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TO-DO IN 2023

- Renew Membership
- Serve on a Committee
- Recruit Fellows to APAI
- Make Plans to Attend the 2024 Annual Training Conference in Washington, Seattle in May 2024

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 on a per year basis.

From the President

This year is moving fast, and we are coming to the end of the quickly. We have had plenty of things to keep our organization busy and engaged. The participation from our membership is appreciated. The response to requests from members helps in such a large way. Please continue to be supportive of each other, as well as our partners.

APAI has been well represented at several conferences, to include our own. The American Correctional Association (ACA) Congress on Corrections and the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) are two that were recently attended by several APAI members. Workshops at both were informative and shared meaningful information for our membership. Both ACA and APPA have expressed an interest in continuing discussion on how we can compliment each other. Our partnerships continue to get stronger through the involvement and participation in these conferences.

National Institute of Corrections (NIC), Criminal Justice Institute (CJI), Community Supervision Resource Center (CSRC), and other partners have taken much time out of their schedules to meet and discuss future opportunities with APAI. These partnerships will continue to build upon the resources we have available.

NIC hosted the first Community Supervision Leadership Network Meeting, which included several

fields of community supervision; parole boards, leaders from pre-trial, probation, and parole supervision. The meeting was established for strategic planning for future work with parole boards. It was also an opportunity to provide NIC with input about needs from the field. Several of our members participated and found the interaction helpful in expanding opportunities to bridge gaps between the different disciplines.

Hard work is happening to ensure that APAI is providing membership more resources. Ashley Koonce is leading the way with on-going communication with all these groups. Her work has a big impact on all the progress we are seeing.

Washington is looking forward to our next conference. Look for the many emails that Ashley will send out as a reminder. It is exciting to see the progress of the work the host committee is doing to make this conference successful.

Lastly, APAI wants to recognize the tragic events that recently happened in Hawaii and the Florida region. Life is unpredictable and things are thrown at each one of us unexpectedly. Keep these areas and all that are affected by these events in your thoughts as they recover.

Best regards,

Jonathan Ogletree

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Martin Jones, The Parole Board of England and Wales

by: Ashley Koonce, Executive Director, APAI

Martin Jones has been Chief Executive of the Parole Board for England and Wales since 2015. Prior to 2015, Martin had spent over twenty years in a range of senior operational and policy roles in the justice system. Martin was awarded a CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire) for services to victims, transparency, and diversity in the justice system in 2021.

Martin has been a member of APAI since 2017, and is a huge supporter of the case for bringing different jurisdictions together to learn from each other.

When asked to share his ideas and thoughts on how we can better engage our international members, Martin said, “I think all international parole authorities should join APAI, whilst there are of course differences, there are many commonalities and huge opportunities to learn and share best practice.” Further, when speaking about the value he finds in being involved in APAI he says he highly recommends attending an APAI conference, as “it is a brilliant opportunity to network and hear from high calibre speakers. Most important to me are the rich conversations that take place in and around the conference (sharing and solving our respective challenges).”

Martin’s background is a key driver for me. He was born and bred in a very poor area of South-East London and was the first person to get a University Degree in his family. Arguably, his chances of being on the “wrong side” of the prison wall were higher when he was growing up than being a parole professional. He says that always gives him a sense of perspective and keeps him grounded.

We also asked Martin to share a couple goals and/or visions for parole as a whole or the field as whole, to which he had the following response, “The parole community should have two aims: 1. To dispel misinformation and misunderstanding about our roles through greater transparency and improving public awareness and 2. To focus all of our decisions on evidence and the assessment of risk.”



Martin Jones, The Parole Board of England and Wales

Martin serves on the APAI Executive Committee as the European Regional Vice-President. He brings an incredible international perspective to the board and provides invaluable input on many matters across the association. On behalf of our Association and Executive Committee, we thank Martin for his many years of dedication to the field and to this Association. As we work to advance the field of parole and decision-making, it is remarkable to know we have an allies like Martin Jones, across the world!

