



THE CONNECTION

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Federal Probation and Pretrial Officers Association

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From the desk of... Craig Penet, FPPOA President

Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week is from July 16 through 22 this year. Let's take a moment to recognize the job we do each day. It's demanding, risky, rewarding, overwhelming, and at times thankless. We personally exert both physical and mental effort to the point of high levels of stress. We all put in time and extra hours just to get the job done and keep our heads above water. We bounce between social worker and law enforcement officer in an instant. BUT, we've chosen a career that is unique, a fit for us, our personality, our background and education. We are in a career that has all of these qualities, running all at once, and if you're passionate, as I'm sure you are, time will and is floating by.

In my analysis over the years, I view our profession in the Federal Courts as the graduate level of the criminal justice system. The cases, offenders, parties, demands and challenges are ever changing and new. You really never know who will walk into our office, the crime they have committed, what their history brings to us, and what is the best supervision or rehabilitate approach to best address that person's needs and risk. You never know where or what you will encounter in the field as well.

In the spirit of this week in which we recognize our profession, the FPPOA board has added two new sections to our newsletter, "Going the Extra Hour" and "Field of Vision". Both of these look to highlight some of the work we do, as well as the interesting things we see each day. Obviously, we are a national system, covering and encountering all that is between the two oceans and two countries that border our United States. From sea to shining sea as the song goes. And don't forget those states outside of the lower 48, as well as those other territories and islands, which all total 94 Judicial Districts.

So for this version of the FPPOA newsletter, this is my message. Be proud of your position as a United States Pretrial/Probation Officer. Be proud and protective of those you work with. Be proud you have found a career that challenges you each day. Take care of yourself and your families. Find a positive and healthy balance in your life, in order to achieve success both at work, and at home. To alter the song by AC/DC, for those about to embark in community supervision, we salute you.

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