Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency
for the District of Columbia
633 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

CSOSA FACT SHEET

August-2004

Community Supervision

Did You Know?

- The number of Americans under the control of the criminal justice system has reached a new high of nearly 6.9 million.
- CSOSA has six community supervision centers located throughout the District of Columbia.
- At the midpoint of FY 2003, CSOSA's general supervision caseload ratio is 48:1 compared to FY 1999 levels of 90:1.
- Of those people discharged from parole in 2003, 38 percent were returned to prison.
- CSOSA now operates four state of the art learning labs, providing computer training and other services to enhance the re-entry process.
- In FY03 CSOSA received 2,201 cases for Parole/ Supervised Release and 6,752 cases for Civil Protection/Deferred Sentence and Probation.

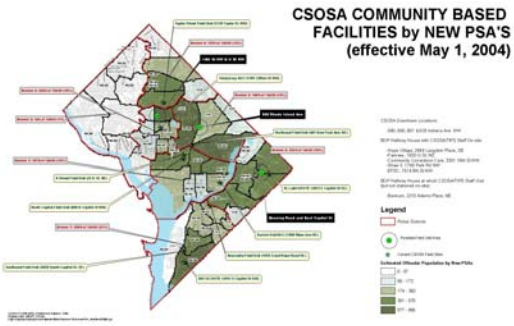
Since its creation in 1997, and its certification as an independent federal agency on August 5 2000, the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA) has been implementing community-based approaches to offender supervision. To support this strategy, CSOSA is moving Community Supervision Officers (formerly known as probation and parole officers) out of downtown offices into communities where offenders live and work, and close to neighborhood resources that can contribute to offenders becoming law-abiding and productive members of their communities.

In fiscal year (FY) FY2002 and FY2003, 71% of new entrants on Parolees and Supervised Release tested positive for one of the seven illegal substances for which CSOSA screens. CSOSA has strict drug testing procedures that identify appropriate treatment services to address the needs of the offender

Today, CSOSA is establishing better accountability among offenders by having a greater presence in the community to ensure swift and fair responses to offender non-compliance and to identify and provide services to help offenders reenter their neighborhoods successfully. As of June, 2003, CSOSA's general supervision caseload ratio is 48:1 compared to 1999 levels of 90:1.

Community Supervision centers are being opened throughout the city in areas where they are most needed. Using sophisticated geographic mapping techniques, CSOSA is able to assure residents that services and resources are brought to communities where there is the greatest concentration of offenders.

CSOSA has six community supervision centers throughout the city: 1418 Good Hope Road, SE; 401 New York Avenue, NE; 3850 South Capitol Street, SE; 1230 Taylor Street, NW. 25 K Street, NE and 800 N Capitol Street, NW. These centers house community supervision teams, drug testing and intervention services and a community relations program.



CSOSA can demonstrate that our presence in the community is having an impact. In FY02 14% of the supervised population was rearrested. In FY03 13% were rearrested.This reduction in rearrests is a result of increased coordination and supervision in the community.

The establishment of Community Justice Partnerships (CJPs) with the Metropolitan Police Department, and Community Justice Advisory Networks (CJANs) accelerate the progress of our community supervision efforts. These partnerships promote information and resource sharing to increase offender accountability and to identify community needs and resources.

CSOSA has five Community Relations Specialists who play a major role in building support for the Agency's programs in the community. The Community Relations Specialists may be reached at 202-220-5320.

Community Supervision seeks strong offender accountability for condiitons of release. Our services are there to assist reintegration into the community and include academic, emplyment and other counseling services.

Special emphasis on reduced-caseload sizes is placed on for sex offender, mental health and domestic violence cases.

Community Supervision is required to provide pre-sentence investigations to the judiciary. These reports aide the judge in rendering a decision for the criminal defendant. These reports are completed electronically and are available to the judiciary 2 days prior to the disposition date. In FY03 Community Supervision generated 3,288 pre-sentence reports.

Community Supervision also creates post-sentence reports for felony offenders who are sentenced to incarceration. These documents aide the Bureau of Prisons staff in the designation process.

In FY03 CSOSA received 2,201 cases for Parole/Supervised Release and 6,752 cases for Civil Protection/Deferred Sentence and Probation. Parole/Supervised release represents 15% of our total population.

Staff are aided in the classification process by an assesment tool that determines the level of supervision as well as programmatic needs of the offender. This tool is called the "Risk to Re-offend," assesment.

Community Supervision accompanies the MPD on accountability tours in which both the local police officials and CSOs visit the offender at their place of residence.

For additional information, contact the CSOSA, Office of Legislative, Intergovernmental and Public Affairs at (202) 220-5333.
www.csosa.gov