



CONNECTIONS

The Official Newsletter for the Washington Correctional Association
Spring 2008
Volume XXII, Issue 1

Welcome from the President

Welcome to the first on-line addition of *Connections*! It is not without much discussion over time that we come to this place in the evolution of the WCA. The Board has made a responsible decision and is committed to delivering the same high quality publication. Jeneva Cotton has stepped into the position of being responsible for publication following the departure of long-time publisher Judith Smith. I want to thank Jeneva for taking this on, in addition to her full-time job & gradate school studies; as well as thank Judith for her long and faithful service to the WCA, the Board, and for the wisdom she has graciously shared with us. Best of luck to you!

The dedication of the Correctional Personnel Memorial is slated for May 30 at CJTC beginning with lunch at 11:30am. Eldon Vail from DOC and Robert Nelson from DJR are scheduled to speak. Seven names of correctional personnel from the adult and juvenile systems will be placed on the memorial. If you plan to attend, please call Bob Kastama at 253-435-1637 as the CJTC needs a head count.

Karin L. Johnson, DOC Fiscal Analyst in the East Region Business Office, has assumed the co-chair position for the NE Region. Welcome Karin, and thank you!

Representatives from WCA, NABCJ, WCJ, and the Jailers Association (WSJA) continue to meet and work on planning the September Corrections Conference in Ocean Shores. If you are interested in participating and/or volunteering please contact Michelle Watson at 360-725-9100 or Tracy Grunenfelder at 360-407-0174. Both are also on Outlook.

This seems to be a very busy time for all of us in corrections, no matter what the agency or our job. But you're the best. Walk proud.

Rich LaRosa,
President

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Regional News & Events



Current Regional Co-Chairs

Northwest: James Malcolm & One position vacant
Southwest: Anthony Shaver & One position vacant
Central: Two positions vacant
Northeast: Karin Johnson & One position vacant
Southeast: Mark Kucza & Kevin Loesch

Southeast

Overcoming Workplace Obstacles Workshops presented

On April 1st, WCA and the Washington State Penitentiary's Promoting a Positive Prison Culture (3PC) committee, co-sponsored 2 sessions of "Overcoming Workplace Obstacles" for the staff at the Department of Transportation building in Walla Walla. The 3PC committee promotes a variety of communications forums for WSP staff at all levels of the organization. The workshop was facilitated by DOC Prison Administrator, Mike Kenney. About 80 persons attended. Mike's workshop presentation at last September's joint conference was attended and well received by those WSP staff at the conference and they suggested that he be invited to conduct the workshop for others at WSP. Participants brainstormed lists of elements that comprise "great" and "awful" workplaces and then proceed to identify the elements over which they have control or not. Participants left with an understanding that most things that affect us in the workplace are driven by the "human element" and we should each focus on managing our own behavior and attitude as the best way for each of us to improve the workplace, one step at a time.

WCA Award Memberships

One year WCA memberships have been awarded to the Honor Graduate (top academic scorer) of each Correctional Worker Core (CWC) class at Walla Walla. Three concurrent classes are in session due to the large number of staff being hired for the WSP and Coyote Ridge expansions; although the classes also contain staff from the other institutions in eastern Washington. WCA Board member Mark Kucza makes the presentations during graduation ceremonies, and takes the time to promote the benefits of membership in WCA, its affiliate ACA, and other organizations for correctional professionals.

No other reports at this time.



Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) News

The
Washington State
Criminal Justice Training Commission
Cordially invites you to
Attend the dedication of the
Corrections Personnel Memorial.
The ceremony will be held on
May 30, 2008 at 1:30 pm
With a reception following
at the
Washington State Criminal Justice Training Center
Memorial Garden
19010 1st Ave. South
Burien, Washington 98148

Please R.S.V.P. by calling 206-835-7348 or emailing Darlene at dtangedahl@cjtc.state.wa.us

The impetus for the Memorial came from John Prideaux and Bob Kastama, both retired Department of Corrections personnel. They have donated the proceeds of their book, "The Quiet Service II: Sixty-Six Years of Parole and Probation Officers' Memories" to fund this Memorial.

