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ANNUAL REPORT

1988

NASSAU COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT
ROBERT J. BENNETT, DIRECTOR OF PROBATION

NCJRS

NOV 10 1989

ACQUISITIONS

THOMAS S. GULOTTA
COUNTY EXECUTIVE



ROBERT J. BENNETT
DIRECTOR OF PROBATION

PROBATION DEPARTMENT
SOCIAL SERVICES BUILDING
COUNTY SEAT DRIVE & ELEVENTH STREET
P.O. BOX 189
MINEOLA, NEW YORK 11501

June 30, 1989

Honorable Thomas S. Gulotta
County Executive
One West Street
Mineola, New York 11501

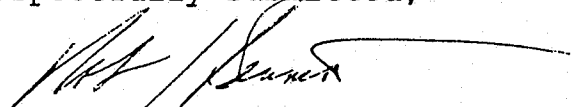
Dear Mr. Gulotta:

I submit herewith the Annual Report of the Probation Department for the year ending December 31, 1988.

This report is essentially a statistical overview of major program activities during 1988 with comparative statistics for previous years.

I gratefully acknowledge your support of Probation and the ongoing cooperation of your entire staff. I must also acknowledge the dedication and loyalty of the employees in the Probation Department who have made it possible for us to maintain the highest standards of service to the people of Nassau County.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert J. Bennett
Director of Probation

RJB:jb

NASSAU COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Thomas S. Gulotta
County Executive

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Presiding Supervisor
Town of Hempstead

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Town of Oyster Bay

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Administrative Judge, Courts of Nassau County

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Supervising Judge, Criminal Courts

Hon. C. Raymond Radigan
Judge of the Surrogate's Court

Hon. Burton S. Joseph
Supervising Judge, Family Court

Hon. Charles G. Heine
President, Board of Judges, District Court

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



ROBERT J. BENNETT
Director of Probation

In 1988, the Nassau County Probation Department was a \$22 million dollar agency, completing close to 8,000 pre-sentence investigations for the Nassau County Courts and supervising nearly 14,000 offenders in the community. A very cost-effective asset in Nassau County's criminal justice system, this department has proven to be the cornerstone of alternatives to incarceration incorporating surveillance of sentenced offenders with a diversity of sanctions and programs.

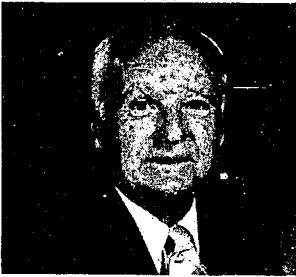
As state prisons and county jails contend with critical overcrowding, the courts are relying more and more on probation for pre-institutional constraint. Sentences to probation remain by far the most frequent sentence of the Nassau County Courts.

Concomitant with the rising level of crime in 1988, the Nassau County Probation Department experienced significantly increased caseloads and the sentencing to probation of individuals who would have otherwise been incarcerated. Yet, despite the fact that staffing levels have not kept pace with the increases in caseloads, this department continued to maintain its commitment to quality probation.

Inherent in all department planning and programs are the multiple objectives of community safety, sanctions to insure compliance with court directives, and positive re-direction of the offender. Along with a highly dedicated staff, proud of this department's statewide reputation for excellence, these objectives constitute the core of quality probation. Quality probation is a highly cost-effective means for re-directing the offender toward a successful adjustment to society while keeping the protection of the community foremost.

The primary forces responsible for shaping this department's workload in 1988 were jail overcrowding, substance abuse problems and recidivism. They will continue at crisis levels for some time to come. Resources, including staffing, for controlling these forces have not kept pace with the extent of the problem. Nevertheless, within these limitations, the Nassau County Probation Department, with its long-term professional staff of experienced officers, will continue to safeguard the quality of life in our County.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. J. Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.



JAMES J. TREUCHTLINGER
Deputy Director

Unyielding alcohol and drug problems; police drug sweeps and sting operations; an appreciable increase in crimes committed by non-resident offenders; and the urgency of jail overcrowding were predominant factors in the sharp rise of the investigation workload. Culminating in record-setting statistics, the past year presented new, rigorous challenges. An experienced and singularly dedicated professional and clerical staff enabled the investigations bureau not only to meet these demands, but to consistently maintain the high quality standards for which this department is noted.

CRIMINAL DIVISION

INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU -- The Nassau County Probation Department conducts court-ordered pre-sentence and pre-plea investigations for the District and County Courts of Nassau County; the City Courts of Long Beach and Glen Cove; and, upon request, for the Supreme Court, Village Courts and Police Justice Courts. The pre-sentence investigation is a comprehensive evaluative study of the offender. Recommendations for sentencing and treatment needs and other special conditions are included. During the investigation, referrals are made for mental, physical, alcohol or drug evaluations. The pre-sentence report plays a pivotal role in the sentencing decision by the court and in subsequent decisions on services for the offender during probation supervision. The pre-sentence report is also used by the Division of Correctional Services for classification and placement of the offender in the prison system, and by the Parole Board when release to parole is under consideration.

In 1988, because of jail overcrowding and accelerating substance abuse problems, pre-sentence investigation assignments increased 14.9% over 1987, to reach a record high of 7,922. The County Court, with felony jurisdiction, accounted for 2,643 or 33.1% of the overall assignment total. This was an increase of 364 cases over 1987; District Court, with misdemeanor jurisdiction contributed 5,279 or 66.6% of the total. This represented an increase of 669 cases over 1987.

