a youth to the attention of the Probation Department by offering supervision, guidance, and referrals to community resources. Referrals may be made for individual and/or family counseling, mediation, youth advocacy programs, respite, or educational or employment assessments and opportunities. Probation Officers work closely with schools to address issues of truancy and/or behavior problems by meeting with teachers, advocating for testing or support services in the school, and by helping parents develop more communication with the school administration. Probation Officers within the Family Court unit are assigned to specific school districts and are present at those schools on a weekly basis.

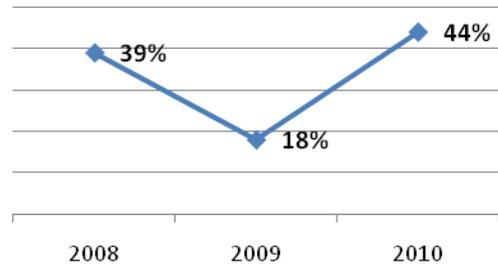
In 2010, the Tompkins County Probation Department received 166 PINS referrals: 60 complaints were initiated by parents, 96 by school administrators, 6 by police and 4 by other sources.



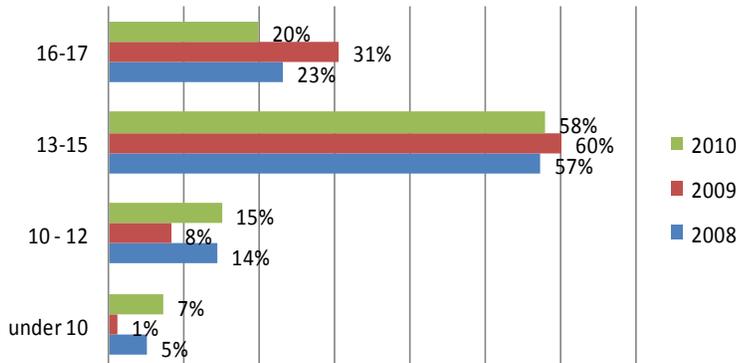
2010 PINS Referral Types



% Reduction in PINS Residential Care Services from Previous Year



PINS Referrals by Age Group



In 2010, of the 145 cases closed:

**46%** were closed as successfully adjusted

**51%** were referred for services

**56%** of youth were engaged in services

**30%** of families were engaged in services

**Probation Facts:**

*Family Court Probation Officers are in the schools every week meeting with youth and acting as a resource to school staff in identifying at-risk youth.*

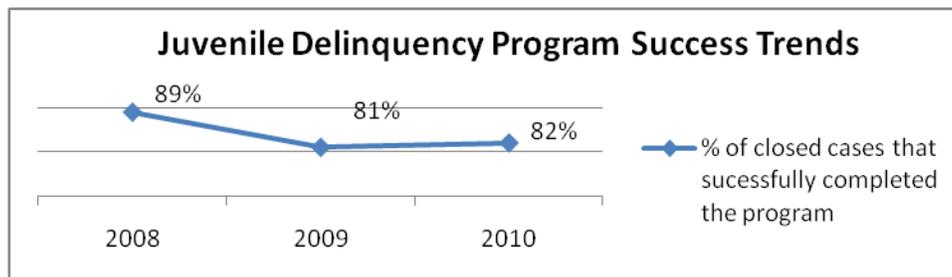
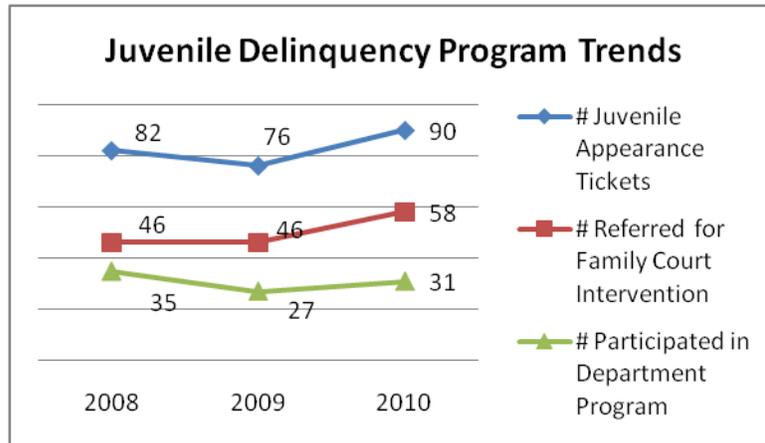
# Family Court Diversion Services

*Submitted by Jan Gorovitz, Probation Supervisor*

## JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

The Tompkins County Probation Department also offers diversion services to youth issued a Juvenile Appearance Ticket by local police agencies. A Juvenile Delinquent is defined as a person over seven and less than sixteen years of age, who commits an act, which -- if committed by an adult -- would constitute a crime. The youth is required to write a letter of apology to the victim(s), complete community service, pay restitution [if applicable], attend a screening for Victim-Offender Conferencing, and remain law-abiding.

- ~ In 2010, this department received **90** Juvenile Appearance Tickets. The crimes committed included a wide range of offenses such as Assault, Burglary, Criminal Possession Stolen Property, Criminal Mischief, Falsely Reporting an Incident, Criminal Possession Weapon, Menacing, and Petit Larceny.
- ~ Of the 90 tickets, **58** were referred immediately for Family Court intervention, **1** was withdrawn, and **31** youth participated in this department's Diversion program.
- ~ To date, **23** of the **28** closed cases or **82%** have been adjusted successfully. **3** cases remain open.



# Family Court Investigations

*Submitted by Jan Gorovitz, Probation Supervisor*

## FAMILY COURT INVESTIGATIONS

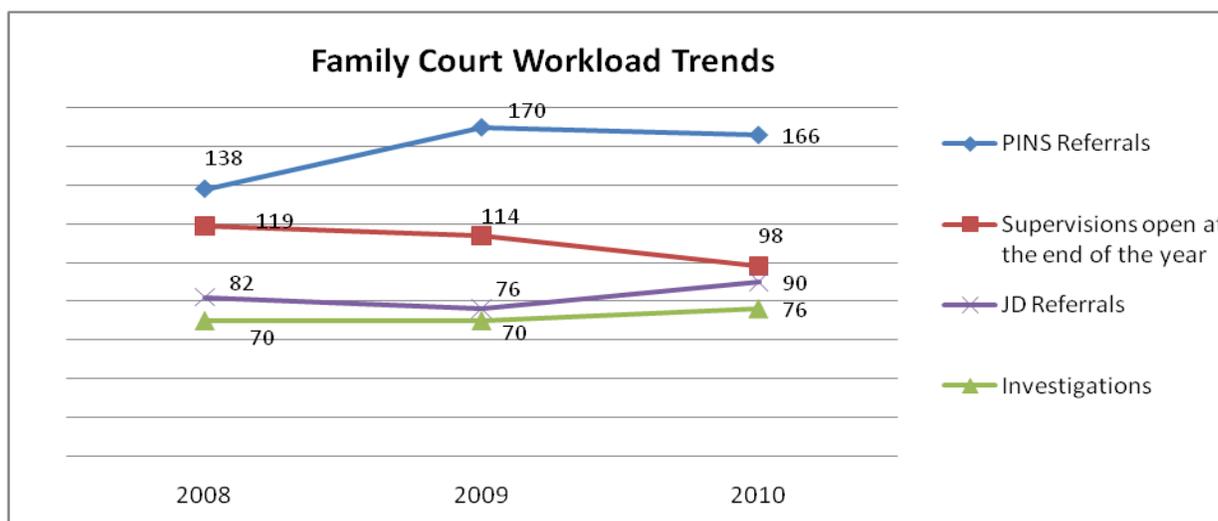
The Family Court Act requires that a predispositional investigation be conducted for all Designated Felony cases (defined as an act which if done by an adult, would constitute a crime of murder, kidnapping, arson, various sexual offenses, etc). For other Juvenile Delinquency and Person In Need of Supervision cases, a predispositional investigation is discretionary. In addition, the Family Court may order investigations involving custody and visitation matters and adoption requests.

These reports provide information regarding:

- ~ Respondent's legal history;
- ~ Respondent's version of the petition before the court;
- ~ Respondent's ability to pay restitution;
- ~ A review of the family home, the family composition, and an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of each party living in that home;
- ~ Respondent's needs and achievements in the educational and employment arenas; and
- ~ Identification of any drug and alcohol issues or mental health needs that may impact the respondent's ability to act appropriately in the community or ability to parent his or her child.

## FAMILY COURT WORKLOAD SUMMARY

- ~ Officers provide investigations for Family Court that involve matters of custody, visitation, adoption, PINS (Persons in Need of Supervision) and Juvenile Delinquents,
- ~ Provide the mandated diversion services for juveniles defined as a Person In Need of Supervision or Juvenile Delinquent and
- ~ Provide supervision to youth adjudicated by the Family Court to be a PINS or a JD as well as to adults who have been placed on probation for Failure to Pay Child Support.



