

Hello WVAPO members. I am a little past the quarterly update time frame but that does not mean we have not been active. The board did meet on April 18. We have agreed to post the minutes from each board meeting on the website. The minutes from the April 18 meeting are on the WVAPO website.

I met with Senator Amy Grady to keep probation in the minds of the legislators. We discussed probation numbers as of March 2025. There are 343 probation officer positions and 84 probation secretaries. There were 15 probation officer vacancies in March 2025. 12,352 probationers were reported to be under supervision of probation at that time (7,466 adults and 3,455 juveniles). There were 1,874 sex offenders, 266 in community corrections, 568 under bond supervision, 498 in adult drug court, 140 in family treatment court, and 139 in juvenile drug court. The number of probationers increased from 2023 to 2024 by 1,987. There was an increase of 880 on bond supervision and 185 sex offenders.

Please send all photos of weapons or drugs found in home visits to Stephanie. Threats made against you, or your family, also should be reported to Stephanie. It is very important for the Administrative Office to be made aware of specific threats against or any physical contact with probation officers. Please copy me in on these emails too. The association will use them when advocating for increase in salary or benefits and to be sure that the Supreme Court is aware of the risks.

We are exploring the number of probation officers who have reached the salary cap. We will decide on whether we will request the caps on salaries be removed once we see the numbers. We did ask for a pay increase. The Supreme Court had submitted the budget prior to our request and therefore was not considered. It was not likely given the current statewide budget cuts. There was 5.8 million cut from this year's budget.

We have purchased sweatshirts for those who did not receive their sweatshirt at conference. The sweatshirts are in and will be mailed to those who did not get theirs. Danielle Hofe is working on the store which should be open very soon. We are working on ways to speed up the election process at the next conference (2026). A secretaries committee is working with Chris Salmons on developing a probation secretary conference. The chiefs committee and Stephanie have been working on the appropriate count for child abuse and neglect offenders.

As always, please reach out to any board member if you have ideas or needs for us to assist.

It is an honor and privilege.

Jessica "Jessie" Trippett