



# news

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## **Colorado honors probation and parole officers** *Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week recognized July 19-25*

DENVER – During the week of July 19-25, Coloradans and others across the United States and its territories will take time to recognize the important contributions to public safety and well-being made by probation, parole and community supervision professionals.

In Colorado, probation supervision is handled by the Judicial Branch. During Fiscal Year 2008, Colorado's probation system – including private probation – supervised 70,711 clients, with 59 percent of adult regular offenders and 72 percent of juvenile regular 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.

But the Colorado Division of Probation Services does more than that. Besides providing information for judicial officers to make sentencing decisions, the agency also monitors restitution for victims and provides other services to victims.

In Fiscal Year 2008, the division collected more than \$27 million in restitution that was distributed to victims, with an additional \$27.8 million collected for victim assistance and compensation funds. The division also collected \$5.7 million in fees and surcharges designated for helping probationers with court-ordered treatment and services.

The theme of this year's Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week is "A Force for Positive Change," highlighting the roles that probation, parole and community supervision professionals play in helping offenders become productive members of society.

"This is a time for us to honor the dedicated people who have devoted their careers to the well-being of others through maintaining public safety, offender accountability and victim and community reparation," said Colorado Supreme Court Chief Justice Mary Mullarkey.

For more information, visit the Colorado Division of Probation Services at <http://www.courts.state.co.us/Administration/Division.cfm/Division/prob> or the American Probation and Parole Association Web site at <http://www.appa-net.org/eweb>.