# Family Court Supervision

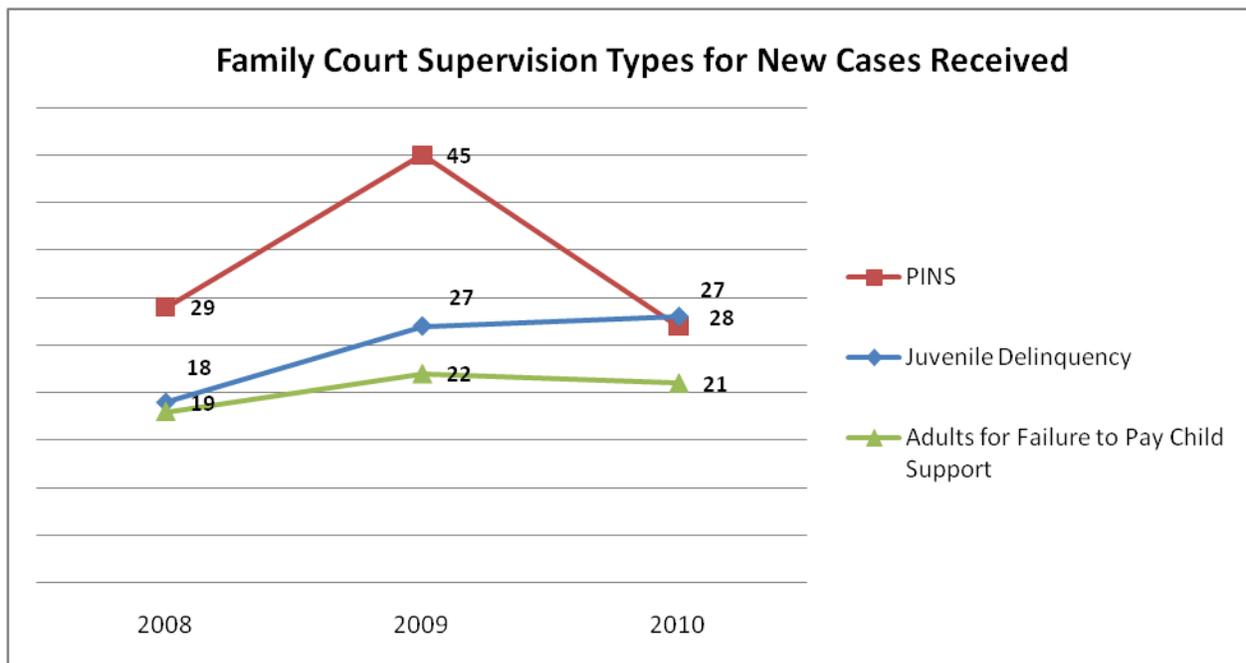
*Submitted by Jan Gorovitz, Probation Supervisor*

## FAMILY COURT SUPERVISION

The Tompkins County Probation Department provides supervision as a result of Family Court action for both adults and juveniles.

Probation supervision involves the adult or juvenile following a set of court ordered conditions that are tailored to meet his or her needs. These could include:

- ~ **mental health or substance abuse treatment**
- ~ **attendance in school/ gainful employment**
- ~ **community service**
- ~ **Payment of restitution to the victim/payment of child support**
- ~ **Victim Offender Conferencing**



### Probation Facts:

**460 hours of community service were successfully completed in this department's supervised Juvenile Accountability Community Service program**

# Pre-Trial Release Program

*Submitted by Patricia Buechel, Director*

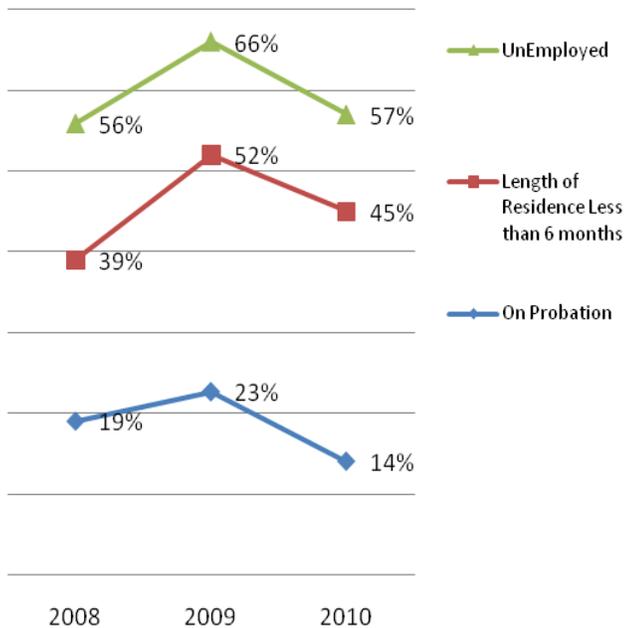
This department continues to operate the Pre-Trial Release Program in an attempt to facilitate release for incarcerated individuals who meet appropriate criteria. All defendants in custody at the Tompkins County Public Safety Building, who have bail set by a court, are given the opportunity to be interviewed for this program. A Probation Assistant reports to the jail weekdays and conducts an initial screening and personal interview with the defendant. A limited investigation is then conducted into the defendant's legal, social, and employment history with emphasis placed on past cooperation with court orders, prior warrants for failing to appear in court, and personal references to determine the defendant's potential to appear for future court dates. An evaluation is then made into the defendant's ties to the community and potential flight risk from his/her legal charges. A recommendation is forwarded to the court as to the best release option.

## 2010 PRE-TRIAL FACTS

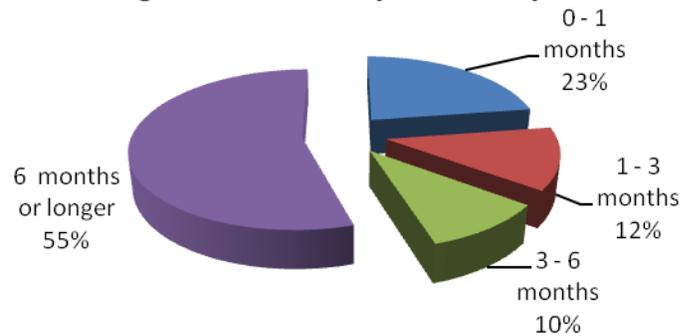
A total of **199** pre-trial release reports were completed for the courts:

- \* **89%** were male detainees vs. **11%** female detainees
- \* **67%** were white vs. **33%** minority
- \* **47%** were detained for a felony charge vs. **51%** for a misdemeanor charge and **2%** were for probation violations
- \* **45%** of those interviewed had resided less than 6 months in Tompkins County prior to their detainment

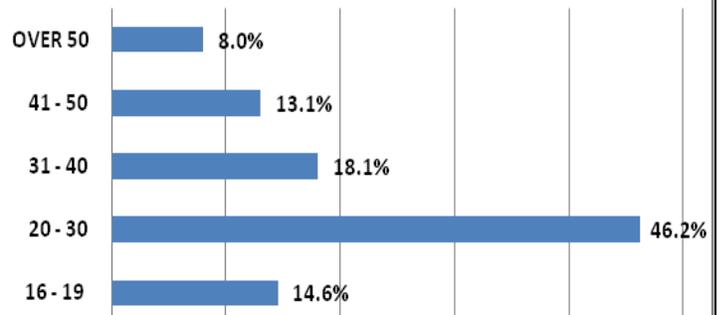
## Pre-Trial Interviews Demographics



## Length of Residency in County



## Age at Interview



# Pre-Trial Release Program

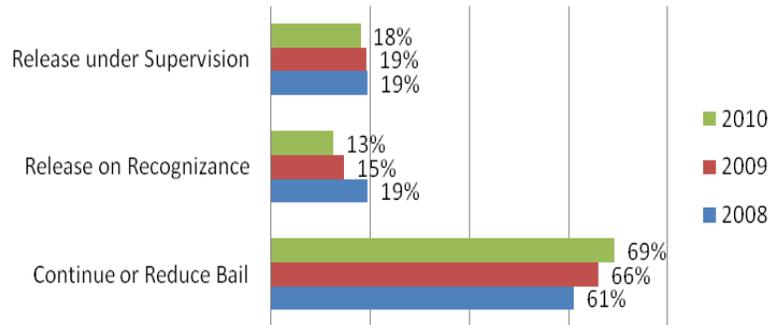
*Submitted by Patricia Buechel, Director*

If RUS is recommended, specific conditions of release are submitted to the court. The Probation Department will supervise the defendant's adherence to those conditions to help ensure the defendant's appearance to subsequent court proceedings.

