



**STATE OF NEW YORK**  
**DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES**  
**OFFICE OF PROBATION AND CORRECTIONAL ALTERNATIVES**  
80 Wolf Road  
Albany, New York 12205  
<http://criminaljustice.state.ny.us>

**SEAN M. BYRNE**  
ACTING COMMISSIONER

**ROBERT M. MACCARONE**  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER  
AND DIRECTOR  
(518) 485-7692  
(518) 485-5140 FAX

July 22, 2010

Honorable Roy Brown  
Chairman, Columbia County Legislature  
401 State Street  
Hudson, New York 12534

Dear Chairman Brown:

On November 18, 2009, Governor David A. Paterson signed into law the Child Passenger Protection Act or Chapter 496 of the Laws of 2009, referred to as "Leandra's Law". As you are aware, this important new law will help reduce drunken driving in New York State and promote traffic and community safety. "Leandra's Law" charged the NYS Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives with the responsibility to promulgate regulations governing the monitoring of compliance by persons ordered to install and maintain ignition interlock devices on vehicles they own or operate. These regulations were promulgated as emergency regulations on April 23, 2010. Section 358.4 of these regulations requires that every County establish an ignition interlock program plan with respect to usage of ignition interlock devices and monitoring the compliance of an operator subject to installation of an ignition interlock device as directed by the sentencing court.

In order to facilitate this process, the Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (OPCA) prepared a simple plan document, which was largely prescriptive in format to ease preparation and submission. OPCA has received your plan and very much appreciates its timely submission. We have carefully reviewed and hereby approve your plan. I would like to take this opportunity to compliment you on its thoroughness, the extensive level of cooperation you received in its preparation, and the incorporation of forms into the plan. Your plan indicates that Columbia County will be well-positioned to implement the new law on August 15, 2010.

I would like to take this opportunity to make a few observations regarding the new statewide ignition interlock initiative and the newly promulgated regulations. In the process of crafting the new regulations the workgroup learned that first time offenders have a relatively low recidivism rate and are not likely to need the higher levels of technology and scrutiny offered by Class III devices. Additionally, there was a lot of feedback from counties concerning the cost of the devices and what they perceived would be high rates of "unaffordability". Given these factors the workgroup crafted regulations that allow for different levels of devices with different levels

of costs so that monitors can match risk with appropriate devices. Higher risk cases can receive higher Class devices and lower risk cases can receive lower Class devices. The selection of all Class III devices for both probation and conditional discharge cases could inflate the cost to operators and increase the number of waivers granted by the court due to the increased cost of the devices, without providing the commensurate increase in public safety. As counties move forward with the implementation of the interlock initiative, OPCA recommends that the monitors of both the probation and conditional discharge cases be allowed the flexibility to choose the Class of device for each operator so they can align the risk of the operator with the appropriate level of device.

OPCA looks forward to our continued work together as we implement this new public safety measure. Should you have any questions please feel free to call or e-mail Walter Cogswell at 518-485-5168 or [Walter.Cogswell@dpc.state.ny.us](mailto:Walter.Cogswell@dpc.state.ny.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert M. Maccarone".

Robert M. Maccarone  
Deputy Commissioner and Director

c Michael Benvenuto, Probation Director



**New York State**  
**Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (DPCA)**

# **IGNITION INTERLOCK PROGRAM PLAN**

**DAVID A. PATERSON**  
**GOVERNOR**



**ROBERT MACCARONE**  
**STATE DIRECTOR**



**COLUMBIA COUNTY IGNITION INTERLOCK PROGRAM PLAN**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** In accordance with New York State Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (DPCA) Rules and Regulations 9 NYCRR Section 358.4, every county, and the City of New York, shall establish an ignition interlock program plan with respect to the usage of ignition interlock devices and monitoring compliance of any operator subject to the condition of an ignition interlock device as directed by a sentencing court. Such plan shall be approved, as applicable, by the county executive, county administrator, etc., and in cities with a population of one million or more, the mayor, and become effective on or before August 15, 2010. **The plan shall be filed with DPCA no later than June 15, 2010.** Where a plan has been amended by the county/city, it shall be promptly filed with DPCA in advance of its new effective date. Please complete all portions of the attached plan and return **no later than June 15, 2010** to:

**Walter Cogswell  
Community Corrections Representative III  
NYS Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives  
80 Wolf Road – Suite 501  
Albany, New York 12205**

**Or E-Mail**  
[Applications2010@dpca.state.ny.us](mailto:Applications2010@dpca.state.ny.us)

NOTE: This plan form has been prepared so that you may check appropriate boxes and type responses into expanding text boxes.

