



Association of Paroling Authorities International

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Things to Do in 2017

- Renew APAI Membership
- Serve on an APAI Committee
- Urge a fellow organization to join APAI
- Make plans to attend the 2018 Chairs Meeting and Annual Training Conference in Incline Village, Nevada April 22–25, 2018

Membership Fees

- Individual - \$65
- Organizational (up to 8 members) - \$375
- (9 to 13 members) - \$475
- (14 to 20 members) - \$575
- Alumni - \$40
- Associate - \$40
- Student - \$15

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear APAI Members:

It was wonderful to see many of you in Vancouver at this year's Annual Training Conference (ATC). We were very excited that the ATC was hosted at an international venue, and would like to take this opportunity to thank our Canadian colleagues for their willingness to partner on this event. It is not surprising that the result was a success! The efforts of the Canadian host committee, Executive Director Monica Morris, our Secretariat Ashley Koonce of CMIT, and the various APAI members who volunteered to help plan the event were greatly appreciated. As in the past several years, the National Parole Resource Center (NPRC) held a workshop on Saturday, the focus of which was on the role of risk assessments in parole decision making. I would like to thank NPRC for its continued support of our conference, and its partnership in providing an additional training opportunity for our members alongside the conference. We look forward to future opportunities with NPRC for our members.

The conference commenced on Sunday with the Chairs' meeting. The presentations from Pamela Chapman, Richard Stroker of NPRC, Ed Rhine and Ebony Ruhland from the Robina Institute and Cathy McVey from the Council of State Governments were informative and well received. After a productive day, participants joined other APAI members and conference attendees at an evening reception. The training conference itself began on Monday morning with 211 attendees representing 11 countries. The general sessions and workshops included a variety of topics relevant to the field of parole, and were presented in both English and French. Many thanks to all of the presenters who travelled to Vancouver and shared their knowledge and expertise with those in attendance.

This year we combined the Annual Business meeting with the Awards Luncheon on Tuesday. The members in attendance were presented with the revised Constitution and Bylaws by International Vice President Renee Collette and Immediate Past President Jeff Peterson. I am very happy to say that the revisions were approved. I would like to thank Renee and Jeff and all the members of the Ad Hoc committee for their efforts in accomplishing this difficult task. The Executive Committee is now hard at work implementing the revisions. The awards portion of the luncheon was a time to celebrate those who have contributed significantly to our association and profession. Congratulations to Renee Collette, retired Chair of the Parole Board of Canada for receiving the Ben Baer award, and to Harvey Cenaiko,

current Chair of the Parole Board of Canada for receiving the Vincent O'Leary award. The President's Award was given to Thando Tsetsewa for inspiring me to create an Ad Hoc committee to revise the Constitution and Bylaws.

No conference is successful without the support of sponsors and exhibitors. I would like to thank the sponsors and the vendors who exhibited during the conference, and those who contributed to the silent auction for their support. Finally, a special thanks to Harvey Cenaiko, Chair of the Parole Board of Canada and his staff who comprised the host committee. They worked extremely hard on the Annual Training Conference, and their hospitality and attention to detail resulted in a hugely successful event.

Elections were also held for the positions of Vice President and Secretary. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Danielle LaCost of Wisconsin to the position of Secretary of APAI. Danielle replaces outgoing Secretary Dan Fettsco of Wyoming. I am confident that Danielle will fill the position of Secretary as well as Dan did. I'd like to thank Dan for all of his many efforts during his two terms as Secretary, and wish him well as he moves on professionally from the field of parole to the academic world. David Blumberg was elected as Vice President and begins his first official term after serving out the previous term that was vacated by the former Vice President. I look forward to continuing to work with David in this position. With Danielle's election to Secretary, the Central Region Vice President position was vacated. Thank you to those who expressed interest in assuming that role. I am pleased to announce that Jonathan Ogletree, Chairperson of the Kansas Prisoner Review Board has accepted the appointment. Jonathan has been an active member for some time and is ready and willing to take on a leadership role. I look forward to Jonathan joining the Executive Committee.

As I start my last year as your President, I hope to strengthen our association through increased collaborative efforts. Please consider joining one of our committees. Reach out to your Regional Vice President to get involved! Our future depends on the efforts of our members. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing all of you in Lake Tahoe next year!

Sincerely,

Cynthia Mausser
Association of Paroling Authorities International
President



VANCOUVER APAI CONFERENCE A GREAT SUCCESS

BY: THE PAROLE BOARD OF CANADA

With its scenic views, mild climate, and friendly people, Vancouver is a popular tourist destination. It has been the setting for many international events, including the 2010 Winter Olympics and Paralympics, and this past April it played host to the Association of Paroling Authorities International's (APAI) Annual Training Conference.

