

POPAI NEWSLETTER

2025

<https://www.gopopai.org/>



ELECTION COMMITTEE JENNY LAMPERT

POPAI's annual elections in September will include the following Board positions:

Vice President, Treasurer, District Representatives for Districts 1, 3, 5, 6, and 7, and At-Large Seat #1.

Certified Probation Officers who are current (2025 paid) POPAI members may submit intent-to-run forms, available on our website starting May 7.

Candidates for Vice President, Treasurer, and At-Large Seat #1 may be from any district. District Representative candidates must work in the district they seek to represent.

Forms are due by July 21, 2025 before noon Eastern Time. Come join our amazing POPAI board!

https://www.gopopai.org/docs/2025/election/Intent_to_Run_For_POPAI_Board_2025.docx

jslampert@duboiscountyin.org

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT ANGELA MORRIS

I am honored to have stepped into the role of POPAI president in September 2024. I've had the privilege of witnessing how Indiana has some of the most talented and skilled Probation Officers and staff I have ever been around. Each day, you show up with compassion, fairness and dedication, regardless of the obstacles you face.

As President, I will be a strong advocate for our profession, celebrate achievements and work alongside the board to provide you with the training, resources and recognition you deserve. Please continue to support POPAI and communicate with your district representative with your needs and suggestions. Hope to see everyone at the Fall Conference!

amorris@johnsoncountyin.gov

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION STEPHANIE COLE

The 2025 Knepple Scholarship was awarded to Kim Porter Whitehurst from Grant County at the Justice Services Conference.

Nominations open July 6, 2025 for POPAI's annual awards: Founder's Award, Rookie Probation Officer of the Year, and Line Probation Officer of the Year.

Nomination forms will be available on our website starting July 6, 2025. All forms are due by August 5, 2025.

The recipients of each award will be announced at our Fall Conference in September in French Lick.

Stephanie.cole@howardcountyin.gov

**MEMBERSHIP/MARKETING
COMMITTEE
LINDSEY VILLALPANDO**

The Membership and Marketing Committee plans to have the POPAI Fall Conference clothing website up by July 1 and run until August to allow members to purchase POPAI gear to be picked up at the Fall Conference. If members have a special request of type of clothing they would like to see available/offered they can share their ideas with me.

Lindsey.villalpando@montgomerycounty.in.gov

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
ADAM MCQUEEN**

Please visit POPAI's website at
<https://www.gopopai.org/legislation/2025-legislation/>
for a full breakdown of year's legislative session

adammq@co.wayne.in.us

**PROBATION OFFICER ADVISORY BOARD (POAB)
REPRESENTATIVE
RYAN HULL**

The Probation Officers Advisory Board (POAB) met on June 10, 2025, at 1:00 PM via Zoom. The Supervision Subcommittee presented recommendations to update the Intrastate Transfer Policy which was passed as presented and will now go before the Probation Judges Committee. The changes not only follow requirements from statute but also from officer experience. The Education Subcommittee did not have an update for the board. A list of "hot topics" was developed and each subcommittee will look at the list in the coming months and decide which to focus on during the next year. Examples of topics mentioned for review is the PSI application in INcite; workload measures; topics and speakers for the Justice Services Conference; Mental Health for Probation Officers; and updating the Indiana Probation Best Practices Guide. The Indiana Probation Best Practices Guide is found under the Publications & Forms tab on the Office of Court Services website. As of June 10, there are 57 new certified probation officers. This number will increase after the fall probation officer orientation. Make sure to review and be prepared for the changes for juvenile supervision starting July 1. A memo will go out again from the Officer of Court Services prior to this date. The next POAB meeting will be September 9, 2025, at 1:00 PM EST.

rhull@co.dekalb.in.us

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ANTHONY WILLIAMS AND SHANNON CHAMBERS

The Education Subcommittee is thrilled to announce that registration for the 2025 Fall Conference opened on June 2! This year's conference will be held September 3–5 at the stunning French Lick Resort in French Lick, Indiana, offering an exceptional setting for three days of professional development, networking, and inspiration.

Opening Keynote: Phil Chalmers

We are honored to welcome Phil Chalmers as our opening keynote speaker. A nationally recognized criminal profiler, true crime author, and homicide trainer, Chalmers has spent over 35 years studying youth violence and interviewing more than 500 teen killers, school shooters, and serial murderers. His groundbreaking work has been featured on A&E's Killer Kids, Fox's Crime Watch Daily, and the podcast Where The Bodies Are Buried.