Plaques in the memories of Michael Erdahl, Herbert Briggs, Roger Sanders, William Cross, William Warfield, Al Gruber and Lloyd Thompson will be dedicated in their memories.

WSCJTC Criminal Justice Job Fair

The Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (WSCJTC) is hosting a job fair at its Burien Campus on Saturday, May 17, 2008 from 10 AM – 4 PM and is free to attend! This fair caters to the criminal justice field including law enforcement, corrections, training programs, schools, private security, and many more. In 2007, there were more than 60 organizations to visit.

Come prepared to meet with law enforcement officers, corrections officers, school admissions officers, and others. Dress to interview and bring your resume and questions.

Agencies and organizations that would like a booth at the job fair can download a registration form from the WSCJTC website at https://fortress.wa.gov/cjtc/www/training/training_index.html.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) established a national research collaborative called Criminal Justice-Drug Abuse Treatment Studies (CJ-DATS) to study issues related to substance abuse treatment for adult and juvenile offenders. Some of the most prominent researchers in the field are involved in CJ-DATS, as well as policy makers and criminal justice and drug treatment professionals in over 13 states and the national associations.

At least 10 studies are currently in the field, including a national survey of criminal and juvenile justice practices. You can visit their website at www.cjdats.org to learn more about the research that is being conducted by the CJDATS collaborative. If you go to Research Agenda or Brief Reports, you can find studies that are ongoing.

DRUG OF THE MONTH



MDMA (Ecstasy)

MDMA (methylenedioxymethamphetamine) is a synthetic, psychoactive drug chemically similar to the stimulant methamphetamine and the hallucinogen mescaline. Street names for MDMA include Ecstasy, X, Adam, XTC, hug, beans, and love drug. MDMA is an illegal drug that acts as both a stimulant and psychedelic, producing an energizing effect, as well as distortions in time and perception and enhanced enjoyment from tactile

experiences.

MDMA exerts its primary effects in the brain on neurons that use the chemical serotonin to communicate with other neurons. The serotonin system plays an important role in regulating mood, aggression, sexual activity, sleep, and sensitivity to pain.

MDMA can be dangerous and, on rare occasions, lethal. In high doses, MDMA can interfere with the body's ability to regulate temperature. On rare but unpredictable occasions, this can lead to a sharp increase in body temperature, resulting in liver, kidney, and cardiovascular system failure, and death.

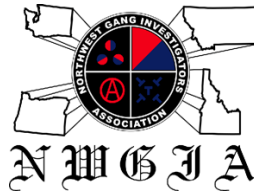
A survey of young adult and adolescent MDMA users found that 43 percent of those who reported ecstasy use met the accepted diagnostic criteria for dependence, as evidenced by continued use despite knowledge of physical or psychological harm, withdrawal effects, and tolerance (or diminished response), and 34 percent met the criteria for drug abuse. Almost 60 percent of people who use MDMA report withdrawal symptoms, including fatigue, loss of appetite, depressed feelings, and trouble concentrating.

Users of MDMA face many of the same risks as users of other stimulants such as cocaine and amphetamines. These include increases in heart rate and blood pressure, muscle tension, involuntary teeth clenching, nausea, blurred vision, faintness, and chills or sweating. Psychological effects can include confusion, depression, sleep problems, drug craving, and severe anxiety. These problems can occur during and sometimes days or weeks after taking MDMA.

Ecstasy tablets may contain other substances in addition to MDMA, such as ephedrine (a stimulant); dextromethorphan (DXM, a cough suppressant that has PCP-like effects at high doses); ketamine (an anesthetic used mostly by veterinarians that also has PCP-like effects); caffeine; cocaine; and methamphetamine. While the combination of MDMA with one or more of these drugs may be inherently dangerous, users might also combine them with substances such as marijuana and alcohol, putting themselves at further physical risk.



