



Probation Association of New Jersey

Serving New Jersey Since 1904

An affiliate of the American Probation and Parole Association

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ATLANTIC COUNTY WOMAN NAMED PROBATION OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Hassett-Marrero Honored for Work with Individuals with Mental Illnesses

Galloway, N.J. – The Probation Association of New Jersey (PANJ) has chosen Marianne Hassett-Marrero of Galloway Township as this year's recipient of the Probation Officer of the Year award, which is considered one of the highest honors within the community supervision system.

Ms. Hassett-Marrero, who oversees individuals with mental illnesses as a senior probation officer in Atlantic County, was nominated by her peers in the employee union.

George P. Christie, president of PANJ, congratulated Hassett-Marrero on winning this prestigious award, which is a testament of the respect she has earned from her fellow probation officers.

“Marianne has taken on a particularly difficult caseload as an officer working with offenders diagnosed with a mental health illness who often require an added level of compassion and attention. Her colleagues praise her ability to ‘think outside the box’ to ensure that probationers are compliant with the conditions of their sentence while managing the constraints of their illness,” said Christie.

A probation officer since 1999, Ms. Hassett-Marrero works tirelessly to balance both the treatment needs of her clients and the need for community safety. She often goes into the community to conduct visits with offenders at places such as local partial care centers and the Rescue Mission in Atlantic City to ensure probationers are undergoing proper mental health care. Marianne recently took part in a “sweep” under the Atlantic City Boardwalk to further link disenfranchised individuals with needed services.

(more)

Hassett-Marrero was honored with the award at the recent 67th annual PANJ Educational Foundation training institute, "Tackling Tough Times in 2009" which focused on addressing new and growing issues in the supervision system.

At the group's annual conference, outstanding leaders among probation officers and State Senator Sean Kean (D-Monmouth) received awards for their commitment and dedication to supervising offenders and serving and leaders in their respective divisions. In addition, six scholarships were presented to deserving students continuing their college education.

With an estimated 139,000 adults and 20,000 juveniles under probation system, New Jersey is the nation's ninth largest adult probation system. There are approximately 2,800 probation officers and supervisors in New Jersey.

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