



Probation Association of New Jersey

Serving New Jersey Since 1904

An affiliate of the American Probation and Parole Association

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PANJ HONORS AWARD RECIPEINTS AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

AWARDEES INCLUDE: LAMONT BOWLING-SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR; ADAM POTOLSKY-PROBATION OFFICER OF THE YEAR; ELLEN CRIBBIN-JOHN AUGUSTUS AWARD; ROBERT HURLEY, SR.-CITIZEN OF THE YEAR; & JOSEPH CRYAN-LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR

Atlantic City, N.J. –Lamont Bowling, Adam Potolsky, Ellen Cribbin, Robert Hurley, and Asm. Joseph Cryan were recently honored by the Probation Association of New Jersey (PANJ) at the organization's 2010 Leadership Conference in November.

George Christie, president of PANJ, praised all of the award recipients for their support of advancing law enforcement and probation services throughout the State of New Jersey.

The Supervisor of the Year Award was presented by Christie to Lamont Bowling.

"Lamont Bowling is a real asset to the probation community, said George Christie. "Nominated by his peers, Lamont serves as a supervisor in the Middlesex vicinage and knows all aspects of drug court. According to his administration, simply put, he is an excellent leader. He truly deserves the honor of Supervisor of the Year."

Christie commended Adam Potolsky for his hard work and presented him with the Probation Officer of the Year Award.

"Striving for excellence in whatever he is working on, it was my honor to present Adam Potolsky with the Probation Officer of the Year Award, said Christie. Working in the Monmouth vicinage, Adam strives to mentor new officers and in general, is one of the state's best officers," according to Christie.

Commenting that Ellen Cribbin is a wonderful human being, Christie presented Ellen Cribbin with the John Augustus Award.

"It is with great privilege that we awarded Ellen Cribbin with our most prestigious award, the John Augustus Award," added Christie. "Nominated by her peers, Ellen has been a probation officer for ten years assigned to a juvenile caseload. Aside from her day-to-day responsibilities, Ellen serves as the PANJ's business manager and serves on many committees."

An avid community volunteer and dedicated public servant, Christie presented Robert Hurley, Sr. with the Citizen of the Year Award.

“Our Citizen of the Year Award was presented to Robert Hurley, Sr., a probation officer in Hudson County for 30 plus years,” according to Christie. “He devotes his free time to working with troubled young people. Coaching basketball for 38 years, Robert has won nearly 1,000 games, 23 state championships, 10 tournament of champions titles, and three national championships.”

Christie presented Joe Cryan, the 5 term Assemblyman and Majority Leader of the Assembly with the Legislator of the Year Award.

“Whether it’s been in sponsoring key legislation or speaking out against flawed initiatives that would negatively impact our members, Majority Leader Cryan has been an ardent and vocal advocate for our probation officers,” added Christie.

Awardees received their awards at PANJ’s 68th annual training institute, held in November. The annual training institute is a grassroots event sponsored by the PANJ Education Foundation to ensure that officers are given adequate training. Topics of workshops held during the conference included: Gang Awareness, Immigration and Deportation, Cyberstalking, School Violence, Current Trends in Drug Abuse, and Supervising Female Victims of Domestic Violence.

The Honorable Robert Menendez gave the keynote speech at the luncheon and spoke about the state’s efforts to combat the rampant gang violence problem and the need for additional resources for the law enforcement community.

There are an estimated 2,800 probation officers and supervisors in New Jersey who oversee approximately 200,000 adult and juvenile probationers.

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