UPCOMING CONFERENCES



NORTHWEST GANG INVESTIGATORS ASSOCIATION

The 2008 Northwest Gang Investigator's Association Conference will be held May 19 – 22, 2008, in Pend Oreille Pavilion of the Northern Quest Resort in Spokane, Washington. The conference will cover a wide range of criminal gangs, taught by recognized experts in the field of street gangs and related topics. The subject matter will be beneficial to all law enforcement personnel and is projected to include the following topics:

- Identification, Intervention, Prevention Strategies
- Northwest Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs
- Native American Gangs
- Northwest Hispanic Gangs
- Gangs and Terrorism
- International Terrorism and Gangs
- The Art of Working Gangs
- Northwest Hispanic Gangs
- Gangs in the Military
- GangNet

For registration info, go to <http://www.nwgia.com/>.



**Please join us for our 138th Congress of Correction in
New Orleans, Louisiana**

**Morial Convention Center
August 8-13, 2008**

Featuring Archie Manning, All American Quarterback and NFL MVP

The American Correctional Association's 138th Congress of Correction is an excellent opportunity for professional and personal enrichment. This conference offers invaluable training workshops, an expansive exhibit hall, and the opportunity to network with your colleagues. This event is a who's who of corrections and your opportunity to learn from the best. For more information, visit the ACA website: <http://www.aca.org/Conferences>.



Staff *The Heart and Soul of Corrections*

Well everyone it's that time again! We are in full conference committee mode for the 2008 Criminal Justice Conference. This year we will be at Ocean Shores, September 17, 18, and 19th. The theme for this year is "Staff, the Heart and Soul of Corrections" and we are focusing on just that, the Staff. We are looking to have some old familiar faces in our vendor area as well as some new folks to get acquainted with. Our line up of pamper-me vendors will be something totally different and very unique.

Due to the conference being held in the Convention Center we have signed on with three very great hotels just off the beach with great ocean viewing opportunity. We will be doing our best to double up this year for rooms due to tighter budget restraints, so find your buddy and let's get ready to conference and network. This year we have decided to do a few things differently. We are planning a bon fire on the beach with a wonderful feast and of course s'mores! Y'all just can't have a bon fire without them! There will be music, fun, festivities, and

sand, enough for everyone. Our banquet dinner will have a change of pace this year and the food line up is delectable.

Registrations will be coming out by the end of May so keep your eyes open. I can't express enough on what a wonderful experience it is to attend this conference. We as the Committee are always so excited to kick off this event; it seems to be getting bigger and better with every year that passes. And that my friends, you are all so wonderfully responsible for. Your words of encouragement, praise, interest in speakers and workshops, feedback (yes I said it, even the feedback), and all around genuine camaraderie is what makes this event such a great success. So this year folks it's all about YOU!

We look forward to seeing each of you in September. My best to all, take care and be safe.

Michelle Watson,
Vice President

**Please see next page for the Request for Proposal
For the 2008 Criminal Justice Conference!**

Request for Proposal for 2008 Criminal Justice Conference

Conference Tracks:

1. Professional Development 2. Health & Wellness 3. Leadership 4. Personal Development
5. Correctional Programs & Issues

Title of Proposed Presentation: _____

Conference Track Designation: (See 1-5 above) _____

Speaker's name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: Work: _____ Home: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Organization: _____ Position/Title: _____

Description of Presentation: _____

IT Needs: _____

Please send all request for proposals to: mrwatson@DOC1.wa.gov

You may contact direct if needed at: Michelle Watson 360-725-8848

One Paragraph Biography:



National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCJ) News

The Washington State NABCJ chapter adopted the Dr. Maxine Mimms Academy for expelled or suspended students in September of 2007. The partnership is slated to provide mentors for the students and to present the Pen or Pencil workshop. The chapter applied and received a grant from the National Alliance of Faith and Justice (NAFJ) to start the Pen or Pencil program.

They have also signed up with the "Gear Up" program. "Gear Up" is a federally funded college readiness project, which is designed to prepare low-income children for college. The project has operated in Lakewood, Washington's Clover Park School District. NABCJ will be partnering with "Gear Up" to assist the program with following entire cohorts of grade levels beginning with the 6th and 7th grade until they graduate from high school. Potential contributions include workshops, speakers, mentoring, tutoring, summer programs, financial aid and academic skill development; this new project will start September 2008.