EMPOWERING EXCELLENCE:

The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles' Statewide Training Summit

by: Jessica Dillard, Board Administrator, Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles



Victim Impact Statement Panel — led by Crime Victim's Committee Chair, Libby Hamilton

In a remarkable display of dedication to professional growth and the pursuit of excellence, the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles recently convened a four-day training summit that brought together over 250 of its dedicated employees. Hearing Officers, Institutional Parole Officers and Analysts congregated under one roof to engage in a transformative learning experience that encompassed vital topics including Legislative Updates, Victim Impact, Criminal Justice Trends, and Sex Offender Registration.

Chairman David Gutierrez opened this landmark event stating, "I believe better communication and events such as this will inspire positive change within our agency. Together, we will embark on a journey of learning, collaboration, and innovation. We will continue to uphold the principles of justice and rehabilitation;" showcasing the agency's unwavering commitment to fostering com-

munication, camaraderie, and connections amongst not only its team members. It also emphasized the paramount importance of continuous training and professional development in an ever-evolving criminal justice landscape.

The summit featured an impressive lineup of speakers and panel discussions that left attendees both informed and inspired. Among the distinguished speakers was the Executive Director Francis Abbott from the Louisiana

Board of Pardons and Committee on Parole. His insights into the intricacies of Louisiana's parole system, coupled with his passion, provided invaluable perspectives to the attendees.

One of the most poignant and impactful segments of the summit was a panel discussion featuring survivors who bravely shared their personal stories and the profound impact of violent and sex offenses on their lives. This poignant conversation not only served as a sobering reminder of the importance of the work the Board of Pardons and Paroles undertakes, but also emphasized the need for empathy and understanding in the field of criminal justice.

The over arching theme of the summit was the power of training and professional development. It underscored that by investing in the growth and education of its

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employees, the agency empowers them to make lasting connections within the agency amongst its diverse workforce, fostering a deep sense of dedication to our core values.

Furthermore, the event created an atmosphere of camaraderie and connectedness among employees who often work in challenging and emotionally demanding roles. The opportunity to interact, share experiences, and exchange insights with colleagues from across the state fostered a sense of community and solidarity.

In the rapidly evolving field of criminal justice, staying up to date with legislative changes and understanding emerging trends is paramount. The Board of Pardons and Paroles' commitment to providing its employees with the tools and knowledge needed to excel in their roles demonstrates its dedication to excellence.

As the summit came to a close, attendees left with renewed determination, a broader perspective on their responsibilities, and a strengthened sense of unity within the agency. It was abundantly clear that the four-day training summit was more than just a series of workshops; it was a testament to the agency's mission to im-



Opening session – Chair David Gutierrez,
Chief of Staff Timothy McDonnell, & Board Administrator Jessica Dillard

prove the lives of individuals within the criminal justice system while ensuring public safety.

In the wake of this exceptional event, the Board of Pardons and Paroles stands poised to continue its mission of fostering positive change, guided by the belief in the transformative power of training, professional development, communication, camaraderie, and connections. The summit exemplified that through shared knowledge and collective commitment, the agency can pave the way for a brighter future within the realms of parole and criminal justice.

2024 Annual
TRAINING CONFERENCE
• May 5 – 8, 2024 • Seattle, WA •

• REGISTRATION OPENS OCTOBER 2023 • VISIT WWW.APAINTL.ORG FOR MORE INFO •

#CAPTUREDCOLLABORATIONS

Highlighting Member Connections through APAI

by: Ashley Koonce, Executive Director, APAI

One of the many benefits of being involved in a professional organization is the ability to collaborate with others who have a similar mission, but a different background. Whether it's the largest decision-making board speaking to the smallest or the most conservative paroling authority reaching out to another that has historically been more progressive, the opportunity for networking, creating and creating partnerships is almost limitless.

We have so many members that have made some of the best connections through their involvement with APAI.

We are excited to start a new section to highlight these events valuable connections. Each newsletter will feature the #capturedcollaborations of our Association!

We cannot do it without member input! Send us your photos and a brief description to be included in the newsletter and on our social media pages!



In July, Kentucky Parole Board Chair Ladeidra Jones, Board Members Cyndi Heddleston, Sherri Lathan and James Nickell completed a site visit sponsored by the National Institute of Corrections at the Washington State Indeterminate Sentence Review Board (ISRB) with members Elyse Balmert, Lori Ramsdell-Gilkey, Jeff Patnode, Jill Getty and Chair Kecia Rongen. The purpose of the site visit was to observe the Board daily activities, to include the decision-making process utilizing the Structured Decision-Making Framework. ISRB has utilized this framework to inform their

decisions for several years and is committed to making informed decisions essential to public safety.

