



From the President

The Worldwide Pandemic

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TO-DO IN 2020

- RENEW APAI MEMBERSHIP
- SERVE ON APAI COMMITTEE
- URGE FELLOWS TO JOIN APAI
- MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE 2021 ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE IN ARLINGTON MARCH 14 - MARCH 17, 2021

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

*Fees are on a per year basis.

The pandemic has changed the world as we knew it. There have been deaths, business failures, and nearly a worldwide lockdown at different intervals, however most releasing authorities have seen their workload increase as executive officials have issued orders, directives, or proclamations to shed inmate population during this period. While many courts have closed down, many parole boards are being pushed to capacity to make decisions and set new policies.

Instead of looking at this as a threatening time, I challenge my colleagues to view this as an opportunity. The old way many of us did business is now not possible or feasible. This forces our agencies to consider alternative forms of completing our tasks. Options that have been dismissed as impossible or unfeasible now must be considered as practical or reasonable. Several options are listed below. Apologies to the innovative systems who may have already had them previously as standard operating procedure or are in the process of implementing them.

Teleworking has been the wave of the future for private business and industry for over a decade. Tablets, laptops, and VPN make coming into the office less of a necessity. During this time of social distancing and limiting group assembly, working from a remote location makes perfect sense. For those of us who have gone away from paper files, it is preferable as a business model. When this crisis abates, large scale scanning of material is a must so that many employees

can make use of the teleworking option. In other words, paper is passé.

Hearings can be accomplished by either video systems or phone/computer sites such as Zoom, Google Chat, or Go To Meeting (among others). Even conference calls are an option. While many practitioners prefer in-person hearings (as do I), so one may have the opportunity to observe body language, eye contact, and the "intimacy" of direct contact, many prisons and jails are either on lockdown or quarantine status and there exists a necessity to handle our caseload without actually visiting a facility. Public defenders, private counsel, parole and probation agents, and commissioners/hearing officers can all call into the same number and the hearings can be conducted in this manner. Likewise Polycom units permit multiple parties to be seen on one screen to accomplish the same goal. The completion of our vital tasks such as office appointments, previously necessitating the use of valuable space, can also be accomplished by telephone conferencing. This saves staff usage and travel time for the participants as well.

In conclusion, COVID-19 has been a tragic, challenging event. It is imperative, however, that we make every effort to use this catastrophe to modernize, streamline, and ultimately improve our business practices.

David R Blumberg

David Blumberg
APAI President

Member Spotlight

Lee VanHoose, Chair, Kentucky Parole Board

by: Ashley Koonce, Executive Director, APAI

Lee VanHoose often says she “grew up in the criminal justice system.” She began her career in criminal justice as a Probation and Parole Officer at the age of 22 in 1985. Working urban and rural offices, she was a field officer for 12 years before moving up the leadership chain. Lee served as an Assistant District Supervisor and District Supervisor before being chosen to lead the Kentucky Division of Probation and Parole in 2005. While Director of Probation and Parole, she led the Division to their initial accreditation with the American Correctional Association becoming only the ninth state division of Probation and Parole to be accredited. Lee served five years as Director and was most proud of the vision and mission that was developed during her tenure. The focus shifted from surveillance and apprehension to community safety through successful reentry. Her direct line supervisor said of her, “to paraphrase a country song – she was reentry when reentry wasn’t cool.”

After retiring in 2010, Lee VanHoose worked as a Community Corrections Consultant with Rees and Associates. Additionally, she was certified and worked with the National School Administration Manager Innovation Project, an Education group fo-



ocusing on leadership and time management skills for school principals.

In 2013, she returned to her true life’s work in criminal justice. At that time, Lee was appointed to the Kentucky Parole Board. After serving two years as a Board Member, she was chosen to take over the reins as Chair and has served in that capacity since 2015. During her time as Chair, the Kentucky Parole Board has implemented evidence-based and forward thinking programs such as the Structured Decision Making Framework, consent docket, accelerated docket and through the legislative process enacted the Parole Continuation Sanction.

While a Board Member and Chair, Lee has looked to APAI for education and resources for better-informed parole decision making and training by the top professionals in the field. She has participated in the APAI Chair Mentorship program for two sessions, as well as, serving on the Election Verification Committee for four years.

APRIL 2020

Vice President Appointment

Jonathan Ogletree, Chair, Kansas Prisoner Review Board

by: Ashley Koonce, Executive Director, APAI

APAI is excited to announce the appointment of Jonathan Ogletree, Chair, Kansas Prisoner Review Board, to the position of Vice President. Jonathan has been a member of the Executive Committee since July of 2017, serving as the Central Region Vice President. He has been an active member of the Association since 2011, and has been an integral part of the Professional Development Committee. Jonathan has served as a coordinator and facilitator for the Annual Chairs and Executive Directors Meetings at the APAI Annual Training Conference.

Jonathan has been a member of the Prisoner Review Board for Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) since their inception July 1, 2011, and promoted to the Chair position as of January 3, 2016. His career began with Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) in 1989, at the Lansing Correctional Facility as a Corrections Officer. He has been a member of the Kansas Sentencing Commission since 2016. He holds a Bachelor of Science from Friends University in Organizational Management and Leadership, and a Master of Arts from Webster University in Management.

Jonathan has served as a trainer for the National Institute of Correction (NIC) for Parole Board Chairs, Parole Board Member's Orienta-



tion, and Executive Director Training in collaboration with APAI. He also received training in the Structured Decision Making Framework (SDMF) in 2013, and began training other states in the adoption, after Dr. Ralph Serin updated the training in 2015. He has worked with Kentucky, South Dakota, California, Utah and Washington. Jonathan also recently participated on a National Advisory Council for the PEW and Arnold Foundations to help develop Community Supervision Policy Framework. This framework works to continue to improve the effectiveness of community supervision systems across the nation.