The chapter members, under the leadership of Earl Wright and Donte Harper, have developed a "Leadership Development Training Series." The concept was piloted in 2006 and was presented formally in June of 2007. The Leadership Development Training series, "Stepping into Tomorrow," was conducted in three six-hour, two-topic sessions. It was designed to introduce participants to critical leadership competencies, expand their knowledge, and help them develop skills needed to lead effectively and successfully, both today and in the future. The workshops were presented to 12 potential leaders from the community and other state agencies. NABCJ will be recruiting participants for the June 2008 series. Applicants must have knowledge of the business world and be ethically grounded. Applicants must submit a resume that describes their current responsibilities and a statement of their need for this program, and are required commit to completing the series once they begin. The series affords many opportunities that can better prepare attendees to become more successful in the workplace and in general. It can help them to reach leadership goals and beyond.

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER'S CREED

To speak sparingly ... To act not to argue ...
To be in authority through personal presence ...
To correct without nagging ... To speak with the calm
voice of certainty ...
To see everything, know what is significant and what
not to notice ...
To be neither insensitive to distress nor so distracted
by pity
As to miss what must elsewhere be seen...
To do neither that which is unkind nor self-indulgent
in its misplaced charity ... Never to obey the impulse
or to tongue lash that silent insolence,
Which in times past could receive the lash ...
To be both firm and fair ...
To know I cannot be fair simply by being firm, nor firm
simply by being fair... To support the reputations of
associates and confront them without anger, Should they
stand short of professional conduct ...
To reach for knowledge of the continuing mysteries of
human motivation ...
To think; Always to think ... To be dependable ...
To be dependable first to my charges and associates,
And thereafter to my duty as employee and citizen ...
To keep fit ... To keep forever alert ...
To listen to what is meant as well as what is said with
words and with silences...
To expect respect from my charges and my superiors,
Yet never to abuse the one for abuses from the other
...
For eight hours each working day to be an example of
the person
I could be at all times ...
To acquiesce in no dishonest act...
To cultivate patience under boredom and calm during
confusion ...
To understand the why of every order I take or give...
To hold freedom among the highest values though I deny
it to those I guard ... To deny it with dignity in my
example
They find not reason to lose their dignity...
To be prompt ...
To be honest with all who practice deceit

That they not find in me excuse for themselves ...
To privately face down my fear that I not signal it ...
To privately cool my anger that I not displace it on
others ...

To hold in confidence what I see and hear
Which by the telling could harm or humiliate to no good
purpose ...

To keep my outside problems outside ...
To leave inside that which should stay inside ...

To do my duty.

~ Bob Barrington ~

**CALLING ALL POLICE, FIRE
& CORRECTIONS OFFICERS:
MAKE PLANS TO COMPETE!**

The poster features a central five-pointed star with a red and blue flame-like shape inside. The word '2008' is arched above the star. 'Western States' is written in red above the star, and 'Police Fire' is written in blue on either side. Below the star, 'Games' is written in a red script font, and 'IDAHO' is in a bold black font. The background shows a woman on the left holding a mallet, a firefighter on the right, and a cityscape at the bottom. The dates 'AUGUST 16-23 2008' are in large red letters. At the bottom, a blue banner says '62 Events at 53 Venues • Something For Everyone!' and a red banner contains the website 'www.2008WSPFG.org' in white.

2008
Western States
Police Fire
Games
IDAHO

**AUGUST
16-23 2008**

62 Events at 53 Venues • Something For Everyone!

www.2008WSPFG.org

To All Law Enforcement, Fire Fighters and Corrections Officers!

You are invited to compete in the 2008 Western States Police Fire Games
(formerly known as the California Police Fire Games)

August 16-23, 2008 in Boise Idaho

Website: www.2008wspfg.org

The Western States Police and Fire Games (WSPFG) is a multi-sport Olympic style athletic program, held annually, to promote physical and mental well being of professionals in police and fire services, and to provide a competitive and social environment to encourage and pay homage to the camaraderie among these men and women, through sports. Please be sure to check out the webpage for more information!

2008 Legislative Summary

Since the 2008 legislature adjourned on March 13th, the Governor has signed these significant bills...

