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Colorado honors probation and parole officers

Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week to be recognized July 13-19

DENVER – Coloradans and others across the United States and its territories will take time during the week of July 13-19 to recognize the important contributions to public safety and welfare made by probation, parole and community service professionals.

In Colorado, probation is handled within the Judicial Branch. During fiscal year 2007, Colorado’s probation system including private probation, supervised 54,608 clients, with 61 percent of adult regular offenders and 72 percent of juvenile offenders successfully completing probation. Placement on probation allows offenders to work, pay taxes, repay victims, and obtain necessary treatment for drug or alcohol abuse with the assistance and supervision of probation officers.

Nationally, there were more than 5 million adults and more than 600,000 juveniles being supervised by probation, parole or community service professionals at the end of 2006, the latest full year for which federal statistics are available.

The Colorado Division of Probation Services is tasked with more than supervising a wide range of adult and juvenile offenders. Besides providing information for judicial officers to make
sentencing decisions, the agency also monitors restitution for victims and provides other services to victims.

Colorado probation is determined to increase its success rates by implementing evidence-based practices to seek significant behavior change with the offenders under its officers’ supervision, said Tom Quinn, director of the Colorado Division of Probation Services.

“This week is a time to honor the dedicated people who devote their careers to the welfare of others through public safety, offender accountability and victim and community reparation,” said Colorado Supreme Court Chief Justice Mary Mullarkey.