



JUNE 2009

North Carolina Jail Administrators' Association

President's Message...

As I write this message, I have been reflecting on my recent trip to Atlantic Beach, North Carolina for the 2009 Jail Health Update where I had the opportunity and pleasure to speak about my view of mental health care and treatment for inmates from a Jail Administrator's perspective.

I was dreading this assignment that Hazel Moore assigned to me, as I did not feel that I had enough knowledge to speak to a group of medical professionals on this subject. However, I surprised myself as I began my research and my discussions with my medical staff and service providers; I realized that the assignment was very rewarding to me personally. I learned that there are many services that are provided within Buncombe County through our own local management entity, Western Highlands and our contracted service providers, Southern Health Partners and Regional Health Authority, as well as with other programs through our Pre-Trial Services and our Crisis Intervention Team.



I had never attended this conference and saw that only a few jail administrators were in attendance, but there were many contacts that I made from the correctional medical community. Also in attendance was Jill Moore and Jamie Markham from the Institute of Government and they always do a fantastic job dealing with the legal issues related to jail health...you know you enjoy your job too much when terms like "deliberate indifference" and "serious medical need" engage your daily discussions. I must need a vacation and luckily summer is approaching. Both Jill and Jamie discussed recent court cases that clearly illustrated the responsibility of the Sheriff and how the responsibility remains with the Sheriff but the duties are transferred to the keeper of the Detention Facility being the Jail Administrator. The keeper thereof as stated in the statute makes it clear that this duty is appointed to the Jail Administrator who is statutorily responsible for the Sheriff to ensure that adequate care and security of the inmates in the custody of the local confinement facility meet the constitutional and statutorily required standards for supervision and operation of the Detention Facility (N.C.G.S. 162-22).

The point that was drilled home...again and again is that the ultimate responsibility of everything that occurs at a Detention Facility is the responsibility of the Sheriff, but the Sheriff transfers these duties to the Jail Administrator...so medical care including mental health services is not the sole responsibility of our medical staff or service providers, but of the Jail Administrator and ultimately the Sheriff of the County.

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(President's Message, cont) We as Jail Administrators have a great responsibility to be accountable for a vast number of actions that are statutorily required through federal and state standards. We accept this responsibility with a strong sense of understanding that we are responsible for the actions, but all of these actions are carried out not necessarily by the Jail Administrator, but our command staff, supervisors, officers, medical staff and contracted service providers. We entrust and empower our staff to carry out these actions as the Sheriffs entrust and empower us as Jail Administrators. This is not an easy task, but one, we accept with enthusiasm and pride to meet the challenge each day!!

Hopefully, this is where our Association is a benefit to support Jail Administrators and their staff through networking and training. Our recent Regional Training in Edneyville was a huge success with the largest attendance that we have had in some time. I want to thank Chief Greg Cochran for all his hard work on coordinating the training and I am glad that he is on our Board. Great job... Greg!! Even though our turnout was low in Salemburg, I would also like to thank Lieutenant Robert Roupf for his hard work and coordination efforts with the Regional Training in the East. As a result, our Training Committee will take a look at reorganizing the Regional Training to not include the Detention In-Service as there was not as much of a need for the classes in the East as there was in the West. We look forward to your input during the Annual Conference in October so make your suggestions known to our Training Committee. I would also like to thank all the instructors that provided the training in both the East and the West for which the training could not be possible without their assistance. Thank You!!

Finally, I would like to thank Captain Ronnie Whitaker for his leadership as Chairman of the Training Committee. He has finalized the training agenda for the Annual Conference and I am also looking forward to our guest speaker for the opening session as well as our guest speakers for the Banquet and morning breakfast on Friday. I am especially excited about our new location at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro as the hotel is very nice and we will have plenty of room for training, guest speakers, vendors and networking!! The Conference will be here very soon and is scheduled for September 29 - October 2, 2009. I hope the turnout will be larger than last year and I am hopeful even though we are dealing with some tough economic times...perhaps we all could use a **Stimulus Conference**...so I hope to see everyone in October!!

I still want to challenge all of you to get actively involved in your Association and we encourage your comments and participation as always. My email address is **glen.matayabas@buncombe county.org** and please feel free to contact me at any time.

On a personal note, I have had a difficult couple of years working through the challenges of a divorce after 20 years of marriage. However, I have been fortunate to find the right woman that was meant for me and I am happy to say that we are engaged to be married in October. Some of you reading this message may be dealing with something similar and this is my reason for sharing this very personal portion of my life. I do not believe that things just happen; they are destined. I also believe that sometimes bad things happen in our lives not for the bad to hurt us, but to make us stronger so we can enjoy and appreciate the good in our lives. This is something that I have not always done, but have made changes in my life to always live in the moment and not worry about the past or the future. I can tell you that I am blessed for both the bad and good things that have happened in my life and it has been my faith that has carried me through the very rough times.