Sentencing Reform Act (SRA) Re-organization (HB 2719) - The changes are intended to simplify the supervision provisions of the SRA and to increase the uniformity of its application and does not increase or decrease the authority of the sentencing courts or DOC. This bill reorganizes sections of the SRA to group similar requirements together, and removes legislation that does not apply to current sentencing and deposits it in a new chapter.

Criminal History (HB 2719) - This legislation enacts new provisions to allow prior convictions that were not included in criminal history to be included upon any re-sentencing.

3-Strike Offenses (SSB 6184) - This legislation amends the statute that defines which offenses count as a "strike" in the 3-strike sentencing provision. It requires any out-of-state conviction for a felony committed with sexual motivation and where the minimum sentence was 10 years or more, to be included as a 3-strike offense.

Housing of Offenders (SHB 6244) - This legislation requires DOC to analyze the capacity needed to confine offenders who violate community supervision and make recommendations for future capacity. The Department shall report the results of its analysis to the Governor and the appropriate committees of the legislature by November 15, 2008.

Criminal Street Gangs (E2SHB 2712) - There were several components to this legislation including:

- o directs the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) to establish a grant program for local law enforcement agencies to help with local gang enforcement
- o provided grant funding for graffiti and tagging abatement programs
- o WASPC shall work with the Washington State patrol to coordinate, designate, and recommend the use of a statewide gang database. DOC will have access to the information in the database
- o increased penalties for adult offenders who recruit juveniles in any street gang-related felony offense
- o new aggravating exceptional sentence factor added when the offense benefits a gang
- o requires community custody for the offense of unlawful possession of a firearm if the offender is a criminal street gang associate or member
- o requires DOC to conduct a study by January 1, 2009 on the best practices to reduce gang involvement among offenders while incarcerated

Leave Sharing for Victims (SSB 6500) - An agency head may permit an employee to receive leave under the Shared Leave Program if the employee is a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Military Personnel Leave (SB 6447) - This bill allows the spouse of a member of the military US armed forces, national guard, or reserves up to fifteen days unpaid leave by their employer when their military spouse is on leave from deployment during a period of military conflict.

Incarcerated Persons (SSB 6400) - Requires DOC to establish an oversight committee to develop a comprehensive interagency plan to provide voluntary, non-denominational moral and character-building services and supports for offenders who are incarcerated in prison. The plan is to be developed by June 30, 2010, with an interim report by January 1, 2009 to the appropriate legislative committees.

Failure To register (2SHB 2714) - Makes failure to register as a sex or kidnapping offender a class B felony, and amends RCW 13.40.0357 which adds rules for the registration of juveniles.

WCA Board Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2008

Present: Rich La Rosa, Michelle Watson, Bill Brown, Peria Duncan, Bill Frank, Frank Feeley, Dean Mason, Mark Kucza, Hisami Yoshida, Anthony Shaver, Wanda McRae

Minutes: Reviewed. Motion made by Bill B; seconded by Bill F. Approved.

2007 Conference Update: Figures almost finalized. We are still waiting on a check from the conference that would pay off WCA's part of the profits.

2008 Conference Update: The save the date flyers and RFP's were sent out to DOC, JRA, Juvenile Courts, Jails, Wash State Patrol, ITT-Tech, & EWU. Planning is well under way. The Quinalt Tribe will be donating bags with fun books and shuttle service. The Conference will provide attendees with a padfolio. Some steering committee members will visit the Ocean Shores area to meet with the hotels soon, and draft flyers for vendors and registrations should be going out in April. A number of RFP's have been received already. Ideas were discussed regarding community outreach, a tour of Stafford Creek, working with local Tribes and interest that has been generated in the conference so far.

2009 Conference: The contract was signed with the Marcus Whitman Hotel and they have honored the per diem that far in advance. No further action at this time.

Website Update: Michelle found a "webmaster" to update the site, which has been updated and is looking good! Michelle and Peria have been editing for content accuracy. Future entries and site updates should be batched to a minimum of one hour's worth of time. Cost for updating should be \$40-\$80 on a quarterly basis. We may have a couple of vendors interested in placing ads on the site. Discussion took place how this could be a needed revenue generator as were other revenue generating ideas. Another idea was to have a site counter to show the number of visits to the site. "Connections" will go online here as opposed to hard copies. Notice was given on the last issue.