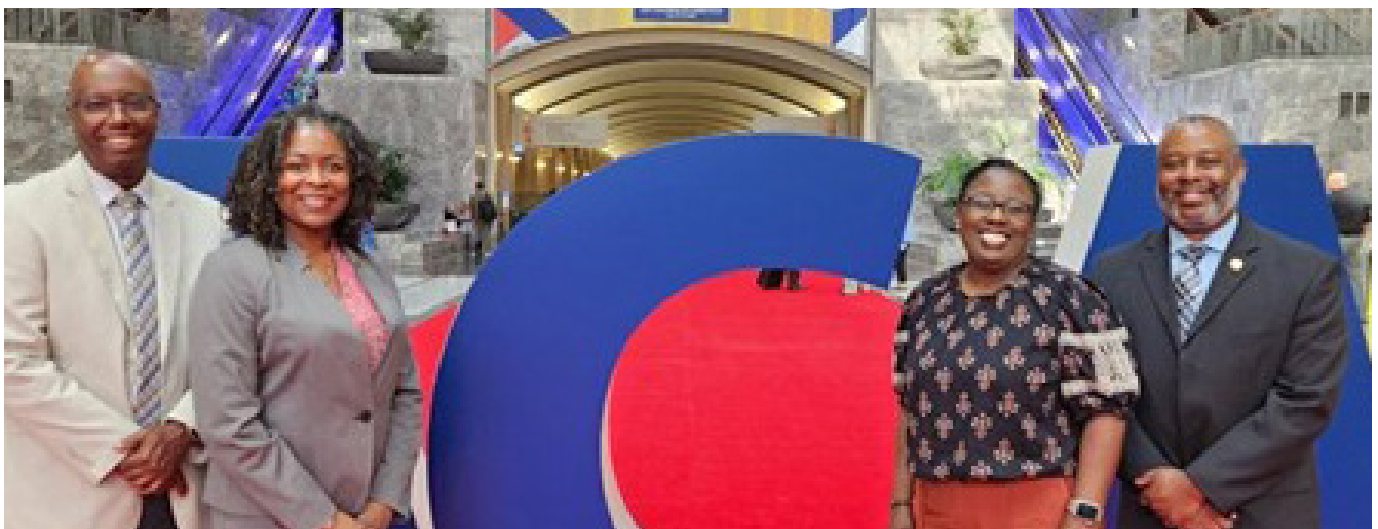
Pictured: Elyse Balmert - Member, Washington ISRB; Ladeidra Jones - Chair, Kentucky Parole Board; Kecia Rongen - Chair, Washington ISRB; Cyndi Heddleston - Member, Kentucky Parole Board; Sherri Lathan - Member, Kentucky Parole Board; Lori Ramsdell-Gilkey - Member, Washington ISRB; James Nickell - Member, Kentucky Parole Board; and Jeff Patnode - Member, Washington ISRB



The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles held a training summit in August, which brought together more than 250 of their agency employees.

They focused on communication, camaraderie, and connection. Louisiana Board of Pardons and Paroles Executive Director, Francis Abbott was asked to speak at the event.

Pictured: David Gutierrez - Chairman, Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles; Francis Abbott - Executive Director, Louisiana Board of Pardons and Paroles; Rene Hinojosa - Division Director, Texas Department of Criminal Justice - Parole Division; Timothy McDonnell - Chief of Staff, Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles; and Bobby Lumpkin - Division Director, Texas Department of Criminal Justice - Correctional Institutions Division



APAI is committed to expanding our network across the fields of corrections in order to continuously provide the most current information and best practices to our members. In August, the American Correctional Association (ACA) held its 153rd Congress of Correction in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Pictured: Jonathan Ogletree - President, APAI and Chair, Kansas Prisoner Review Board; Katricia Lauderdale - Army Review Board Agency; Sylvia Mitchell - Army Clemency and Board; and Gerald Patterson - Board Manager, Army Clemency and Board

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