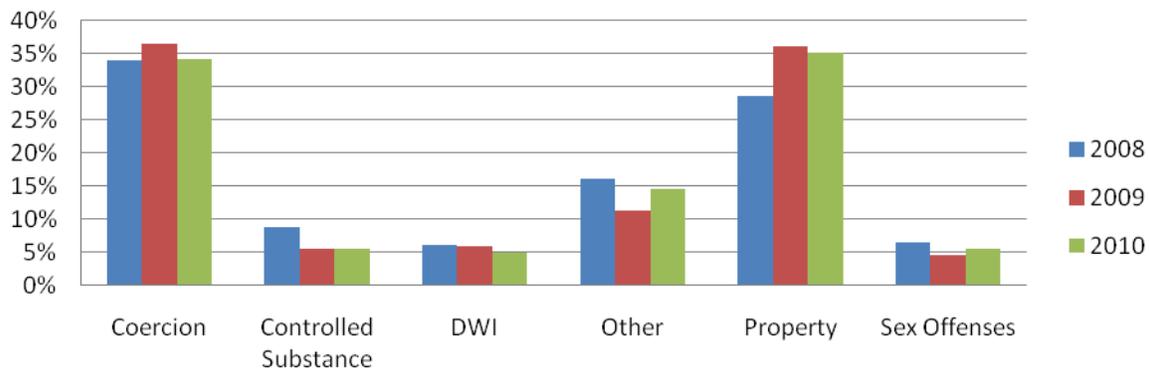
### Possible Recommendations for Pre-Trial Release

- ~Release on Recognizance (ROR)
- ~Release Under Supervision (RUS) to Pre-Trial program or Day Reporting
- ~Continue or Reduce Bail

### Pre-Trial Recommendations



### Pre-Trial Interviews by Offense Categories as a % of Total Interviews per Year



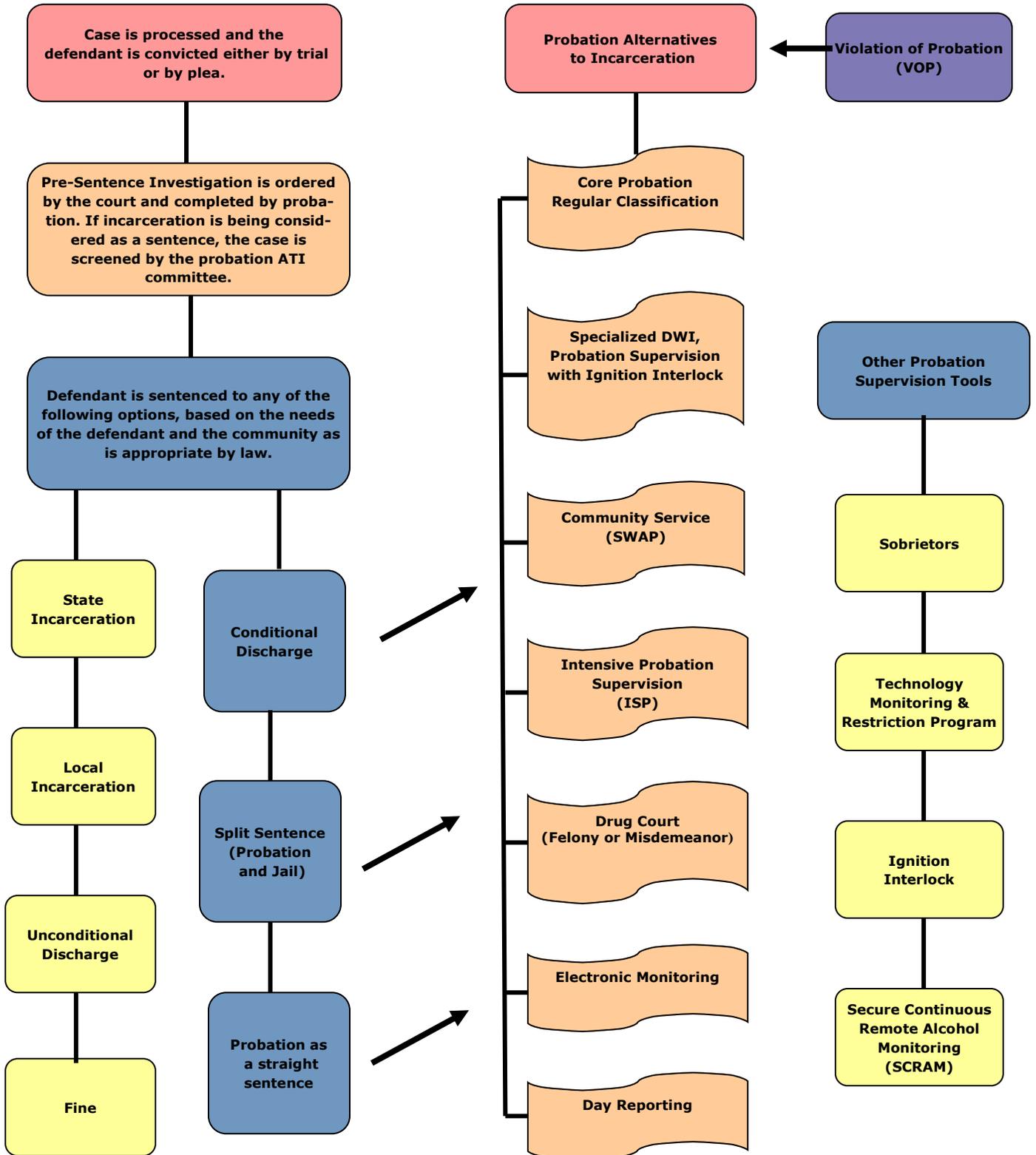
### Probation Facts:

*Graduated Sanctions, a system of incentives and sanctions that reward continued compliance and reprimand for continued non-compliance, are used in the supervision of offenders.*

# Criminal Court Flow Chart

## Sentencing Options

## Alternatives to Incarceration



# Criminal Court Investigations

*Submitted by Dan Cornell, Probation Supervisor*

## INVESTIGATIONS

The purpose of the criminal court probation investigation is to provide the sentencing court with accurate criminal and social history in an objective and analytical format, to assist the court in making sentencing decisions.

Additional information that the court may wish to consider at the time of sentencing includes:

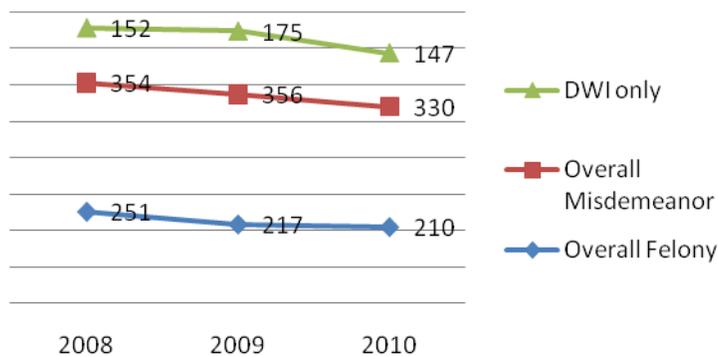
- ~ Drug /alcohol involvement and treatment needs
- ~ individualized treatment plans based on case needs and community protection, and
- ~ alternative to incarceration options.

### An Investigation Includes:

- \* *Legal and social background information about the person appearing before the court*
- \* *The defendant's version of the present offense*
- \* *Information from the arresting officers and from the victim of the crime*
- \* *Information about the defendant's ability to make restitution or pay fines*
- \* *An actuarial risk and needs assessment to identify the criminogenic factors that increase the offenders risk of recidivism*

Overall, in 2010 the number of overall investigations ordered for the department was lower when compared to the previous two years.

### Investigations Ordered



### Probation Facts:

*One in 31 adults in the United States is under correctional supervision, whether they are behind bars, on probation or on parole. In New York State, 1 in 53 adults is under correctional control.*

# Criminal Court Supervision

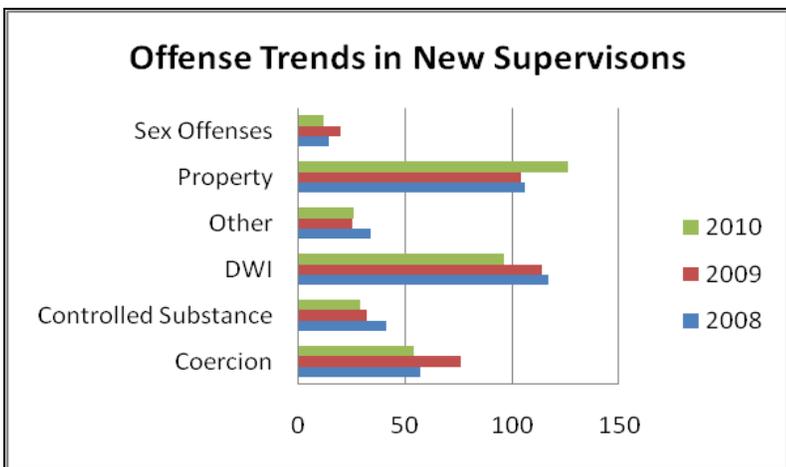
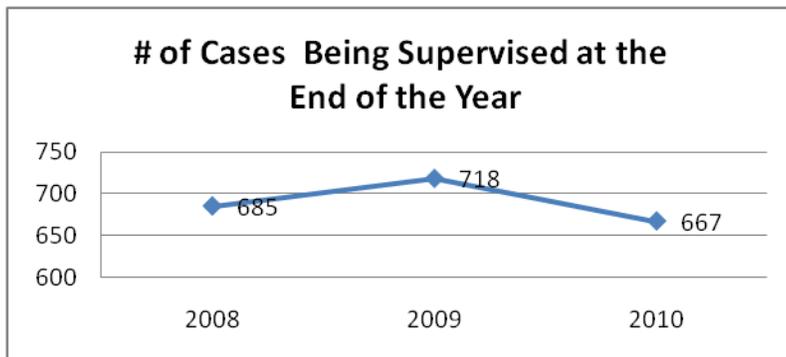
*Submitted by Dan Cornell, Probation Supervisor*