Jonathan's past experiences, along with his contribution in multiple leadership courses through NIC and APAI, as well as his work on many of our committees make him a prime candidate to take over the position of

Vice President. He is forward thinking, open to new projects and tasks, and never hesitates to take initiative or volunteer for a task that needs undertaking.

2021 Annual Training Conference

March 14–17, 2021 / Arlington, Texas

by: Ashley Koonce, Executive Director, APAI

This is a Spring unlike any other. Typically, the Association comes together to network with friends from across the globe, honor members who have contributed significantly to the parole field, and attend incredible workshops and training sessions. While we should have been gathered in the exciting town of Nashville, Tennessee, instead we are in our home states, creating a new normal. There are new normal ways to work, to educate our children, to communicate with colleagues. As our President said, almost everything seemed to shift, quicker than we could have expected, so now we adapt, but we do it together.

It is important to the Executive Committee to still operate the association, just as if we had met in person. We will be honoring Award Recipients over the summer and will then of course highlight this to all of our membership via the website, newsletter, and social media posts. We will also be sending out the Annual Business information in the coming month.

Though we could not gather together this year, for such an important conference and for our significant time together, we must remember each other throughout the year. Our annual meeting

typically refreshes and solidifies our friendships and relationships that we have formed over the years and we must remember that even though we did not get to be together physically, we now have the capacity and ability to come together virtually...until next time.

2021 will be a new opportunity for all of us, and our Annual Training Conference will be no different. We all hope that the Pandemic is behind us and we are able to get back to some of our old normal activities, while incorporating ideas and best practices from this time of forced change. You have likely seen the announcement, but our next conference will be taking place in Arlington, Texas! The Live! By Loew's area is exciting, full of places to eat and things to do, and ready to host all of you!

The hotel is situated right between the Texas Rangers Globe Life Field and the Dallas Cowboys Stadium, with incredible views of both. The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles is excited to show you some Southern Hospitality as they welcome you to the GREAT State of Texas. We will be updating the conference website soon, so be sure to keep your eyes on it for all the newest information!

The APAI Website has been Updated!

We are excited to announce and unveil the new APAI website! Our designer, Jenn Sexton, has been hard at work updating the content, user interface, and of course the look of the Association website! Jenn is responsible for all of the great content that we see throughout the year, including publications, letterhead, social media images, the newsletter, and now our fantastic website!

She has put a lot of hard work into the design, user-friendliness, graphics, and layout to improve each of our members, as well as site visitor's experience. We hope you all will take look and enjoy! As we transition to the new website, we may find a few things here or there that need attention, so please do not hesitate to let us know so we can address them!

You can check out the new website at www.apaintl.org.

• SAVE THE DATE •

2021 ANNUAL
TRAINING
CONFERENCE



ARLINGTON, TX | MARCH 14-17, 2021





WELCOME TO ARLINGTON, TX

DISCOVER OUR NEIGHBORHOOD - ARLINGTON, TEXAS.

Our home here in Arlington may be one of the most convenient cities for travel in Texas. Arlington is centrally located between Dallas and Fort Worth, and just 10 miles from DFW International Airport. So, it's easy to get here—and just as easy to find fun things to see and do here in Arlington. We've got the area's biggest sports arenas right here next to the hotel, as well as a great lineup of new bars, restaurants, shops and event spaces as part of Texas Live!

With Six Flags Over Texas and Six Flags Hurricane Harbor waterpark as our neighbors, Arlington is a great place for kids. Other family-friendly highlights include the University of Texas at Arlington Planetarium and the International Bowling Museum & Hall of Fame.

Feel like a spot of retail therapy? Our local shopping hubs include Arlington Highlands for your favorite clothing, beauty and home décor brands, and Grand Prairie Premium Outlets for amazing deals.

If creative inspiration is more your speed, the Arlington Museum of Art and The Gallery at UT Arlington are must-see art destinations, and right near the hotel you'll find the Arlington Sculpture Trail at Richard Greene Linear Park, which showcases a rotation of up to 40 different sculptures.

For more fresh air activities, you can book tee time at one of the area's excellent golf courses—which will soon include the nation's first MLB-branded course, The Texas Rangers Golf Club—or take a drive out to Lake Arlington for fishing, canoeing, kayaking or paddleboarding.

For a list of all the amazing things there are to see and do in Arlington and the surrounding area, simply ask our concierge.

Live! by Loews - Arlington Texas

www.loewshotels.com/live-by-loews-arlington-texas

📍 1600 E Randol Mill Road, Arlington, 76011

🕒 4:00pm

🕒 11:00am

📞 682-277-4900

Reservation link will open online

www.apaintl.org

Live!
BY
LOEWS
ARLINGTON, TX

Executive Committee

President
David Blumberg
Maryland

Vice President
Jonathan Ogletree
Kansas

Executive Director
Ashley Koonce
Texas

Past President
Cynthia Mausser
Ohio

Treasurer
Joe Pacholski
Washington DC

Secretary
Lisa Blanchette Chamorro
Rhode Island

Northeastern USA
Matt Degan
Rhode Island

Western USA
Jennifer Shaffer
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Central USA
Danielle LaCost
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International Section
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International Section
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Alistair Spierling
New Zealand

International Section
Martin Jones
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