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Plan prepared by:  
Name: MICHAEL BENVENUTO  
Title: PROBATION DIRECTOR  
Phone Number: 518 828-4126  
E-Mail: mbenvenuto@govt.co.columbia.ny.us  
Address: Street:610 STATE STREET  
City: HUDSON, NY  
Zip Code: 12534

Questions about plan should be directed to:

Same as above  
Or

Name  
Phone  
E-Mail

1. Every county/city shall develop a plan in consultation with the county/city’s probation director, district attorney, and in New York City the district attorney from each of the five boroughs, sheriff or Police Commissioner where applicable, STOP–DWI Coordinator, a representative of its drinking driver program where applicable and where more than one program exists in the county, a representative designated by the county executive, a superior and local criminal court judge designated by the administrative judge for the county, and in New York City a superior and local criminal court judge designated by the deputy chief administrative judge, a representative of an agency providing legal services to those unable to afford counsel in criminal cases designated by the county executive. A county/city may consult with other persons or entities as the county executive deems appropriate with respect to development of its plan. Indicate those consulted in the preparation of this plan. Check all that apply:

- District Attorney and in NYC the District Attorney from each of the five boroughs
- Drinking Driver Program Representative
- Local Criminal Court Judge
- Police Commissioner (Specify Department )
- Probation Director
- Representative of Legal Services for Indigent
- Sheriff
- STOP-DWI Coordinator
- Superior Court Judge
- Other (Specify CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS- ROY BROWN)
- Other (Specify )

2. Every plan shall specify monitoring by the probation department where the operator is subject to a period of probation supervision.

- The Probation Department is designated as the monitor where the operator is subject to a period of probation.

3. Every plan shall specify the persons or entities responsible for monitoring where an ignition interlock device has been imposed pursuant to a conditional discharge. The following are designated to monitor conditional discharge cases:

- District Attorney
- Drinking Driver Program
- Police Commissioner (Specify Department )
- Probation
- Sheriff
- STOP-DWI Coordinator
- TASC
- Traffic Safety Board Representative
- Other Agency or Organization\* (Specify: )

\*Must be similar individual, agency or organization; cannot be a qualified manufacturer and/or installation/service provider.

Comments: (Provide any additional comments, if any, regarding the monitoring of conditional discharge cases here)

Provide contact information for your designated monitors: (attach additional pages if necessary)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Department/Agency: Columbia County<br>Probation Department<br>Contact Name: Michael Benvenuto, Director<br>Phone Number: 518 828-4126<br>E-Mail: mbenvenuto@govt.co.columbia.ny.us<br>Address: Street:610 State Street<br>City: Hudson, NY<br>Zip Code: 12534 | Department/Agency:<br>Contact Name:<br>Phone Number:<br>E-Mail:<br>Address: Street:<br>City:<br>Zip Code: |
| Department/Agency:<br>Contact Name:<br>Phone Number:<br>E-Mail:<br>Address: Street:<br>City:<br>Zip Code:   | Department/Agency:<br>Contact Name:<br>Phone Number:<br>E-Mail:<br>Address: Street:<br>City:<br>Zip Code: |

4. Every plan shall establish that where an operator is under probation supervision, the department selects the specific class and features of the interlock device from a qualified manufacturer in its region. The operator may select the model of the ignition interlock device, meeting the specific class and features selected by the probation department from a qualified manufacturer in the operator's region of residence.

This plan establishes that where an operator is under probation supervision, the department selects the specific class and features of the interlock device from a qualified manufacturer in its region. The operator may select the model of the ignition interlock device, meeting the specific class and features selected by the probation department from a qualified manufacturer in the operator's region of residence.

5. Every plan shall establish that where an operator has received a sentence of conditional discharge, the monitor shall select the class of ignition interlock device available from a qualified manufacturer in its region for any such operator. The operator may select the model of the ignition interlock device from within the class designated by the monitor from a qualified manufacturer in the operator's region of residence.

This plan establishes that where an operator has received a sentence of conditional discharge, the monitor shall select the class of ignition interlock device available from a qualified

manufacturer in its region for any such operator. The operator may select the model of the ignition interlock device from within the class designated by the monitor from a qualified manufacturer in the operator's region of residence.

6. In the event more than one qualified manufacturer does business within its region, the county/city shall establish an equitable procedure for manufacturers to provide ignition interlock devices without costs where an operator has been determined financially unable to afford the costs and has received a waiver (waiver cases) from the sentencing court. The equitable procedure should be based upon the proportion of ignition interlock devices paid to each qualified manufacturer by operators in the county/city.

Describe the procedure that the county/city will utilize to ensure the equitable distribution of waiver cases among manufacturers operating in the county/city. This will require coordination between the courts and monitors. The designated "monitor" for probation and CD cases will track a running percentage of paid devices provided by each eligible manufacturer doing business in the county and will allot "waiver cases" based upon those percentages, (i.e. manufacturer "A" provides 50% of paid devices then manufacturer "A" will be allotted 50% of waiver cases).

7. Every plan shall establish a distribution formula for any available funding earmarked for probation supervision and/or monitoring purposes associated with 9 NYCRR Part 358 (Handling of Ignition Interlock Cases Involving Certain Criminal Offenders).

