



Maryland
Criminal
Justice
Association

THE NEXUS

President's Message

Melinda C. Grenier



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MCJA fosters professionalism and provides opportunities for career development within the field of Criminal Justice

I wish to begin by expressing my sincere appreciation to the Board for the enormous amount of voluntary time and effort expended on behalf of our association. MCJA accomplished a great deal in 2014. In April, we were pleased to see a significant number of participants take advantage of the MCJA scholarships offered for the Spring conference. In August, MCJA received the Blanche La Du Award at the ACA's 144th Congress in Salt Lake City for the most significantly increased membership numbers. In October, the Fall conference in Ocean City, MD experienced a record attendance and our new website and Facebook page were unveiled.

Preparations are currently underway to provide yet another excellent training opportunity during our upcoming Spring and Fall conferences. Board members are working diligently to insure training sessions address current trends in our field and are facilitated by dynamic instructors. Every effort has been made to keep the cost as minimum as possible. Details are forthcoming.

As always, I appreciate your continued support and welcome your feedback and participation. Let us take pride in our efforts as we continue to move our profession forward. Please follow the Maryland Criminal Justice Association on Facebook by "Liking" us and keep on top of MCJA news and events by visiting our new website at www.MdCJA.com

MCJA Elections

MCJA will be holding elections for President Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Nominations will be accepted from June 1st - August 2nd. Ballots will go out by August 17th via Survey Monkey to the membership and will close on October 1st. All Executive Board/Officer positions are up for votes. Newly elected officers will be announced at the annual Fall Conference in Ocean City, Maryland. We encourage all interested to submit nominations.

The following is an excerpt from our By-Laws regarding elections:

Article VI - ELECTIONS

A member, in good standing, may make nomination of

a member, in good standing, for elective office, to include; President Elect, Treasurer, Secretary. The nomination shall be sent along with the nominee’s biographical statement and nominee’s consent to the Election Coordinator and received sixty (60) days prior to the voting deadline. A member may accept the nomination for only one elected office.

The terms of President, President Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary shall be limited to two (2) years. The Treasurer and Secretary are elected for two (2) year terms and may serve two (2) consecutive terms, or four (4) consecutive years. The elected officials’ terms shall begin at the adjournment of the

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John R. Nattans, Immediate Past President



Professional Development and Training Committee



*Terry Satterfield, Chair
Professional Development and Training
Committee*

Do you need funds for school or professional development courses? The MCJA Board has again approved funds to be donated to the Maryland Correctional Administrators Association (MCAA) Scholarship Fund. This is the fifth year in a row that MCJA has supported this worthwhile project. The MCAA Scholarship Foundation was established by that Association in 2001. Over the past 12 years, more than \$110,000+ in college and professional development monies have been awarded to deserving corrections professionals and their dependents throughout the State of Maryland. Funds for scholarships are derived from vendor support, donations like MCJA’s and special events such as golf tournaments. The Professional Development Grant is to be used for programs such as training programs and professional seminars.

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Conference Committee

Our Fall 2014 MCJA Annual Conference was held October 15 – 17 at the Princess Royale Resort in Ocean City, MD. It had the highest number of attendees for an MCJA conference to date and received rave reviews by all who attended.

The conference began on Wednesday afternoon with a workshop given by an MCJA favorite speaker, Robert Pruitt, a Leadership Training and Motivational Speaker. His session was titled “~~Corrections/Korections/Correcsions/Corrections~~” and was highly motivational, inspiring and entertaining. After the session, the Silent Auction opened with a nice reception with light refreshments and socializing.

Thursday morning started off with a welcome message from the MCJA President, Melinda Grenier. The first session of the day was entitled “PREA and the Hiring Process”. The speaker, Ivonne Gutierrez-Anglin, Human Resources Manager of the Montgomery County Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, gave an exceptional overview of how PREA impacts hiring in the correctional environment.

The second session of the morning on Thursday was presented by Retired Major Steve Bodway on “Ethics in the Workplace”. He gave a very noble and inspirational talk on the impact of good ethics. At the end of the session Mr. Bodway gave away a beautiful signed Norman Rockwell print of a police officer and a child entitled “The Runaway” to a very grateful participant in the audience.

After lunch, the last workshop of the day was “Characteristics of Effective Leaders” by Marc Kammarman, Founder of Strategic Selling Solutions, Inc. This session provided some excellent feedback on what makes an effective leader in the world, not just corrections and was well-received by all.

The final conference session was held on Friday morning as a “Re-Entry Symposium” consisting of a panel of staff from Montgomery



*Jane Sachs, Chair
Conference Committee*

County including the topics of Community Health and the Affordable Care Act by Kendra Jochum and Anthony Sturgess, Budget Allocations by Warden Robert Green, Programming – what works and what does not by Ben Stevenson and Community Collaboration by Fred Chandler. Each presenter had a wealth of knowledge to share and the audience left with a great deal of reentry information.

The conference closed out with a prize drawing session and many conference participants walked away with a nice prize.

The feedback on each session was excellent and the overall feedback for the entire conference was exceptional. We want to thank the many Department of Juvenile Services staff who attended and participated for the first time and look forward to a strong collaborative relationship with them in the future.

Clearly, the Fall 2014 conference was a huge success and we can only attribute that to the strong team effort put forth by the entire MCJA Executive board. After the conference, discussion ensued on how to ensure we maintain the high standards and expectations of our conferences and a decision was made to add an Executive board member specifically to chair the Conference Committee. I was asked to Chair that committee

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Conference Committee (Continued)

and have accepted that challenge. This is my public request for committee members. If you have any interest in serving on the Conference Committee, please send that to me in writing at jssachs@dpscs.state.md.us and join the committee that will put together the next and best Spring and Fall MCJA conferences. I had many people tell me how excellent the conference was and that they wanted to work on future conferences. Well, here is your chance!