Budget: We are still pending the final check from the conference, which would really help with the bills right now, which includes the bill for updating the website. Cash flow is a concern right now, and further discussion was held regarding revenue generating ideas, savings, and the possible need to sell stocks or cd's. Reimbursement for travel is important to ensure appropriate Board representation. Karen Larue Johnson has agreed to be the NE Regional Co-Chair as long as she can be reimbursed for travel from the region. This is an appointed position, and does not have to be voted on.

It was further discussed that we are still having problems with ACA regarding membership. There have been personnel changes, and the count is not accurate and doesn't reflect newcomers gained at the 2007 Conference. We are also not receiving timely rebates.

Rich will contact ACA HQ to try and resolve this.

Dean will call Wisconsin and see how they have been handling their successful membership increase.

Bill B will talk to the bank about options on our current investments.

Order Blank for Book: It was agreed that a page could be added to our website for an order blank for the book "The Quiet Service."

Bi-Laws: Discussion was held over proposed changes and editorial updates. Any further change recommendations should be sent to Bill F. It was decided that MOU's would be drafted by Dean to clarify the Bi-Laws on honoring representatives on the boards with other agencies and entities. "Governing bodies may also include representatives from other professional organizations through MOU's or mutual agreements." The rep can be the same for both organizations as mutually agreed upon. The motion was made by Michelle to get the MOU's in place, but not have them take effect until the membership votes on them this year at the conference. Peria and Hisami simultaneously seconded the motion. Bill F will research if "J" in the bi-laws is an ACA mandate.

Membership:

Dean will establish the list and work with Peria to get it current, including email address updates. This will need to be monitored to maintain currency.

The website address will be included on future WCA mailings.

Rich will talk to ACA HQ about membership issues. We have not been getting the necessary membership reports from them.

Discussion was held over need to increase member benefits, the advantages and disadvantages of dual membership and the need to get rid of out of date brochures. There was also discussion on where best for new members to register, via ACA directly, or at the local level.

Legislative Update: Frank handed out info on pertinent legislative bills. At this time, no more bills can be submitted for this session, and there will be no special session due to it being an election year. Frank will research what DOC was sponsoring and let us know.

Reports:

NABCJ: Wanda reported that NABCJ adopted a school to do pre-entry work (mentoring & tutoring youth while they are suspended) in Tacoma. They may expand this to other parts of the state in the future. They also plan to do a "Leadership Forum" in March/ April, which will be a six week session of workshops that is free and open to anyone, and has a variety of instructors. Rich suggested Wanda write an article for "Connections" about this wonderful endeavor.

WCJ: Hisami reported that they completed the paperwork and is also working on their brochure and by-laws. WCJ will handle food and after hours events at the 2008 Conference.

WeCA: Hisami reported that they have not met since last time WCA met, but they have a scheduled meeting in April, and she will bring back a report from that. In August, they will hold their conference in Tucson on the 26th-28th.

Nominations/Elections: Rich will contact Kelly K to see if she is still interested in maintaining this position. If not, we will need to look at someone else filling this role.

Regional Co-Chair Reports:

NW: James had requested and was granted leave for the meeting when it was scheduled for the 11th and was unable to attend with this date change.

SW: Anthony's first report out, and discussion was held regarding what co-chair duties are, and ideas for events. He is also trying to find a co-chair to work with him.

SE: Nothing planned at this time, but a membership drive is one thought being considered once things settle down in that area. Mark suggested that we re-implement the past practice of attending CO graduations to present the benefits of belonging to a professional organization, and possibly giving away a WCA membership. Peria suggested doing it when time and cost allows keeps us in the forefront of potential members. It was decided to do these as regional events, and since Walla Walla holds their own academies, this is easily doable in the SE Region. Co-Chairs should coordinate with Bill B for funding on this. The sponsoring Co-Chairs can determine the criteria for awarding the membership.

NE/Central: Both vacant at this time.

