

Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending,  
Registering, and Tracking (SMART)  
FY 2010 Comprehensive Approaches to Sex Offender Management Newsletter  
June 2013

## Introduction

This edition of the newsletter for CASOM grantees features:

- Information about technical assistance and training available from CSOM and the National Judicial College sponsored by the SMART office;
- A discussion of existing resources to help inform your judiciary about responding to sex offense cases; and
- Important upcoming events.

## Training and Technical Assistance Available from CSOM and the National Judicial College (NJC)

With funding from the Office of Justice Programs' Office of Sex Offender Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART) through its *FY2011 Comprehensive Approaches to Sex Offender Management Training and Technical Assistance Program*, the National Judicial College (NJC) and CSOM are very pleased to announce the availability of training and technical assistance to courts and their partners as a means of enhancing sex offender management efforts within the Comprehensive Approaches to Sex Offender Management (CASOM) model. This assistance will be offered in the forms of:

- Multi-disciplinary training events to be provided in local jurisdictions regarding the CASOM model; and
- Targeted technical assistance to address specific issues in order to

support the efforts of the courts and their partners in enhancing sex offender management efforts.

The training and technical assistance will be conducted during 2013 and 2014. Because resources are limited, sites will be selected on a competitive basis. Details about both training and technical assistance are provided below.

### ***Multidisciplinary Training***

Representatives from CSOM and our project partners will deliver a total of ten regional training sessions to multidisciplinary audiences seeking to advance their sex offender management efforts and further court-based collaborations with other key stakeholders. The NJC/CSOM training curriculum, *Sentencing and Management of Sex Offenders* (see <http://csom.org/pubs/Judicial%20Educator%20and%20Faculty%20Handbook.pdf>), will be used as a primary foundation for these multidisciplinary training events, and additional sex offender management training curricula developed by CSOM will also be used to form the substantive basis of the multidisciplinary trainings. These curricula feature specialized information regarding the key components and principles of the Comprehensive Approach to Sex Offender Management (CASOM) model, such as investigation, prosecution, and sentencing; assessment; supervision; treatment; reentry; multidisciplinary collaboration; and victim centeredness.

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Because the multidisciplinary training events are designed to provide an overview of the CASOM model and the importance of collaboration between the courts and other key stakeholders, attendance by the judiciary and other court representatives in the jurisdiction is a pre-requisite.

Representation from other key disciplines vital to effective sex offender management is also expected, including supervision, treatment, law enforcement, victim advocacy, and other key partners as defined by each jurisdiction. The multidisciplinary training events are proposed to be one day in length and will consist of a combination of didactic and interactive presentations and activities/opportunities to promote cross-discipline learning and information-sharing (e.g., problem solving clinics, panels highlighting local practices and resources). Up to 75 participants per session will be permitted to attend.

This project is seeking ten jurisdictions – to be selected through a competitive process – to receive a multidisciplinary training event on sex offender management. These training events are anticipated to occur between August 2013 and August 2014. For more information about, or to apply for this assistance, see:

<http://www.judges.org/smart/#multi>.

#### *Type and Scope of Technical Assistance*

Technical assistance in this area is directed to courts and criminal justice professionals interested in improving their management of and skills critical to achieving successful outcomes with sex offense cases. Requests for assistance with developing enhanced

sex offender management practices may include:

- Exploring key decision points in court processing of sex offense cases and the ways in which quality specialized assessments can inform judicial decision-making and post-sentencing decisions;
- Assisting judges in gaining a practical understanding of contemporary management strategies and the ways in which sentencing decisions, including imposing specialized conditions, can support post-sentencing management on a case-by-case basis;
- Establishing collaborative multidisciplinary teams that include the judiciary, other court representatives, and probation/parole personnel, treatment providers, and other stakeholders outlined in the CASOM model;
- Obtaining an understanding of sex offense courts as a specialized strategy, and the processes associated with implementing them;
- Assessing local sex offender management policies and practices, with an emphasis on the courts and probation/parole agencies, to determine strengths, gaps, and needs;
- Prioritizing identified challenges (e.g., less than optimal collaboration, limited use of sex offender-specific risk assessment tools to inform judicial decision-

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making, non-specialized supervision conditions); and

- Developing action plan(s) to facilitate alignment of sex offender management policies and practices with research-supported and promising approaches.

For more information about, or to apply for technical assistance, see:

<http://www.judges.org/smart/pdf/CSOM-TA-application.pdf>.