## SUPERVISION OF PROBATIONERS

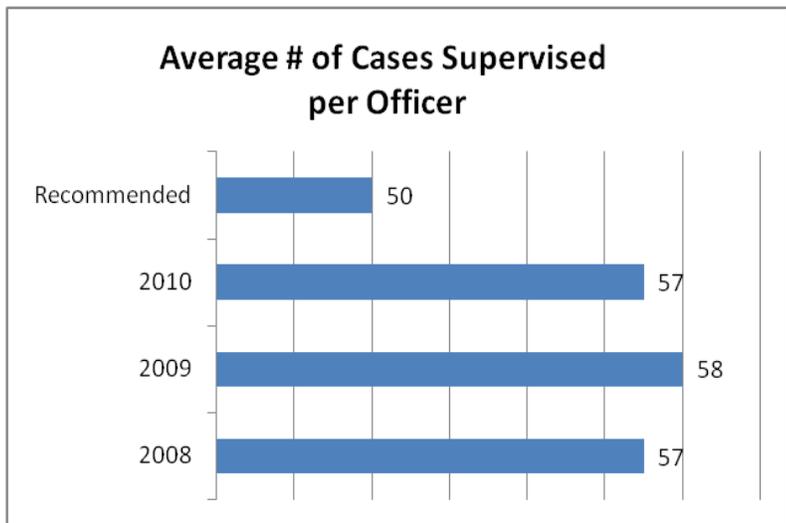
The two main goals of probation supervision are:

- ~ Protection of the Community, and
- ~ Rehabilitation of the Offender

Property crime supervisions represent the only area of significant increase in 2010. The rate of probation cases in all other areas was consistent or reduced when compared to 2008 and 2009. This may be reflective of a statewide trend toward a lower crime rate.



The American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) recommends a 50 :1 adult case to staff ratio for moderate to high risk offenders



### Probation Facts:

*The annual average cost nationwide of incarcerating an individual in state prison is approximately \$29,000. In contrast, the average daily cost for managing an offender in the community is approximately \$1,277 a year, or \$3.50 a day.*

# Criminal Court Supervision

## Evidence Based Initiatives

*Submitted by Kate Horey, Probation Officer*

### **THINKING FOR A CHANGE - Evidenced Based Practice Curriculum**

Thinking for a Change is a recognized cognitive behavioral change curriculum developed by the National Institute of Corrections and supported by the Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives. It is considered **best practice** in the field of supervision for offenders. The curriculum is taught in a small group format to our medium to high risk offenders and consists of 22 lesson plans. The group is co-led by a Probation Officer and a Forensic Mental Health Counselor who have been trained to facilitate the group. The goal of the curriculum is to ultimately reduce recidivism.

#### **What the curriculum teaches:**

- ~ How to connect and link thoughts to actions
- ~ Thinking is an internal behavior which can be controlled and changed to impact external behavior
- ~ How to pay attention to and recognize thinking that leads to trouble
- ~ Recognizing, understanding and responding to others' feelings
- ~ How to respond to anger
- ~ How choices lead to consequences
- ~ Social skills and problem solving

#### **A typical session includes:**

- ~ Active role plays
- ~ Homework review
- ~ Problem solving exercises through group participation
- ~ Group Feedback

#### **What do participants say about their participation in the curriculum?**

- ~ "I stop and think before I do anything. I don't jump anymore."
- ~ "I can think how others feel, just as myself."
- ~ "I learned how to handle troubling situations and conflicts."
- ~ "Helpful tool to your stinking thinking."
- ~ "I actually think about stuff instead of acting on emotion."
- ~ "I'm better at problem solving."

#### **Success Story**

*An individual was referred to this program in August 2009. She was facing a jail term and/or Intensive Supervision with electronic monitoring for her lack of follow up with her treatment provider. She had also been caught shoplifting. She completed Thinking for a Change and after graduation continued with her treatment. In July 2010 she was granted an early discharge!*

# Specialized Supervision

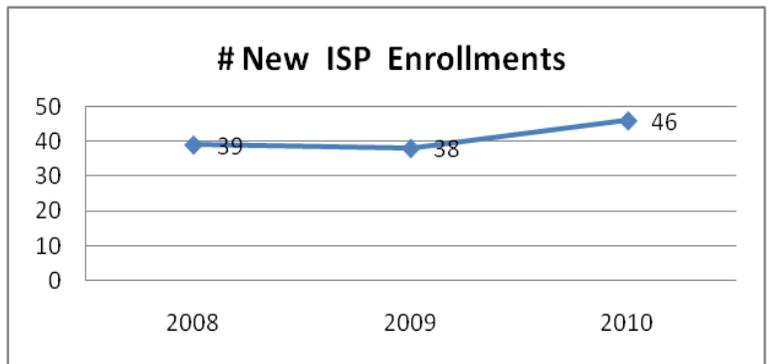
*Submitted by Dan Cornell, Probation Supervisor*

## INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROBATION (ISP)

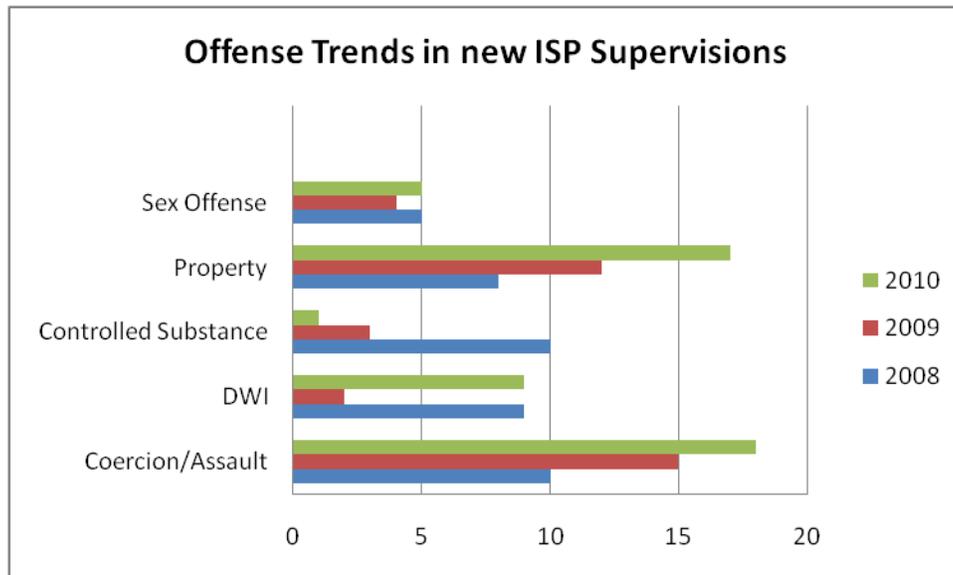
Intensive Supervision Probation (ISP) is primarily for high risk, felony offenders who are at risk of local or state incarceration. The caseload size is smaller than that of a regular supervision caseload, which allows the Probation Officer to provide more meaningful supervision and service delivery through increased contacts with the probationer.

### ISP Caseloads Characteristics

- ~ Maximum of 25 cases
- ~ Minimum of two face to face contacts per week
- ~ Minimum of two home visits per month
- ~ Frequent collateral contacts (family, employers, treatment providers, etc.)
- ~ Failures to comply are addressed immediately with court intervention



During 2010 , **46** high risk offenders were newly placed on ISP. Of these 46 cases, **11** were probation violators who were upgraded to ISP supervision after being determined to need a higher level of supervision . This improves the offenders' chance for compliance and enhances community safety. Of those 11 violators, **6** were successful in remaining in the community.



### Probation Facts:

*Of the adult offenders defined as employable by the Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives, 73% of probationers in Tompkins County are indeed employed.*

# Specialized Supervision

*Submitted by Michael Herrling, DWI Probation Officer*

## DWI SUPERVISION CASELOAD

This department has had a specialized DWI Probation Officer for over twenty years.

### Why have a specialized DWI caseload?

- ~ There are more DWI arrests/convictions than in any other offense category. In 2010, there were **364** DWI arrests in Tompkins County with **106** of those resulting from an automobile crash.
- ~ Approximately **1/3** of the total cases supervised by this department are DWI cases.

