



**Santa Barbara County  
Probation Department**

# Probation Today



## TRANSITIONS IN PROBATION

After 22 years of dedicated service to the Santa Barbara County Probation Department and 29 years of outstanding service to the County of Santa Barbara, Deputy Chief Probation Officer Martin Conoley retired on October 19, 2008. Deputy Chief Conoley's Probation career began in 1986 with the supervision of over 300 DUI offenders. In 1990 he co-implemented the first narcotic detection canine program in a probation department in the United States with his K-9 partner, Ebony. Mr. Conoley was also the project lead responsible for obtaining a DOJ grant to develop the Substance Abuse Treatment Courts; the first countywide specialty court program. During his tenure he was acknowledged by the Chief Probation

Officers of California with a Certificate of Appreciation, the Santa Barbara Citizens Council on Crime award for Outstanding Performance and the Santa Barbara County Probation Department Chief Probation Officer's Award for excellence. The Probation Department will miss Deputy Chief Conoley's exceptional professionalism, focused team work, and years of support and friendship.

With Deputy Chief Conoley's retirement comes the reassignment of Deputy Chief Probation Officer Beverly Taylor, who will be transferred from the Institutions Division to the Juvenile Division effective October 20, 2008. Pending assignment of the new Deputy Chief Probation Officer to the Institutions Division, Deputy Chief Taylor will provide primary executive oversight of the two divisions. Deputy Chief Taylor is commended by Chief Stewart for her years of distinguished service in the Institutions Division as both Manager and Deputy Chief Probation Officer.



The Probation Department also welcomes Brian Swanson, who was recently appointed as Probation Manager of the Juvenile Services Division, North County. Mr. Swanson comes to the Probation Department with a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Criminology, as well as over 14 years of experience with the San Luis County Probation Department. While employed with San Luis Obispo County, he worked in the Institutions Division as well as Adult and Juvenile Field Services, including an assignment to Special Projects which allowed him to participate in projects state wide. Mr. Swanson's record of service to the field of probation is exemplary and the Department is fortunate to welcome him into our ranks.

*Submitted by Laurie Holbrook, Deputy Probation Officer Sr., Personnel & Training*

## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

On August 5, 2008, Lompoc Juvenile Drug Court (JDC) participants, along with Deputy Probation Officers Heidie Hensic and Robert DeRobles, and Probation Assistant Rebekah Russell, took part in the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual "National Night Out" at Pioneer Park in Lompoc. "National Night Out" is celebrated by thousands of communities on the same evening throughout the United States. Lompoc's event has historically been held in high crime areas with the intent to strengthen the relationships between residents, local law enforcement, and community partners.



"National Night Out" is a unique crime and drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. It was designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for and participation in local anti-crime programs, strengthen neighborhood spirit, as well as police-community partnerships, and send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. The event is celebrated by offering free food, games and prizes to local residents. In addition, various law enforcement agencies, neighborhood organizations and local officials are present to speak to the public and join in the festivities.

JDC participants enjoyed the opportunity to assist the local agencies, most notably the Lompoc Police and Fire Departments, by helping to set up booths and preparing for the event. They also had fun handing out blue probation balloons, candy and informational flyers about the Probation Department, and enjoyed the festivities by eating hot dogs, nachos and cotton candy, as well as participating in activities like face paintings, arts and crafts and by watching local police officers play basketball with the neighborhood children. It was a marvelous opportunity for these minors to collaborate with probation and police officers to support their community, and to participate in activities without the influence of drugs or alcohol.

*Submitted by Heidie Hensic, Deputy Probation Officer Sr., Santa Maria*

## KIWANIS NATIONAL YOUTH COURT- LUNCHEON & AWARDS

On September 17, 2008, the Probation Department received the Community Collaborative Award at the annual Kiwanis Youth Court Luncheon. The Department was recognized for its team building focus and involving diverse community-based agencies to help solve teen problems. Juvenile Manager, Mark Brickley accepted the award from Kiwanis President Ed Cue. The Honorable Thomas Adams was honored at the luncheon for helping to initiate the Teen Court model and for his work as Superior Court Judge of the Santa Barbara Juvenile Division.



*Submitted by Mark Brickley, Juvenile Probation Manager, Retired*