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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**State Director Of Probation and Correctional Alternatives Will Recognize Two Outstanding  
Service and Collaboration Awards  
At NYS Probation Officers Association 2009 Albany Conference**

Albany, New York– Robert M. Maccarone, State Director of the Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (DPCA), will present the 2009 “Outstanding Service by a Probation Officer Award” and “Outstanding Collaboration Between Probation and Social Services Award” at this year’s NYS Probation Officers Association Conference Awards Luncheon to be held on Thursday, August 13, 2009 at the Crowne Plaza in downtown Albany.

This year, Cattaraugus County Probation Officer Nila M. McIntyre will receive Probation Officer of the Year. Additionally, Steuben County Probation Supervisor Cheryl Crocker and Steuben County Department of Social Services (DSS) Supervisors Joanne Woodard and Jason McLoud have been selected to receive a special award that recognizes outstanding collaboration between probation and social services in improving the lives of children and families.

The award for “Outstanding Service by a Probation Officer of the Year” is annually presented by DPCA in recognition of exceptional service, dedication and professionalism performed by a probation officer, who has significantly contributed to the field of community corrections and strengthened its role within the criminal justice and/or juvenile justice system. For the third year, the State Director will

recognize the outstanding work of probation and social services professionals working together as a team and award them the aforementioned Probation/Social Services Collaborative Award.

State Director Maccarone stated that “Nila McIntyre is a 22 year probation veteran of the Cattaraugus County Probation Department and has a remarkable record in making a significant difference in the lives of probationers who she has had under supervision and in strengthening community corrections at the state and local level. Ms. McIntyre is deeply committed to achieving offender success and accountability and has embraced evidence-based practices to improve service delivery. She has established effective teamwork strategies and ongoing working relationships with her national, state, and local law enforcement members and other community partners within the justice system, including the U.S. Marshall’s office, Division of State Police, Division of Parole, prosecution, local police, Department of Social Services, treatment agencies, and with the judiciary to help ensure appropriate intervention and prevention services are instituted consistent with public safety. The range of her activities, her enthusiasm and perseverance, collaborative spirit and the admiration and extraordinary respect she has earned as an individual probation officer in her probation career is impressive. Her sensitivity and energy in combating addiction, monitoring treatment, facilitating Thinking for a Change training to improve service delivery, and on numerous other public and staff safety initiatives has been well recognized and deserve special accolades.”

Cattaraugus County Probation Director Gerald Zimmerman echoed these sentiments and reflected that “This relationship often results in immediate placement when needed”, and has helped “build bridges” which ensure “referral to appropriate level of care” and “results in doorstep to doorstep continuity of treatment for offenders, enhancing their chances of establishing and maintaining functional recovery and abstinence.” Mr. Zimmerman in his nomination of Ms. McIntyre further praised her involvement with the Cattaraugus County Drug Court, her compassion with probationers and relayed several examples of positive offender changes. He further shared that Ms. McIntyre has gained widespread admiration and respect among her professional colleagues as a consummate advocate and driving force within the justice system in Cattaraugus County. Evidence of her status is shown through her having been a past recipient of the Cattaraugus County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Promoter of Treatment Awareness Award. Cattaraugus County District Attorney Edward M. Sharkey noted in his endorsement of Ms. McIntyre’s nomination that she “has continued to demonstrate

exceptional service, dedication and professionalism and an uncanny ability to select those who would benefit from supervision and treatment outside the confines of incarceration. Mr. Sharkey further observed that “Nila’s efforts have helped reduce recidivism and have improved the lives of the individuals involved and made the community a much better and safer place.” Additionally, Cattaraugus County Court Judge, Michael I. Nenno also endorsed her nomination and relayed that he has “often heard her praised by her clients” and while she “has been tireless in ...making sure that her clients hold up their part of the probation bargain”, he stated that “I am unaware of a probation officer who has worked harder or has gone the extra mile for her probationers. ”Cattaraugus County Court Judge Larry M. Himelein also supported her nomination and remarked that “there are lives that have been turned around because of Nila’s persistence.” Judicial Hearing Officer Paul B. Kelly in his endorsement of her nomination stated that “I have continued to watch and wonder at the depth and perception of this wonderful woman in her effort to save human beings in her care.” Cattaraugus County Sheriff Dennis B. John reported that “she was very instrumental with aiding our office with a U.S. Marshall Warrant detail entitled ‘Operation Falcon’ “and that her involvement was “one of the reasons” of its success in their area.

In presenting the Probation/Social Services Collaborative Award, State Director Maccarone reflected that “It is vital to the justice system and to families across the state that there exist strong ties between probation and social services as successful partnerships can benefit children, families and taxpayers. The exceptionally close relationship between Steuben County Probation Department Family Court Unit and the Steuben County Department of Social Services Prevention Unit has helped to timely assess the risks and needs of youth and adults who are involved in the justice system and in context with their families in an effort to improve outcomes of youth and families and provide appropriate services to keep the family intact. This exceptional bond which Cheryl Crocker, Joanne Woodard, and Jason McLoud have formed has significantly strengthened service delivery in Steuben County and created lasting partnerships to guarantee wrap around services to alleged and adjudicated Persons in Need Of Supervision, Juvenile Delinquents, and to better ensure responsible parenting and the best interests of children are safeguarded. Additionally, it has led to timely preventive services and treatment referrals and ongoing monitoring, including Anger Management programs for adolescents, and a mediation program for youth and their parents. Such efforts have immeasurably influenced and lessened the unnecessary reliance on out-of home placement and lowered the risk of a child coming

into care or a parent losing custody of their child thus benefitting youth and their families as well as achieving significant cost savings.”

Steuben County Commissioner Kathryn Muller who nominated all three praised their “dedication to working with other community agencies” including schools and their impressive record in reducing out-of-home placement of youth, and especially in addressing the needs of youth with substance abuse problems. Commissioner Muller relayed several examples of innovative programming initiatives and events such as a Summer Learning Experience program, In Home Supervision Program, and volunteer projects with the goal of serving youth. She concluded that “They balance their roles with flexibility and creativity, yet offer the structure necessary in serving these youth. They represent the County, the youth and families, the Court and the taxpayers with pride and diligence. They act without hesitation and are an asset to Steuben County. “

In presenting these prestigious awards, State Director Robert MacCarone said, “The exceptional accomplishments of Cattaraugus County Probation Officer Nila McIntyre, Steuben County Probation Supervisor Cheryl Crocker, and Steuben County DSS Supervisors Joanne Woodard and Jason McLoud deserve utmost praise and recognition. They are not only a force of positive change within their individual communities but are examples of dedicated public servants and advocates, who strive to improve the lives of those they touch and assist at-risk youth and young and adult offenders to achieve law-abiding behavior and take responsibility for their actions. Through leadership, team work, and effective case management strategies, they embrace the spirit of cooperation and implement collaborative approaches to reduce recidivism, prevent victimization and protect our communities. Their efforts help avoid unnecessary and costly use of detention, out-of-home placement, and local and state incarceration. All are exemplary role models – strong advocates and champions of community justice and safety. “

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