The role of the specialized DWI officer is to ensure that the offender obtains necessary treatment while monitoring his/her behavior in the community for the purpose of public safety. The DWI Probation Officer's responsibilities include:

- ~ Completing pre-sentence investigation and subsequent supervision of persons convicted of DWI
- ~ Intensive supervision of a caseload averaging approximately 35 probationers.
- ~ Unscheduled home visits conducted a minimum of one time per month with many visits occurring on weekends.
- ~ Random bar checks.
- ~ Administering Alco-sensor tests for the purpose of detecting alcohol use.

**2010 DWI Arrest Demographics**

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**55% under age 30**

**18% between age 30 - 39**

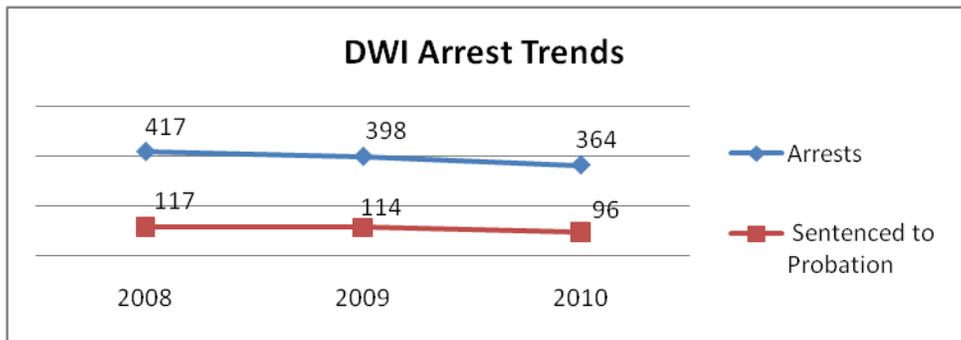
**12% between age 40 - 49**

**11% between age 50 -59**

**4% over age 60**

**27% Female**

**73% Male**



## Specialized Supervision

*Submitted by Michael Herrling, DWI Probation Officer*

### DWI SUPERVISION CASELOAD con't

#### **Leandra's Law**

On November 18, 2009, the then acting New York State Governor David Paterson signed the Child Passenger Protection Act, also known as Leandra's Law, in remembrance of Leandra Rosado, an eleven year old victim who was killed as a result of a DWI crash.

On October 11, 2009 Leandra Rosado was killed while she and six other children ranging from 11-14 years of age, were in route to a slumber party. The mother of one of the girls and driver of the vehicle pictured above, Carmen Huertas, was operating the vehicle with a Blood Alcohol Content of .12% and was believed to be driving in excess of 80 MPH at times before she lost control and the vehicle flipped several times before colliding with a tree. Three children were actually ejected from the vehicle, one of which was Leandra Rosado. Leandra was pronounced dead at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center with all other passengers receiving non-life threatening injuries. Her death prompted her father Lenny Rosado to spear a campaign that increased penalties for driving while drunk with children in the vehicle. Ms. Huertas was sentenced to 4 to 12 years incarceration after pleading guilty to numerous charges, including Second-Degree Manslaughter.



The passing of Leandra's Law made New York State one of the strictest states in the country regarding sentencing for a DWI conviction. Leandra's Law has two main components: the first created in recognition of the accident that took Leandra's life, makes it a felony to drive drunk with a child under 16 in the car. The second requires anyone who has been convicted of a DWI to get an ignition interlock device installed in their vehicle.

According to the Daily News, 661 felony arrests occurred statewide were under the newly enacted law during its first year, 6 of which occurred in Tompkins County.

#### **Probation Facts:**

*Offenders on probation for DWI represent the largest category of supervision cases.*

# Technology Tools

*Submitted by Dan Cornell, Probation Supervisor*

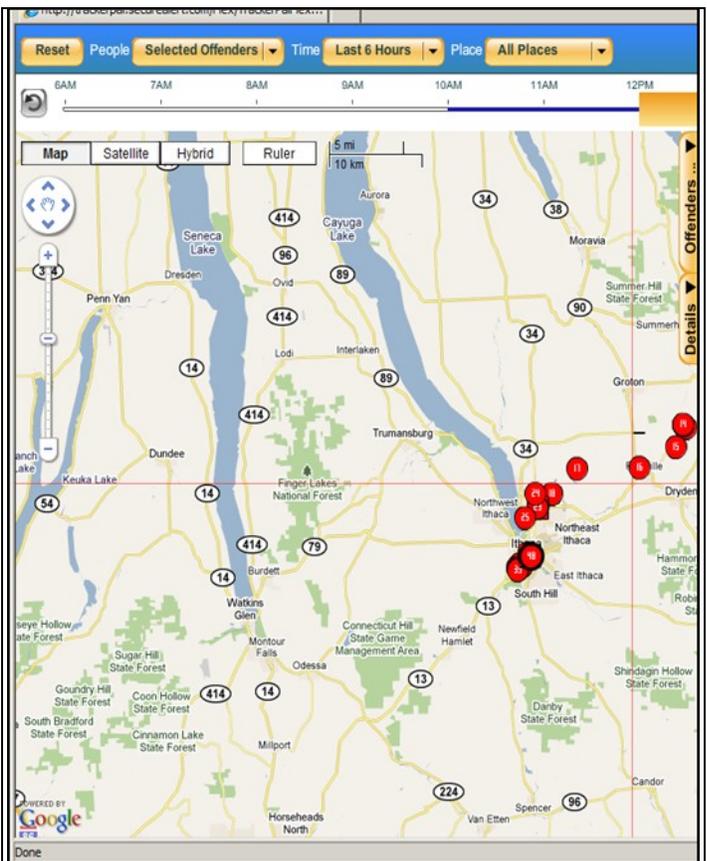
## ELECTRONIC MONITORING

The Electronic Monitoring Program provides 24-hour home monitoring of an offender through the combined technology of an electronic bracelet and cell tower technology. This is a cost-effective Alternative to Incarceration program for adults who pose minimal risk to the community, and it is used with juveniles as an alternative to detention.



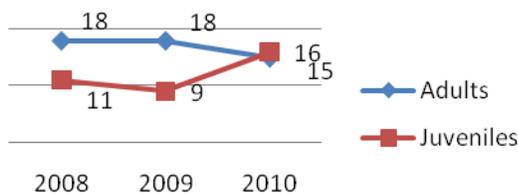
**Probation Facts:**

*The use of Electronic Monitoring allows a probation officer to limit a probationer's free time out of the home, and closely monitor and verify their daily activities in the community.*



Electronic Monitoring Report - the red dots represent the offender's movements within a specific time period.

**Electronic GPS Monitoring Trends**



**Probation Facts:**

**\$7.23** - Daily cost of electronic monitoring compared to the high cost of incarceration.

# Technology Tools

*Submitted by Susan Moore, Systems Analyst*

## TECHNOLOGY MONITORING

In 2008, the department launched a program to monitor the use of all electronic devices and software owned or used by specific offenders currently on Probation. The purpose of this monitoring is to determine that their use of technology is appropriate, legal, and within the parameters of their conditions of probation and/or treatment program plans while still allowing clients to conduct legitimate business within the technological environment that makes up our world.

If an offender is blocked from internet access, we are able to monitor his compliance. An **Internet Lockdown** program is installed which blocks all internet communications regardless of how the offender attempts to connect to the internet. With this feature, the movement and transfer of files to and from the computer are monitored. In addition, the offender is regularly monitored to determine any presence on the internet.

**Biometric Integration** is used if there are multiple users accessing the computer. This adds another layer of verification and security to the existing technology by verifying which user accessing the monitored machine was responsible for the internet activity.

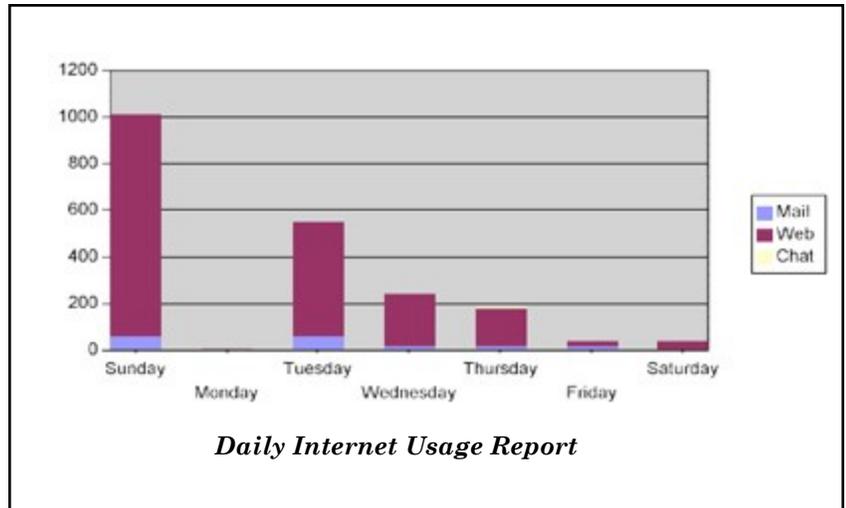


### **Probation Facts:**

*“The experiences of early adopters of computer management systems for community supervision of sex offenders indicate that computer monitoring and control technology is among the more promising ‘what works’ strategies.” The Journal of Computer Monitoring (2009): 11 - 29*

### Case Level Analysis Reports include:

- ~Daily and Hourly Internet Usage
- ~Web Search Terms
- ~Web Category Statistics



# Technology Tools

*Submitted by Dan Cornell, Probation Supervisor*

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE MONITORING TOOLS

For probationers with substance abuse/dependency issues, the use of monitoring tools is an essential part of providing supervision. Specific conditions of probation allow this department to use these tools.