This year's conference theme was "A Global Look Forward: International & Diverse Perspectives on Parole", and the event was co-hosted by the Parole Board of Canada. More than 200 international participants representing 12 countries participated, all ready to learn about some of the world's leading best practices in parole and to share their own experiences and insights.

This training conference, spanning four days, was a great success. From the opening ceremonies, which included a Royal Canadian Mounted Police constable in red serge singing the National Anthem and an Elder blessing the Xwméthkwyiem aboriginal settlement that occupied the land at least 3,000 years ago, to the correctional sites visits that provided a great learning opportunity for all involved, the experience was qualified as both "memorable" and "eye-opening" by many of the participants.

General morning plenary sessions during the week provided information on psychopathy, Canada's parole system, gender-informed strategies and international perspectives on parole. These informative sessions were complemented by workshops and panel discussions on diverse subjects such as Juvenile Lifers, Risk Assessment, Medication Assisted Treatment, Intergenerational Trauma Effects, Intimate Partner Violence, Indigenous and Ethnocultural Offenders and many more. On the final day of the conference, the opportunity to participate in correctional site visits provided a close-up view on how Correctional Service of Canada manages offenders and how offenders transition from incarceration to parole or conditional release. For all those who attended, the experience was greatly appreciated.

By all accounts, the 2017 Annual Training Conference was a resounding success. We thank all participants and their organizations for continually supporting the APAI's mission of accomplishment of public safety and successful offender re-entry.

After another successful event, the APAI is already busy preparing for next year's Annual Training Conference, which will be held at the Incline Village in Nevada in April 2018. We hope to see you there!



VIDEO CONFERENCING CELEBRATES 12TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN TENNESSEE

BY: TINA FOX, STATE DIRECTOR OF VICTIM SERVICES



implemented in 2005 and conducting Parole Hearings by way of video conferencing has the following advantages:

Eliminates Travel Time and Expense

Video conferencing reduces travel for BOP staff having to attend Parole and Revocation Hearings at prison sites, which are often located hundreds of miles across the state from their home base. Videoconference capability also reduces or eliminates travel for victims of crime. Many times, the offender is moved from one prison to another due to space issues, and often it is across the state. Prior to video conferencing the officers, victims, attorneys, and any witnesses would often have to drive great distances to attend the Hearing.

Travel time and expenses incurred by BOP staff traveling to Nashville where the vast majority of meetings take place are eliminated. Hearing Officers and other staff can hold meetings with the Executive Director without having to leave their offices. The Chairman can also conduct meetings with Board Members or with other staff utilizing video conferencing.

Provides Greater Safety

Attendees, such as victims, family members of victims, Criminal Justice Officials, attorneys, etc. can attend the hearing at one of BOP offices rather than at the TDOC prison. Many times, this could be a victim of a violent crime, such as rape or bodily assault. These victims are often very apprehensive to be in the same room or even the same vicinity as the perpetrator of the crime. Even though they might rather not, the victim often will appear because they do not want the offender to be granted Parole and be released

in society. They have to go through the invasive process of being searched and all of the other measures taken to get through prison security. Likewise, many victims choose not to appear, reducing the chance of hearing officials having their input to make a more informed parole decision. Video conferencing provides victims a greater voice in parole hearings without putting them in an uncomfortable situation.

Reduces Security Needs

TDOC prisons continually have to provide space and additional security by searching all attendees and remaining available in the event of a disturbance. Even some Criminal Justice personnel are reluctant to attend a hearing because it means they have to walk into a TDOC prison where other offenders are housed which they helped 'put away'. Reducing the number of individuals entering the prison to attend parole hearings also minimizes the potential for hostage taking or similar problems, which could arise in a prison setting.

Expediency

By video conferencing equipment being readily available Senior Management can quickly call a meeting with the appropriate staff enabling them to make a more timely and informed decision. Often Senior Management is called upon to make immediate decisions that have lasting effects on the agency as well as the citizens of Tennessee. Since March of 2014, all Parole Hearings and meetings requiring the use of videoconference equipment have been conducted in Virtual video conference rooms. Carolyn Scott, Victim Services Liaison, is responsible for organizing each statewide Hearing relative to video conferencing. Virtual video hearing rooms are scheduled for Board-level and Hearings Officers' level hearings when the service is needed. Virtual rooms may be requested via email submissions and are scheduled one week prior of the need for the virtual video room equipment. This year marks the Board's 12th year of having successful video conferencing. Our fiscal year concluded on June 30th, we had approximately 400 hearings via video conferencing with 1,002 victims and family members in attendance; a whopping 64% increase!



WAY TO GO, KENTUCKY!

BY: MONICA MORRIS, APAI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

“The mission of the Kentucky Parole Board is to make decisions that maintain a delicate balance between public safety, victim rights, reintegration of the offender and recidivism. We will achieve this important balance by application of our core values of knowledge, experience and integrity.