Describe the distribution formula that the county/city will utilize for any funding specifically provided for probation supervision and/or monitoring purposes associated with DPCA Rules and Regulations 9 NYCRR Part 358. Counties may choose to distribute funds according to the percentage of cases handled by each monitoring entity. Any funding made available by the State for monitoring purposes associated with DPCA Rules and Regs 9 NYCRR Part 358 will be distributed equally to any monitors designated by the County of Columbia pursuant to this plan.

Provide contact information for fiscal officer:

Name: KENNETH WILBER

Title: TREASURER

Phone Number: 518 828-0513

E-Mail: treasurer@govt.co.columbia.ny.us

Address: Street: PO BOX 574

City: HUDSON, NY

Zip Code: 12534

8. Every plan shall establish a procedure whereby the probation department and any other monitor will be notified no later than five (5) business days from the date an ignition interlock condition is imposed by the sentencing court, any waiver of the cost of the device granted by the sentencing court, and of any intrastate transfer of probation or interstate transfer of any case

which either has responsibility to monitor. Such procedure shall also establish a mechanism for advance notification as to date of release where local or state imprisonment is imposed.

a. Describe the procedure the county/city will utilize to ensure the probation department and any other monitor will be notified of the ignition interlock condition no later than five (5) business days from the date an ignition interlock condition is imposed by the sentencing court. The sentencing court will, as soon as possible after issuing a MONITOR NOTIFICATION OF IGNITION INTERLOCK ORDER, e-mail or fax said Order to the appropriate monitor and subsequently mail the hardcopy of said order to the monitor. In all cases the sentencing court MUST provide said Order to the monitor(s) within five (5) business days of the issuance of the Order.

b. Describe the procedure the county/city will utilize to ensure the probation department and any other monitor will be notified no later than five (5) business days from the date an ignition interlock condition is imposed by the sentencing court of any waiver of the cost of the device granted by the sentencing court. Since the MONITOR NOTIFICATION OF IGNITION INTERLOCK ORDER will be used to designate any waiver granted by the sentencing court, the same procedure for notification will apply as indicated in "a" above.

c. Describe the procedure the county/city will utilize to ensure the probation department and any other monitor will be notified no later than five (5) business days from the date an ignition interlock condition is imposed by the sentencing court of any intrastate transfer of probation or interstate transfer of any case which either has responsibility to monitor. Conditional Discharge cases do not qualify for intrastate or interstate transfer, therefore the sentencing court will notify the Probation Department as soon as possible (no later than five (5) business days) of any ignition interlock probation condition cases that have been identified as potential intrastate or interstate transfers. The official signed MONITOR NOTIFICATION OF IGNITION INTERLOCK ORDER and applicable adult conditions of probation involving potential transfers MUST be provided to the Probation Department within five (5) business days of the issuance of the Order. Transfers must not be initiated by the sentencing court unless they meet the requirements of the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision and DPCA Rules and Regulations 9 Part 349 of NYCRR- Interstate and intrastate transfer of probation supervision for adults and juveniles.

d. Describe the procedure the county/city will utilize for advance notification as to date of release where local or state imprisonment is imposed. Jurisdictions may wish to utilize the VINE network. Anyone sentenced to imprisonment should be supervised by NYS Parole upon their release and not probation, however, this law does not allow for that logical option. Therefore, anyone sentenced to imprisonment with NYSDOCS and a period of probation or conditional discharge will be tracked by the Columbia County Probation Department for release date by the VINE network and/or NYSDOCS website in order to enforce the ignition interlock portion of their sentence upon their release. In regards to those defendants sentenced to local incarceration the monitor(s) will utilize either the VINE network or the Columbia County Sheriff's Department/Jail case management program for notification of release of defendants from local incarceration.

9. Every plan shall establish a procedure governing failure report recipients, including method and timeframe with respect to specific notification and circumstances. Failure report recipients are all persons or entities required to receive a report from the monitor of an operator's failed tasks or failed tests pursuant to a county/city's plan which may include, but is not limited to the sentencing court, district attorney, operator's alcohol treatment provider, and the drinking driver program, where applicable. At a minimum, the procedure shall be consistent with the provisions of DPCA Rules and Regulations Section 358.7(d) with respect to sentencing court and district attorney notification of specific failed tasks and failed tests reports.

Describe the county/city plan to report operator's failed tasks or failed tests to failure report recipients. Identify report recipients, method of reporting, events to be reported, and reporting time frames. In regards probation cases who reportedly fail tasks and tests, the Probation Department will follow DPCA Rules and Regulations Part 352 pursuant to Violations of Probation. In regards to Conditional Discharges cases the monitor will report in accordance with the IGNITION INTERLOCK NOTIFICATION TO COURT AND DISTRICT ATTORNEY form, including the failed tasks and tests and conditions as indicated on said form. SENTENCING COURT AND DISTRICT ATTORNEY ARE TO BE NOTIFIED WITHIN 3 BUSINESS DAYS OF ALLEGED VIOLATION(S) BECOMING KNOWN.

#### Acknowledgement

This Ignition Interlock Program Plan has been developed in accordance with NYS Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives Rules and Regulations Part 358.

County Executive Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title of County Executive: Chairperson, Board of Supervisors  
Date