Conference Details:

Dates: September 3–5, 2025

Location: French Lick Resort, French Lick, Indiana

Registration Opens: June 2, 2025

Early Bird Registration (through August 22):

\$200 for 2025 members (Probation Officers and Associate Members)

\$230 for non-members (includes 2025 Probation Officer Membership)

\$215 for non-members (includes 2025 Associate Membership)

This year's agenda is packed with relevant, high-quality content designed to equip professionals with the tools and knowledge needed to navigate the evolving landscape of community supervision. Attendees can look forward to a variety of breakout sessions, expert-led sessions, and networking opportunities tailored to different disciplines and roles.

Remember: POPAI has created five Hardship Scholarships as one way we can support five individuals who might not otherwise have the chance to attend our Fall Conference.

Don't miss out—applications are due by 12:00 noon EST on Thursday, July 10, 2025.

Learn more and download the application: <https://www.gopopai.org/apply-now-hardship-scholarships-available-for-fall-conference/>

Be sure to register early to secure your spot and take advantage of the discounted Early Bird rates. We look forward to seeing you in French Lick this fall for an enriching and energizing experience!

awilliams@co.monroe.in.us
training@gopopai.org

CHIEF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

GREG WERICH

Leadership training is a crucial component in the development of effective probation programs in Indiana. While the Indiana Judicial Branch, through the Office of Court Services, offers general training programs for probation officers, specialized leadership training for chief probation officers is facilitated by other organizations.

Training for Chief Probation Officers

Leadership training for chief probation officers in Indiana is often facilitated by the Probation Officers Professional Association of Indiana (POPAI). The Chief Executive Committee of POPAI plays a significant role in organizing much of this leadership training.

This committee is dedicated to promoting the highest level of professionalism within the probation administrator's role and responsibilities. POPAI organizes various events and training sessions, including the New Chief Probation Officer Orientation and the Indiana Management Institute. These programs are designed to help chief probation officers develop the leadership skills necessary to manage their teams effectively and navigate the complexities of their roles. The New Chief Probation Officer Orientation provides newly appointed chiefs with the foundational knowledge and skills required to lead their departments, while the Indiana Management Institute focuses on advanced leadership techniques and strategies.

Additionally, chief probation officers can benefit from training opportunities provided by national organizations like the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) and the National Institute of Corrections (NIC). These organizations offer specialized training sessions, conferences, and workshops that focus on leadership and management skills tailored to the needs of probation officers. These programs cover a wide range of topics, including strategic planning, organizational management, and effective communication, all of which are essential for successful leadership in probation departments.

Cultivating the Next Generation of Leaders

Cultivating the next generation of leaders within the probation system is essential for ensuring the continued effectiveness and evolution of probation services in Indiana. Chief probation officers should actively seek opportunities to mentor new chiefs in neighboring jurisdictions. This mentorship can provide valuable guidance, support, and knowledge transfer, helping new leaders navigate their roles more effectively.

Furthermore, developing regional networking among probation officers is crucial. Regional networking allows probation officers to share best practices, collaborate on common challenges, and build a supportive community. Regular meetings, conferences, and workshops can facilitate these connections, fostering a culture of continuous learning and professional development. Encouraging probation officers to pursue advanced training, attend conferences, and participate in leadership workshops helps to build a pipeline of capable leaders ready to step into more significant roles as they arise. By investing in the development of future leaders, the probation system can ensure a steady supply of skilled and knowledgeable individuals prepared to take on leadership responsibilities.

Impact on the Criminal Justice System

Effective leadership training for chief probation officers has a profound impact on the overall criminal justice system in Indiana. Well-trained leaders are better equipped to manage their departments, make informed decisions, and provide appropriate supervision and support to their teams. This, in turn, leads to better outcomes for probationers, reduces recidivism rates, and enhances public safety.

Leadership training for probation officers in Indiana is a multifaceted process that includes specialized programs for chief probation officers. Through the efforts of organizations like POPAI, APPA, and NIC, probation officers in Indiana are well-prepared to take on leadership roles and contribute positively to the criminal justice system. This comprehensive approach to training ensures that probation officers are equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary to perform their duties effectively and lead with confidence.

Specifically, POPAI members have Indiana specific opportunities for supervisor-level probation officers to join us in developing training and networking. Contact any POPAI board member for more information, or Chief Executive Committee chair Greg Werich on how you can participate on this committee.

probation1@wellscounty.org