Spring will be here before we know it. The MCJA Spring Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13th 2015 at the James N. Robey Public Safety Training Center in Marriottsville, MD in Howard County. Topics include: Maryland Mental Health Population – from arrest to community; Leadership Change – My role in adapting to new leadership; and Communication, Collaboration and Cooperation – How to adapt your communication skills to your best benefit. In the meantime, I will be waiting for your e-mail to volunteer to serve on the Conference Committee.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at the Spring Conference!

MCJA Elections (Continued)

annual conference in the year in which they are elected. In the event that an elected position is not filled through the election process, then the President with approval of the Board shall appoint a qualified member to serve the term of that elected position. However, if that unfilled elected position is President-elect then a special election shall be held to elect that officer pursuant to Article VI of these By-laws.

Any elected officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the President. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein. If a vacancy occurs for President Elect, a special election shall be held to elect that officer for the un-expired term of that office. If a vacancy occurs for Treasurer or Secretary, the President, with approval of the Board, may appoint an MCJA member, to fulfill the duties for the un-expired term of that office.

The Immediate Past President shall serve as the Election Coordinator. If he/she is unavailable, the President shall appoint an Elections Committee member to serve as the Election Coordinator. The Election Coordinator and Elections Committee members shall not be seeking office.

The Elections Coordinator shall have the following duties:

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Submit an article in the MCJA newsletter and/or by MCJA-Alert describing the nomination and election process, including a format for biographical statements and mailing information. Verify that the nominating and consenting nominated parties are in good standing as established in Article II A of these By-laws.

Prepare the ballots, including the nominees' biographical statements and send them, in a format prescribed by the MCJA Board, to all members of the Association no later than 45 days prior to the voting deadline.

Count the votes and announce results, at the annual conference, and prepare a written record identifying the newly elected officers and their terms of office. A plurality of the votes cast shall elect a candidate.

The Elections Committee shall verify the vote count.

Please visit our website and review the MCJA By-Laws for a description of each of the elected officers roles and responsibilities.



Professional Development and Training (Continued)

The Association established the Memorial College Scholarship Program in an effort to encourage and assist college level students in pursuing a career in the field of Corrections or closely related Criminal Justice Professions.

MCJA members and their dependents are eligible for these funds and the process to apply is fairly simple. MCJA members are welcome to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity as all agency heads are members of MCAA. This is a service open to our members so take advantage of it. The deadline for receiving the applications is 5 pm, March 29, 2015.

All applications must be signed by an MCAA sponsoring member to be valid. The application can be emailed or mailed through the US Postal Service.

Email the signed application and its attachments to: ghardinger@ccg.carr.org or mail the original application along with seven (7) copies. If you wish to be notified that your application package has been received, please enclose a self-addressed stamped postcard with you package. Mail application package to: George Hardinger MCAA Scholarship Program Chair, Carroll County Detention Center, 100 North Court Street, Westminster, MD 21157. Notification of awards will be mailed to recipients by May 20, 2015.

It is important for all applicants to know that the Maryland Correctional Administrators Association does not discriminate for any reason including: age, ethnic background, gender, religious, belief, disability or educational level.

Please be sure to follow the directions. There is a special page of Frequently Asked Questions you can use as a guide. For more information go to www.mdle.net/mcaa/scholarships.

Good luck!



Scholarships and Awards Committee

In an effort to provide training opportunities for criminal justice professionals and in consideration of current economic conditions, MCJA plans to offer a number of training registration waivers for our 2015 Spring Conference.

Last year, of the 29 conference registration waivers offered throughout Maryland, the following were utilized: Allegany County (1); Baltimore County (1); Caroline County (1); Cecil County (2); Frederick County (1); DJS (3); and MD DPSCS (2).

Total cost savings to these participants equaled \$440.00.

In October of 2014, we hosted our annual Fall Conference in Ocean City, MD at the Princess Royale Resort. Ms. Theresa Benner

of the Frederick County Adult Detention Center was the recipient of the free registration award.

The conference was a huge success and involved a record number of attendees. We tried something new this year and changed the conference schedule from: "Sunday - Tuesday" to "Wednesday - Friday." We received a lot of positive feedback for this change as well as for session topics and presenters.

Overall, the conference was well received and a rewarding experience.

The Fall Conference Silent Auction was also a success as we raised over \$1,200.00. We appreciate all of the bids!

These funds support our annual donation to the MCAA



*Patricia Alderman, Chair
Scholarships and Awards Committee*

Scholarship fund and the ability to award training waivers at our Spring Conferences.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

NEW "MCJA Meetings On-the-Move"

I am pleased to announce that MCJA will start a NEW "MCJA Meetings On-the-Move" initiative in July 2015. MCJA will now hold membership meetings on a quarterly basis around the State. This initiative is in an effort to be accessible to our membership and those wishing to join. The Board is looking at the success of this new initiative for future continuation. All other meetings will be held at the normal location at the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission offices in Sykesville.

The first of the "MCJA Meetings On-the-Move" will be hosted by the Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation in

Boyds, Maryland (22880 Whelan Lane - upper Montgomery County) on July 9th. The second MCJA Meetings On-the-Move will be hosted by Correct Rx Pharmacy Services in Hanover, Maryland (1352 Charwood Road, Suite C - northwestern Anne Arundel County) on October 8th.

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month and start [at 10 AM](#). Regular meetings are free, but registering is required on the MCJA website to account for numbers. Please visit our website and register now at [MdJCA.com](#).

Looking forward to seeing you!



*Ivonne Gutierrez-Anglin
Secretary*

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