For I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD. They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a **future** and a **hope**. Jeremiah 29:11 (NLT)

May God Bless You,
Glen Matayabas
President, NCJAA

Training Committee News

The NCJAA training committee is in the process of putting together the training for the upcoming conference. We have taken into consideration the responses to the questionnaires that many of you completed at past conferences. Some of the training that we have tentatively scheduled are Leadership Development, Customer Service for Jails—How to Conduct a Productive Staff Meeting, Benefits of Crisis Intervention Training and many more interesting topics by qualified instructors.

Of course we will have round table discussions. One is specifically for detention officers and the other is for jail administrators. We are pleased to have our panel made up of someone from Prison Legal Services, Dept. of Corrections, the Institute of Government, Dept. of Insurance, the North Carolina Sheriff's Training Standards, the Governor's Crime Commission, Guilford County Sheriff's Office and the North Carolina State Jail Inspector.

I hope you are making plans now to attend and I look forward to seeing you there.

Ronnie Whitaker
NCJAA Board of Directors
Training Committee

Spring Training at Edneyville



Gaston County Sheriff's Office: Faye Costner, Michael Agerton, Tony Caskey, and Kemie Holland



Calendar of Events

NCJAA Annual Conference
Embassy Suites Greensboro, NC
336-668-4535
September 30 - October 2, 2009

Beyond the Call of Duty By Gordon Anderson

Sgt. Peter West of the Lee County Jail was given the 2008 Lee County Employee of the Year award for his efforts in attempting to save an inmate who was suffering from cardiac arrest in August, when he did his best to keep an inmate who was suffering from cardiac arrest from dying on the floor of his cell. Although the inmate died later at Central Carolina Hospital, West's actions were still recognized by the Lee County Board of Commissioners on February 2, when he was awarded the Lee County Employee of the Year award for 2008. West was making his rounds at the jail around 6 a.m. one morning when he heard several inmates trying to get his attention. "There was a lot of screaming and yelling," he said. "I saw the guy, and his eyes were open, but he wasn't breathing and his pulse was real low." West, a 10-year veteran of the jail, said he immediately radioed for someone to call 911 and began performing CPR on the inmate. As the employee of the year, West will get the opportunity to choose one of several gifts being offered by the county. He said he hasn't yet decided which one he'll take, although he's narrowed his options. "I'm thinking I'm going to take the video camera, the TV or a trip," he said. "It's a nice award to win." That said, West said he was only doing his job that day in August. "If we went back in time, I'd do the same thing," he said. "That's what we're here for and what we've been trained to do. But you don't know how you're going to react until something happens."

Visit our Website: www.ncjaa.org

Pitt County Expansion Submitted by Sergeant Chad Singleton

It's been a work in progress since last year, but Phase II of the expansion which includes the new booking area is now complete. As the construction traffic decreases and the sounds of heavy machinery begin to quiet down there are many changes in store for our facility.

Chief Lawrence Whaley and his administration are hopeful with the expanded booking area and more room to work, that employees will be able to process more information about our inmates. The 21-million dollar project was funded through the Pitt County Board of Commissioners and contracted through Brennan & Associates. Phase II of the new addition is expected to open and the processing of suspects should begin by the end of July 2009. The old booking area will be remodeled by the detention center for our transportation team.

Phase II of the new expansion is for four housing units that will house an additional 192 inmates with a new booking and pre-intake holding area, administrative offices, magistrates office, records office as well as an updated security and video visitation system. This expansion will increase the rated capacity of the Pitt County Detention Center to 596 inmates.

As a result of the new expansion, we have also had a few promotions and would like to recognize our staff.

Officer Dustin Ferrell to Sergeant
Officer Rodney Jacobs to Sergeant
Officer Nichelle Moore to Sergeant
Officer Craig Bounds to Sergeant

Tough Times

We all know the economy is in dire straits world wide. Its on the news, it's discussed at work, it's talked about everywhere you make your daily stops. Still the world keeps on turning and your bills still have to be paid. Your education needs are still there if it's for you, or your child. So there is no better time to prepare to apply for scholarships for these educational needs. The North Carolina Jail Administrators Association will be awarding scholarships at the Annual Training Conference. Again with these tough economic times contributions are tougher to come by. Please encourage members and your vendors to please contribute to our Sheriff Richard Frye Scholarship Fund. I also encourage all members to remind their fellow employees if they are continuing their education or have children headed to or already in a college program to apply for these scholarships. (See Insert for application)

What's Up??

Do you have something interesting going on in your department? Do you have new officers or personnel, someone that was promoted, or someone retiring? Do you have some new equipment that will help your agency do its job better? How about someone in your department that received an award? Just write it down and send it to us so we can share the news among the other agencies in the state. You can send us photos along with your news item. It doesn't take long to jot down a few lines and send them to us. You can either mail items to P.O. Box 41368, Raleigh, NC 27629 or send them electronically to: execman@att.net.

Deadline for Next Issue - August 1, 2009