Closing: The next meeting will be held on June 13th, 2008 in Ocean Shores. This will take place from 10-3, and the exact location is TBD, and will be shared when the agenda is emailed out. Meeting adjourned at 3 pm.

2008 - 2010
WCA BOARD MEMBERS



President

Richard LaRosa
(360) 493-9275, (360) 493-9287 (Fax)
rplarosa@doc1.wa.gov

President Elect

Tracy Grunenfelder
(360) 407-0174, (360) 407-0182 (Fax)
(360) 507-2618 (Cell)
tlgrunenfelder@doc1.wa.gov

Vice President

Michelle Watson
(360) 725-8848, (360) 586-4469 (Fax)
(360) 239-7374 (Cell)
mrwatson@DOC1.wa.gov

Secretary

Peria Duncan
(509) 363-4669, (509) 363-4684 (Fax)
(509) 981-3048 (Cell)
duncapm@dshs.wa.gov

Treasurer

William Brown
(360) 486-2229, (360) 407-0844 (Fax)
(360) 491-9343 (Cell)
wfbrown@doc1.wa.gov

Northwest Region Co-Chair

James Malcolm
(360) 424-7469, (360) 661-3980 (Cell)
(425) 238-0642 (Work Cell)
jsmalcolm@comcast.net

Northwest Region Co-Chair

Vacant

Southwest Region Co-Chair

Anthony Shaver
(360) 571-4326, (360) 576-6007 (Fax)
(360) 910-0971 (Cell)
atshaver@doc1.wa.gov

Southwest Region Co-Chair

Vacant

Central Region Co-Chair

Vacant

Central Region Co-Chair

Vacant

Northeast Region Co-Chair

Karin Johnson
(509) 324-8395
kljohnson1@doc1.wa.gov

Northeast Region Co-Chair

Vacant

Southeast Region Co-Chair

Kevin Loesch
(509) 234-5286, (509) 727-2541 (Cell)
krlloesch@doc1.wa.gov

Southeast Region Co-Chair

Mark Kucza
(509) 526-6462, (509) 526-6453 (Fax)
(509) 956-6112 (Cell)
makucza@doc1.wa.gov

Public Relations Chair

Jeneva Cotton
(253) 983-7169
jmcotton@doc1.wa.gov

Membership Co-chair

Pamela Maddress
(253) 310-7418 (Cell)
pmaddress@comcast.net

Membership Co-Chair

Dean Mason
(360) 486-2432, (360) 486-2381 (Fax)
(360) 280-1759 (Cell)
dmason@cjtc.state.wa.us

Resolutions Chair

Bill Frank
(253)-983-7134
wcf Frank@doc1.wa.gov

Nominations & Elections Chair

Kelly Kelly
(253) 858-4689, (253) 858-4685 (Fax)
kmkelly@doc1.wa.gov

Conference & Training Chair

Richard Sande
(360) 870-4886
rkconsultants@comcast.net

Finance & Budget Chair

Vacant

Legislative Chair

Frank Feeley, Ph.D.
(360) 537-2094, (360) 537-2075 (Fax)
fafeeley@doc1.wa.gov

WCJ Chair

Belinda D. Stewart
(360) 725-8821
bdstewart@doc1.wa.gov

NABCJ Chair

Wanda McRae
(360) 277-2401
wpmcrae@doc1.wa.gov

ACA Representative

Richard LaRosa
(360) 493-9275, (360) 493-9287 (Fax)
(360) 438-8851 (Home)
rplarosa@doc1.wa.gov

**Western Correctional Association
Representative**

Hisami Yoshida
(360) 753-7278 *301, (360) 586-0095 (Fax)
(360) 870-7810 (Cell)
hyoshida@doc1.wa.gov

Jail Industries Board Representative

Chief Ned Newlin
(360) 337-7003, (360) 337-5780
(360) 340-3106 (Cell)
NNNewlin@co.kitsap.wa.us

**Criminal Justice Training Center
Representative**

Susan Hubbard
(206) 835-7306 (206) 835-7922 (Fax)
(206) 423-7230 (Cell)
shubbard@cjtc.state.wa.us