### Alcosensors

An Alcosensor is a hand held device that ascertains a probationer's use of alcohol. The probationer is required to blow into the device which will register a BAC reading should any alcohol be detected in the breath sample. Probation Officers subject probationers to a test both in the office and in the field, on a random basis or when suspicion of alcohol use is present. Most probationers admit to alcohol consumption when faced with a positive reading on an Alcosensor.



### Urine Screens

This department conducts supervised urine screens of probationers utilizing a 12 or 5 panel dip test. A wide variety of substances can be detected. Results of the screen are known within 5 minutes of conducting the test. Probationers are required to pay \$7 for each panel test.

### Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitoring (SCRAM)

This device is an ankle bracelet that monitors alcohol consumption 24/7 by measuring the amount of alcohol that migrates through the skin, a predictable result of alcohol consumption. The department uses this device for our DWI population in the Drug Courts and as a condition of probation in VOP cases. The device is worn for a period of 90 days. Probation Officers are able to download the readings of the device directly into their computers during an office visit with the probationer.



### Probation Facts:

**\$5.30** - Daily cost of SCRAM compared to the high cost of incarceration.

# Technology Tools

*Submitted by Dan Cornell, Probation Supervisor*

## IGNITION INTERLOCK DEVICE

DWI offenders are required to install this device on every vehicle they own or operate per the law. The device requires the offender to provide a breath sample prior to starting the vehicle; if alcohol is detected the device prohibits the offender from starting the car. The Probation Officer receives a printout on a monthly basis of the offenders driving behavior and any problems with high BAC readings are noted.



Note: Time zone is Eastern

1 2 250 events View most recent entries first View image thumbnails

Log Date	Time	Log Message
02-04-2011	8:55:53 PM	Car Stop
	8:49:23 PM	Car Start
	8:49:16 PM	START-TEST PASS BAC=.000 PK=20 BL=10 AT=8.4C BT=23.2C RV=50 T=0.17s
	6:45:35 PM	Car Stop
	6:41:07 PM	ROLL-TEST PASS BAC=.000 PK=23 BL=9 AT=10.5C BT=27.0C RV=50 T=0.33s
	6:33:42 PM	Car Start
02-03-2011	6:33:34 PM	START-TEST PASS BAC=.000 PK=23 BL=11 AT=6.1C BT=24.8C RV=48 T=0.41s
	7:01:01 PM	Car Stop
	6:54:23 PM	ROLL-TEST PASS BAC=.000 PK=23 BL=8 AT=15.9C BT=28.8C RV=49 T=0.73s
	6:46:56 PM	Car Start
	6:46:49 PM	START-TEST PASS BAC=.000 PK=24 BL=10 AT=12.7C BT=27.7C RV=50 T=0.17s
	6:46:19 PM	Invalid sample --- pressure
	5:12:35 PM	Car Stop
	5:08:29 PM	ROLL-TEST PASS BAC=.000 PK=26 BL=8 AT=17.8C BT=30.0C RV=50 T=1.05s
	4:59:04 PM	Car Start
	4:58:57 PM	START-TEST PASS BAC=.000 PK=23 BL=7 AT=15.0C BT=27.3C RV=50 T=1.53s
3:34:03 PM	Car Stop	
3:30:19 PM	Car Start	
3:30:12 PM	START-TEST PASS BAC=.000 PK=24 BL=7 AT=18.7C BT=29.3C RV=50 T=0.57s	

Internet | Protected Mode: O

### Ignition Interlock Usage Report

**Probation Facts:**

*“Alcohol Ignition Interlocks are a proven tool to effectively reduce impaired driving, protect the public and support long-term risk reduction among drunk drivers.” The Traffic Injury Research Foundation, February 2010*

# Treatment Court Programs

*Submitted by Jan Gorovitz, Probation Supervisor*

## FAMILY TREATMENT COURT

The **Family Treatment Court (FTC)** is a multi-agency team response to child neglect cases identified by the Department of Social Services (DSS). These cases arise as a result of significant substance abuse by parents who are believed to have diminished ability to care for and protect their children.

The program is designed to break the cycle of addiction and neglect through intensive supervision, judicial oversight, and quick access to community resources. The team also consists of a counselor from the Alcohol and Drug Council of Tompkins County and Cayuga Addiction Recovery Service as well as legal counsel for each participant and their children.

### FTC goals:

- ~ Provide parents with the necessary tools to support recovery through a strength based approach and referrals to community agencies
- ~ Strengthen the parents ability to provide a safe and healthy environment for their children

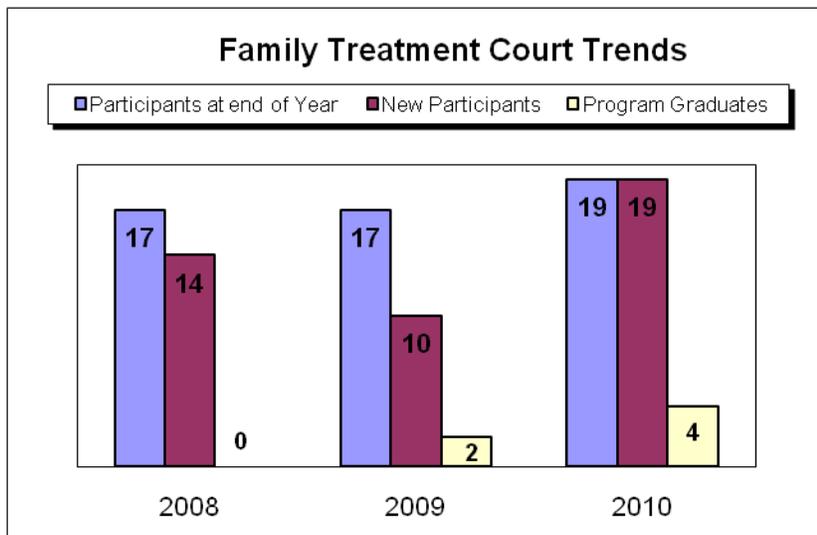
### The Role of Probation on the FTC Team:

- ~ Provide intensive supervision of the participant
- ~ Provide on-site testing for alcohol and substance abuse
- ~ Provide ongoing assessment of treatment needs and
- ~ Provide referrals to community resources

*Since the inception of the Family Treatment Court Program in 2001, **46** participants have completed the program requirements, allowing them to maintain custody of their children.*

### The Role of DSS on the FTC Team:

- ~ Provide ongoing evaluation of the safety in the home
- ~ Implement visitation schedules and return home plans with participant's children
- ~ Provide resources to address mental health needs and to facilitate a weekly support group for the parents



# Treatment Court Programs

*Submitted by Eileen Sommers, Supervisor and Dave Wolf, Deputy Director*

## ITHACA COMMUNITY TREATMENT & TOMPKINS COUNTY FELONY DRUG COURT

The goal of the Ithaca Community Treatment Court (Misdemeanor) and Tompkins County Felony Drug Treatment Court is to assist the participants of those programs in breaking the cycle of addiction and criminal activity. The Treatment Court programs provide the defendant with a highly structured environment that combines judicial oversight, probation supervision, substance abuse treatment, mandatory drug testing, graduated sanctions/responses and education/employment training in an effort to encourage positive behaviors and reduce recidivism.

Both Treatment Courts have two senior probation officers assigned to them. These officers play an important role in the supervision of the participants and providing program services. Other team members include the judge and court staff, assistant district attorney, defense attorneys, program coordinator, substance abuse counselors, forensic counselor, education/employment counselors and other community members. These members work together to closely monitor the progress of each participant and provide services to assist the participants in changing problem behaviors. Other programs offered by the Probation Department play a supportive role to the Treatment Courts' success, specifically the Service Work Alternative Program (our supervised community service program) and the Day Reporting Program located in the Community Justice Center.