#### Resources for the Judiciary on Responding Effectively to Sex Offense Cases

CSOM has developed (or partnered with other judicial organizations, including NJC and the National Council for Juvenile and Family Court Judges) to develop a number of resources for criminal, family, and juvenile court judges who hear sex offense cases. Those resources, which have been developed with support from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and the State Justice Institute), respectively, include:

#### *Sentencing Sex Offenders: A Model Curriculum for Judges*

This course, which was developed as the result of a partnership between CSOM and the National Judicial College, was designed to assist trial judges in developing sentencing practices for some of the most challenging criminal defendants: convicted sex offenders. The curriculum was designed to serve as an introduction to six facets of sentencing and managing sex offenders: the contemporary research and literature on sex offenders and sexual victimization; tools

used to assess sex offenders, and the areas of uncertainty; types of treatment and other interventions used to reduce the risk of offenders; sentencing decision and its implications, including conditions to impose; evidence-based sentencing research; and the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act.

The curriculum consists of the following seven modules:

- Understanding Sex Offenders and Sexual Victimization;
- Assessment of Sex Offenders;
- Treatment and Supervision of Sex Offenders;
- Case Studies;
- Sentencing Decision and Its Implications, Including Conditions to Impose;
- Evidence-Based Sentencing; and
- Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act.

To access this curriculum, visit

<http://csom.org/pubs/Judicial%20Educator%20and%20Faculty%20Handbook.pdf>.

#### *Managing Juvenile Sex Offense Cases*

#### [The Role of Judges in Managing Juvenile Sex Offense Cases: Keys to Informed Decisionmaking](#)

is a training curriculum designed to provide practical information to juvenile and family court judges about youth who engage in sexually abusive behavior, and to enhance their day-to-day decisionmaking in these challenging cases. The curriculum covers issues including:

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- Differences between juveniles and adults who commit sexual offenses;
- Unique considerations for judges at key decision points throughout the juvenile and family court process;
- Specialized assessment, treatment, and supervision approaches from the perspective of the judiciary;
- Strategies for facilitating family engagement from the bench; local policies and practices that are in place for juvenile sex offenders, the victims of these offenses, and their families; and
- Various roles that the judiciary can assume in promoting effective juvenile sex offender management efforts.

*Video for Judges on Sex Offender Sentencing and Management*

This seminar provides judges with an introduction to the broad range of issues and information relevant to the sentencing and management of sex offenders, particularly those offenders who will be supervised in the community for some portion of their sentence. It includes four modules: defining the problem of sexual offending; gathering information, assessing sex offenders, and protecting victims; sentencing for the effective management of sex offenders in the community; and collaboration in the management of sex offenders. To order a copy, send an email to: [lgilligan@cepp.com](mailto:lgilligan@cepp.com).

*Important Upcoming Dates and Events*

*2013 National Sexual Assault Conference: "Inspire a Movement, Invest in Change, Imagine..."*

The National Sexual Assault Conference is a two and a half day, advocacy-based conference providing advanced training opportunities and information regarding sexual violence intervention and prevention. This year's conference is hosted by the California Coalition Against Sexual Assault and be convened from August 28-30, 2013 in Hollywood, California. For more information, visit <http://www.nsvrc.org/nsac>.

*Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers 2013 Conference*

The 32nd Annual Research and Treatment Conference sponsored by the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers will be held at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers in Chicago, Illinois, October 30 through November 2, 2013. This conference will offer symposia, workshop presentations, poster sessions, discussion groups, and advanced clinics relating to issues in both victim and perpetrator research and treatment. All sessions, with the exception of posters, have been approved for [Continuing Education](#) credits. Each presentation will provide information and training based on cutting edge research development and clinical application. In addition to the three-day Conference schedule, ATSA will offer a selection of intensive half- and/or full-day Pre-

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Conference Clinics. For more information, visit <http://www.atsa.com/conference>.

*Prevention & the Child Protection Professional: Implementing Effective Child Abuse Prevention Programs*



This national conference is designed for child abuse prosecutors, investigators and other child protection professionals. This three-day course will assist professionals in recognizing the factors in their communities contributing to child abuse, and expose them to numerous evidence-based

prevention programs that can be implemented in their communities.

*Crimes Against Children Conference: Providing Professionals the Instruction, Information and Strategies They Need to Protect Child Victims and Prosecute their Offenders*

This event is a nationally and internationally-recognized conference for professionals from the fields of law enforcement, prosecution, child protective services, social work, children's advocacy, therapy, and medicine who work directly with child victims of crime. This year's conference will be held from August 12-15, 2013 at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel in Dallas, Texas. Please visit <http://www.cacconference.org/dcac/default.aspx> for more information.

Next Newsletter

The final newsletter for CASOM grantees will be published in August 2013.



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*This project is supported by Grant No. 2010-WP-BX-KO01 awarded by the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.*