

**JULY 2002**

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**MARIETTA MUNICIPAL  
COURT**

**Community Corrections Newsletter**

# **MMC Probation News**

**Judge W. M. Nuzum, III**

**It is our practice to have periodic departmental staff meetings in the Marietta Municipal Court. It gives the staff an opportunity to tell me how much they enjoy working here and it gives me an opportunity to critique their performance. Occasionally there is a food exchange involved. Usually, some good ideas surface at these meetings to help us serve our clientele better.**

**At a recent Probation Department staff meeting Annette, Joe and I were talking about the real value we see on a daily basis that probation services in this court has added to our community. I lamented that those largely responsible for helping us get the grant for this department are unaware of the importance of their role in maintaining this important court function. My recollection is that we simultaneously realized it was our own fault that the situation exists. We have failed to communicate to you on a regular and formal basis. We decided to create this periodic newsletter to keep you informed. Since Rosanne was on vacation we quickly realized that we could appoint her to serve as our managing editor. That is the way it works in our democracy. You take a vacation and you get elected to serve.**

**We hope you enjoy the format and find the information useful. We regard each member of the Community Corrections Board as a key contributor to the success we enjoy. We feel that we will benefit from this exercise as much as you.**

## **Annette M. Zide**

**As most of you are aware, the Marietta Municipal Court has applied for a Drug Court Grant. A Drug Court is a type of program that pushes all parts of the criminal justice system and treatment providers together to work in a collaborative effort towards rehabilitation of the offender. The key people involved would include the Judge, Defense Counsel, Prosecutor, Probation Officer, and treatment providers. These programs are based on an understanding that substance abuse is a chronic, progressive, relapsing disorder that can be successfully treated. The success of these programs is built on the fact that the post-arrest period can provide a particularly good opportunity for interventions that will break the drug-crime cycle.**

**Our Drug Court application requested \$129,030 from Federal resources with a match of \$43,010, making the total grant amount \$172,040. A large amount of that sum covers start-up costs and salaries for two professional positions, however, it also allows for \$50,000 towards counseling services, and \$24,000 for detoxification programs.**

**Support for the grant application was overwhelming. We received letters of support from Senator Carnes, Representative Nancy Hollister, Lucille Fleming (ODADAS Director), Mayor Matthews, Roland Riggs, Judge Boyer, Sheriff Schlicher, Ron Rees, and Janet McKim. We would like to thank all of you for your continued support.**

## **Joseph N. Perry**

**The latest report from Probation shows that the department acquired 228 new probationers during the first quarter of 2002. During the second quarter, 215 new probationers were acquired. According to statistics from the probation department, the average offender is a single white male between the age of 18 and 21 with a 50/50 chance of alcohol being involved.**

**The first half of 2002 shows that 46 persons were placed in the Washington County Jail for violating some term of their probation. Of those 46, only 16 were actually charged with violating probation. Thirty were released without additional court sanctions. During the first half of 2001, nearly the same results occurred; 46 violations with 13 taken to court for violating the terms of probation. It has been the department's policy in most cases not to proceed with a formal probation violation on first time violators of probation.**

**On May 30 and 31<sup>st</sup>, 2002, the officers of the Marietta Municipal Courts Probation Department attended the Fourth Annual Ohio Probation, Parole and Community Corrections Training Institute in Columbus, Ohio.**