### 2010 at a Glance

#### Felony Drug Court

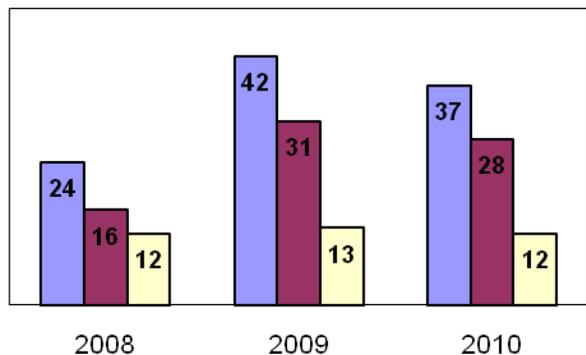
- ~ 28 new admissions
- ~ 12 participants graduated
- ~ 37 current participants at the end of 2010
- ~ Since inception of the program in April 2000, 120 participants have graduated

#### Ithaca Community Treatment Court

- ~ 38 new admissions
- ~ 14 participants graduated
- ~ 17 current participants at the end of 2010
- ~ Since inception of the program in January 1998, 193 participants have graduated

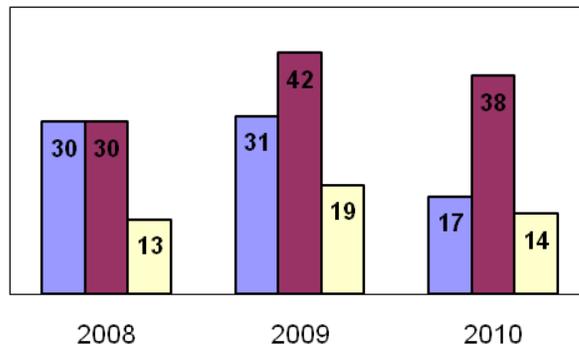
### Felony Treatment Court Trends

■ Participants at end of Year ■ New Participants ■ Program Graduates



### Ithaca City Treatment Court

■ Participants at end of Year ■ New Participants ■ Program Graduates



# Community Service Programs

*Submitted by Dave Wolf, Deputy Director*

The Department of Probation and Community Justice operates several supervised community service programs for various populations. The benefits of community service are numerous. The participant gains work skills and self-esteem, and when ordered as a condition of probation or conditional discharge, the experience allows the participant to repay the community for criminal behavior. Over 40 worksites reap the benefits of the work provided.

## Service Work Alternative Program (SWAP)

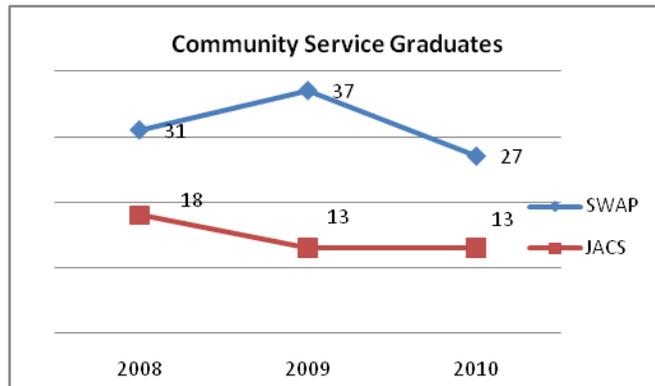
- ~ Court ordered Alternative to Incarceration program for adults who have been convicted of a nonviolent crime
- ~ Range of hours ordered can be as low as 50 hours to 480 hours
- ~ Participants in the Drug Courts are ordered to SWAP as a sanction for noncompliance with program requirements
- ~ Participants in the Day Reporting program are required to perform community service weekly through the SWAP program

**Some of our worksites:**

Cops, Kids & Toys	Adopt A Highway
Friends of the Library	TCAT
Brooktondale & Varna Community Centers	County Government Departments
Fingerlakes ReUse Center	Cayuga Nature Center
Cornell University Dump & Run	Area Public and State Parks

## The Juvenile Accountability Community Service (JACS)

- ~ Participants are court ordered to complete community service as a condition of their juvenile probation sentence, and hours generally range from 12 to 100 hours.
- ~ This program is intended to provide the youth with a way of repaying the community for his or her behavior and hopefully has them internalize the value of such service.



## The Work Experience Program (WEP)

- ~ Run in conjunction with the Tompkins County Department of Social Services for individuals who receive public assistance and are considered work eligible.

“With the help of the SWAP crew we were able to save three truckloads of office furniture. We are a young organization, and have greatly benefited from the support of the SWAP program.  
 –DC, Finger Lakes ReUse

### Probation Facts:

*The Community benefits from Community Services by saving taxpayers jail costs and retuning thousands of hours of valuable work performed by volunteers. In 2010, the total hours of community service performed by participants in all programs = 7,303 hours of work in the local area!!*

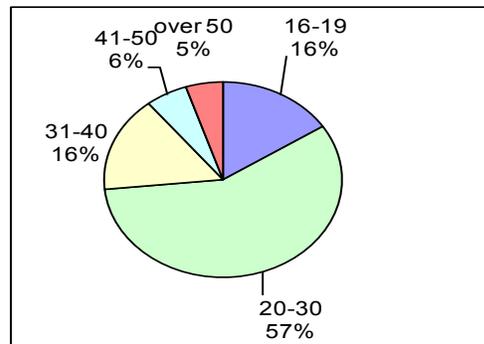
# Day Reporting

*Submitted by Eileen Sommers, Probation Supervisor*

The Tompkins County Day Reporting Program, located in the Community Justice Center (CJC), is one component of the Department's Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI). The program is a structured, secure learning environment intended to provide stability, education, and personal advancement for individuals who would otherwise be facing a period of incarceration, and for individuals who are attempting to reintegrate back into the community following a period of incarceration.

### What we do:

- ~ Provide daily programming and educational classes to clients including Substance Abuse, Emotions Management, Financial Management, Mental Health, Health Issues and Nutrition.
- ~ Provide educational and employment services.
- ~ Provide referrals to outside agencies including Department of Social Services, Red Cross, Tompkins County Mental Health Clinic, Cayuga Addiction Recovery Services, Alcohol Drug Counsel, and the Advocacy Center.
- ~ Offer support with housing, mental health and substance abuse services

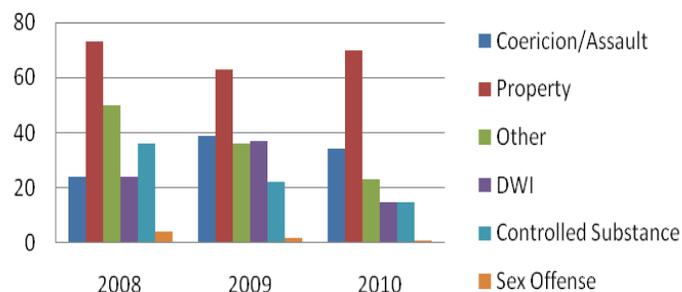


2010 Age Ranges

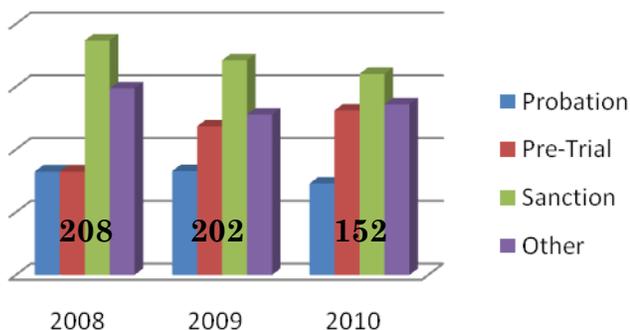
### Who we serve:

- ~ Clients 16 years and older, who have legal histories and are in need of supervision and services.
- ~ Clients who are remanded to jail may be released to Day Reporting for supervision and services if deemed appropriate by the judge of jurisdiction.
- ~ Clients at all stages of the legal process, from Pre-Trial, Presentence, to Probation Violators and Parolees.

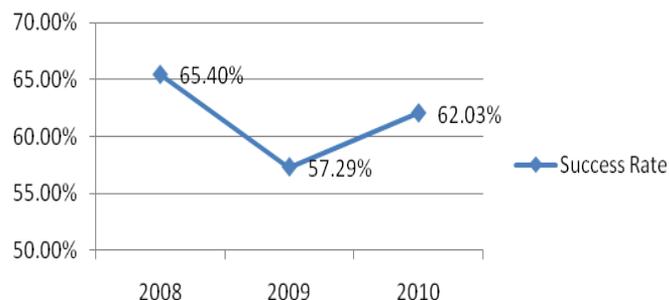
### # Clients Referred to Day Reporting by Crime Type