All board members as well as additional support staff are members of the Association of Paroling Authorities International (APAI) and continuously utilize resources through APAI as well as the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) to enhance knowledge and expertise with regards to criminal justice and the parole process. The goal is to utilize research and evidence based practices in order to keep Kentucky on the cutting edge with advances in the field.”

On June 1, 2017, I spent the afternoon with the Chair of the Kentucky Parole Board, Lelia A. VanHoose (Lee) and got to witness first-hand how the mission of the Board is carried out on a daily basis. To say I was impressed would be an understatement. Board members and staff were available and ready to answer any questions I had about their processes. It was a great afternoon that I very much enjoyed and I really learned a lot.

In all of my years in Florida, I had never experienced face to face hearings via video conferencing. I knew that other states used this method but I did not have the knowledge of how it worked and how effective it could be. Members of the Board, that Thursday afternoon, were conducting 2 panels of Board members, voting parole and sex offender conditional discharge (SOCD) violation hearings, which they have scheduled every Thursday. During the hearings, the Board members went from county to county in several jails where they had the ability to interview and question each violator. What a cost-effective way to conduct our business.

If your board is not currently using video conferencing I would highly recommend it!

Kentucky is very fortunate to have nine full time Parole Board members which gives them the ability to have 4 panels along with their full board hearings. They also have a great working relationship with their Governor and the Department of Corrections which gives them the support they need to move forward with new and innovative ideas. They



are currently in the implementation phase of the Structured Decision-Making Framework with the National Institute of Corrections and working with the National Parole Resource Center on strategic planning to find solutions for a more effective approach to an ever-growing caseload. There is no lack of motivation on their part to do better or learn more. Thank you so much for making us a part of your mission statement! The work that we all do can be difficult and often times stressful so it is very important that we continue to support one another through our Association.

Kentucky will be an exciting state to watch as they move forward with many new efforts, projects and initiatives. Did I mention they also have a good basketball team?

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: NEW CENTRAL VP JONATHAN OGLETREE

BY: MONICA MORRIS, APAI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am happy to announce the appointment of Jonathan Ogletree, Chairperson of the Kansas Prisoner Review Board as the newest addition to the APAI Executive Committee.

Jonathan has been an active member of the association for the past five years where he currently serves as a member of the Professional Development Committee. In this role, he worked with committee members to develop training topics for the annual training conferences, as well as working on the mentoring program for New Parole Board Chair's.

Jonathan's past includes work with the re-entry programs in Kansas where he has assisted in spreading that culture in their system. Also, this past year he had the opportunity to help facilitate training for New Parole Board Members at the Academy in Colorado through the National Institute of Corrections (NIC).

In his personal life, Jonathan helped to start a local church where he serves on their Executive Board. This work has allowed him to plan numerous community events to include clothing drives, back to school giveaways, teacher appreci-



ation events and feeding the needy.

Jonathan's past experiences, his participation in several leadership courses through NIC, as well as his work with APAI, has given him a wide base of knowledge in dealing with the stakeholders involved in the parole process. We

know he will use all his skills as he helps to move forward the efforts and growth of this very complex specialized field of work.

Welcome and thank you for your willingness to serve.

CRIME VICTIMS COMMITTEE SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

BY: RANDI LOSALU, VICTIM SERVICES COORDINATOR, WY BOARD OF PAROLE; APAI CRIME VICTIMS COMMITTEE CHAIR

The APAI Crime Victims Committee is comprised of both Parole Board Members as well as Victim Service Professionals. The purpose of the committee is to elevate the awareness of crime victims' issues in the post-conviction processes and to ensure that the professional development opportunities offered, facilitated, and supported by APAI contain sufficient content relative to victims and survivors of crime and their role in the parole and reentry process.

The committee completed the Model Protocol for paroling authorities to ensure victim participation in the parole process, which was well received. The Crime Victims Committee is now tackling a new project that will continue to benefit the Association and victims. The new project will be developing an in-house Victim Handbook Resource that will benefit Members and Staff, as well as new and existing personnel.

The Crime Victims Committee continues to be a vital part of the Association and its continued membership and participation is key for its continued success. We would like to extend an invitation to any member or staff that is interested in being a part of the committee. We welcome any additions who feel that they could add to our meetings, discussions, projects, and presentations.

If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Monica Morris, Executive Director, at monica@apaintl.org



Save the Date! - 2018 Annual Training Conference

Incline Village, NV | April 22–25, 2018

Executive Committee

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Cynthia Mausser
Ohio

Past President
Jeffrey L. Peterson
Minnesota

Vice President
David Blumberg
Maryland

Executive Director
Monica Morris
Florida

Secretary
Danielle LaCost
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