### Referral Sources to Day Reporting

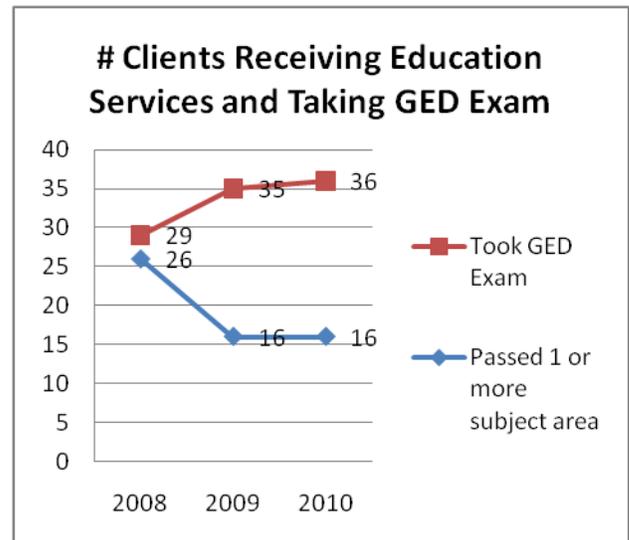
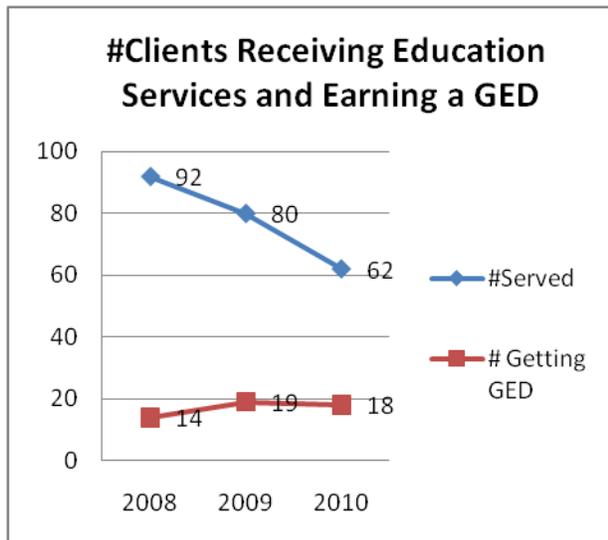
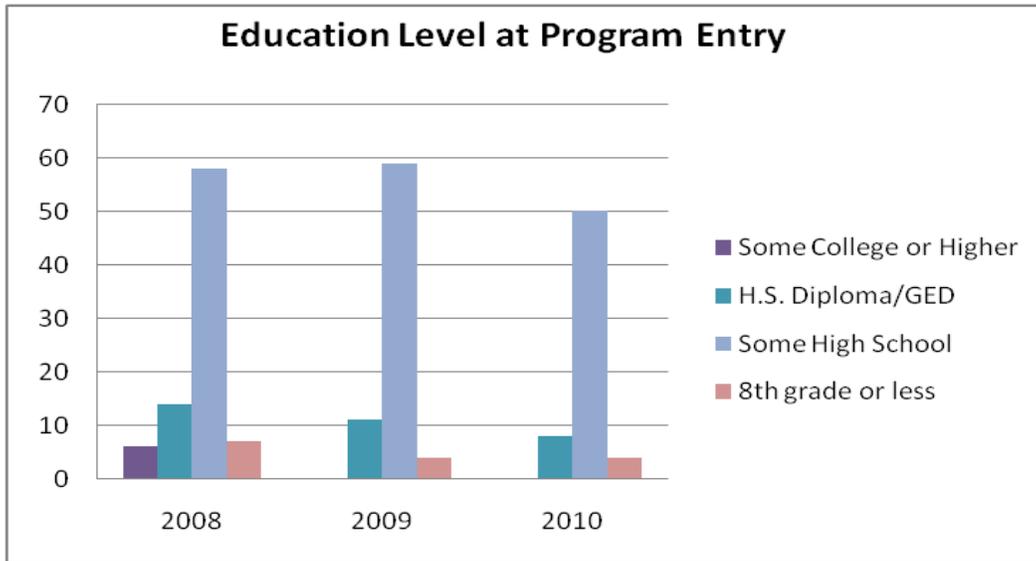


### % Clients Successfully Completing Day Reporting



# Day Reporting Employment Services

*Submitted by Eileen Sommers, Probation Supervisor*

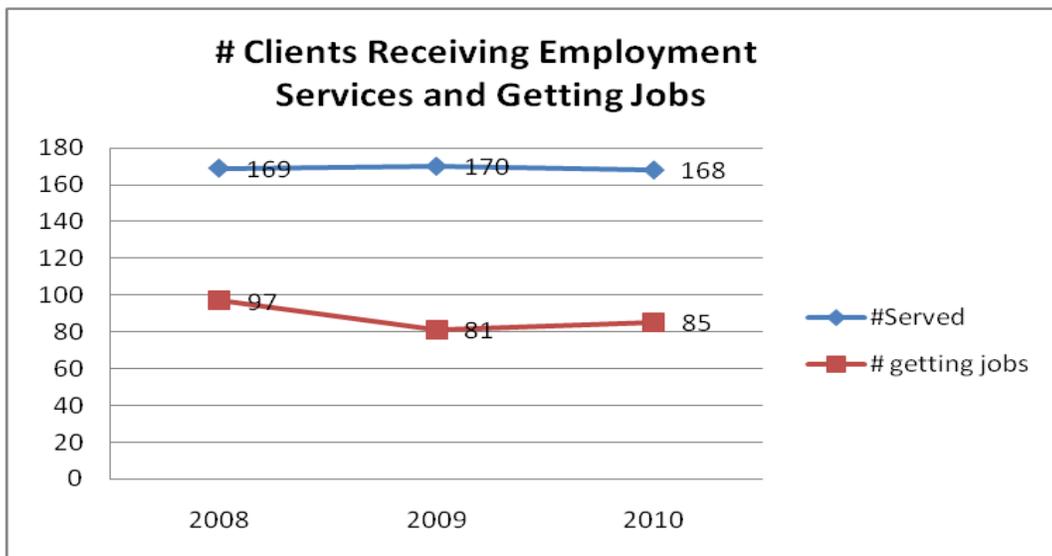
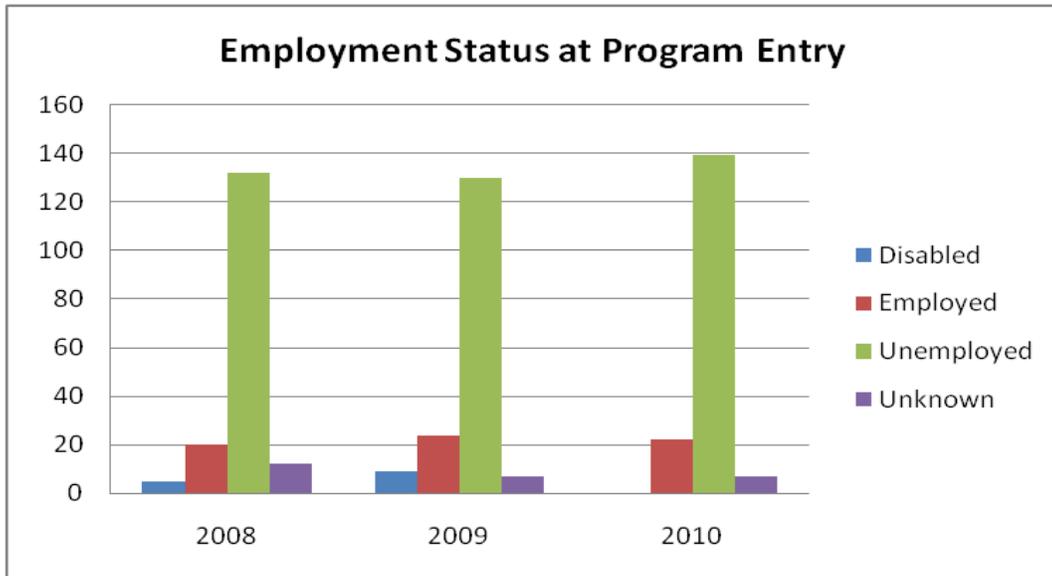


### Probation Facts:

*During 2010, Drug Court sanctioned cases made up the largest percentage of referrals to day reporting. Of these 68 referrals, 69% successfully completed the number of program days ordered by the court.*

# Day Reporting Employment Services

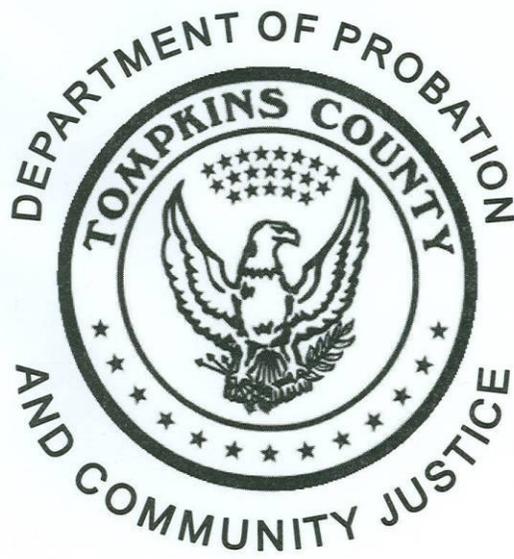
*Submitted by Eileen Sommers, Probation Supervisor*



**Probation Facts:**

*Since inception, the Day Reporting Program has a 60% overall success rate for all participants referred.*





**TOMPKINS COUNTY DEPARTMENT  
of PROBATION and COMMUNITY JUSTICE  
320 West State/Martin Luther King Jr. Street  
Ithaca, New York 14850**