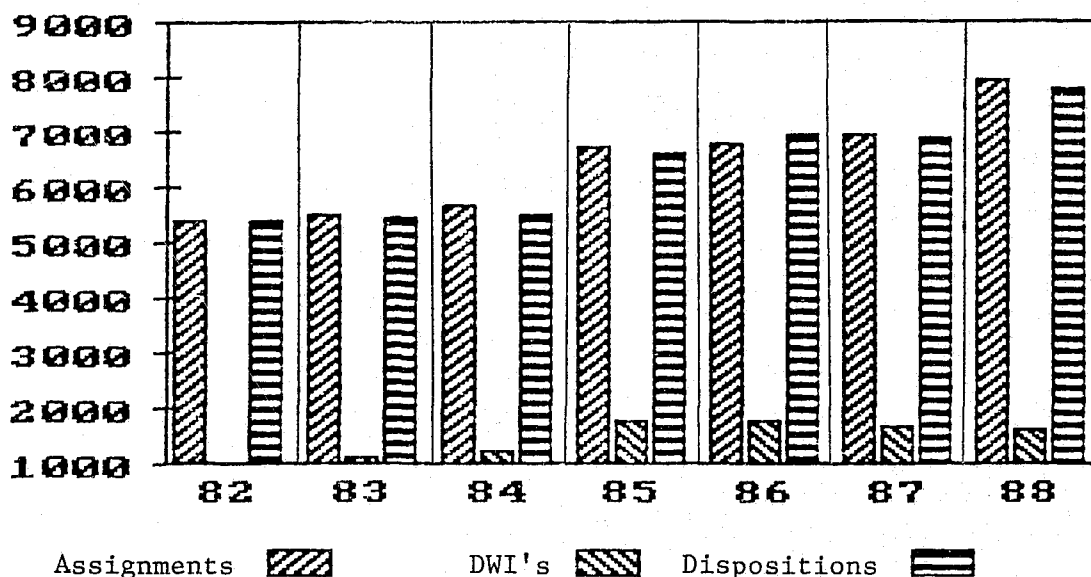
An analysis of these investigations shows that the median age of offenders in 1988 remained at 26.2 years. The proportion of male and female cases remained substantially the same as in 1987 with 6,645 (85.7%) male cases and 1,113 (14.3%) female cases. In 1988 pre-sentence investigations on non-residents of Nassau County comprised 29.6% of the investigation caseload, demonstrating a 16.5% increase over 1987.

Of the 7,758 investigations disposed of in 1988, 3,472 were

sentenced to straight probation; 1,102 to jail plus probation; 2,512 to Nassau County jail or State prison; and 672 to fines, discharges or dismissals.

Pre-Sentence Assignments, 1982-1988

<u>ALL PRESENTENCE</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>
Invest.Assign.	5384	5458	5666	6670	6762	6889	7922
DWI Offenses	766	1063	1168	1746	1730	1630	1609
Investigations w/Dispositions	5370	5434	5498	6611	6904	6861	7758
% DWI Invest. w/Dispositions	14.3	19.6	21.2	26.4	25.1	23.8	20.8



The expanding drug problem in 1988 shows a dramatic increase of 56.9% in cases involving drug abuse offenses. The leading type of drug in these offenses is cocaine, which accounted for one-half of the drugs involved in pre-sentence investigations. Crack, the cocaine derivative, ranked second. If crack and cocaine cases are combined, they account for 82% of substance abuse cases. While heroin ranked fourth in frequency of use in drug offenses in 1988, it is interesting to note that it reflected an increase of 83.7% over the previous year. Since heroin is primarily an intravenous drug, increased use may foreshadow even greater numbers of AIDS cases.

Types of Drugs Involved in Drug Abuse Assignments, 1987 and 1988

Type	1987		1988		Inc/Dec 1988 over 1987	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Cocaine	619	54.9	855	49.8	+236	+ 38.1
Crack	251	22.3	552	32.2	+301	+119.9
Marijuana	144	12.7	168	9.8	+ 24	+ 16.7
Heroin	49	4.4	90	5.2	+ 41	+ 83.7
Valium	11	1.0	8	0.5	- 3	- 27.3
LSD	6	0.5	7	0.4	+ 1	+ 16.7
PCP	8	0.7	13	0.7	+ 5	+ 62.5
Angel Dust	4	0.3	3	0.2	- 1	- 25.0
Quaaludes	1	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0
Hashish	4	0.4	0	0.0	- 4	-100.0
Barbiturates	4	0.4	0	0.0	- 4	-100.0
Amphetamines	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Diazepam	0	0.0	2	0.1	+ 2	+100.0
Other	26	2.3	17	1.0	- 9	- 34.6
Total	1127	100.0	1716	100.0	+589	+ 52.3

An analysis of the major crime categories in the 1988 investigation caseload indicates a decline in crimes against property and a rise in crimes against persons. The most frequent drug offense continues to be possession of a controlled substance accounting for 49.7% of all drug offenses. The driving while intoxicated (DWI) offense category fell for the third consecutive year, but it continues to dominate, comprising 20.7% of the investigation cases.

Ten Ranking Criminal Offenses For The Investigation Program
1987 and 1988

		<u>1987</u>				<u>1988</u>	
<u>Rank</u>	<u>Offense</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>% Total</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Offense</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>% Total</u>
1	DWI	1630	23.8	1	DWI	1609	20.7
2	Larceny	1391	20.3	2	Larceny	1499	19.3
3	Poss.Cont.Subst.	481	7.0	3	Poss.Cont.Subst.	713	9.2
4	Assault	380	5.5	4	Sale Cont.Subst.	593	7.6
5	Sale Cont.Subst.	350	5.1	5	Assault	458	5.9
6	Poss.Stol.Ppty	306	4.5	6	Poss.Stol.Ppty	289	3.7
7	Burglary	300	4.4	7	Burglary	271	3.5
8	Robbery	233	3.4	8	Unauth.Use Veh.	263	3.4
9	Crim. Mischief	222	3.2	9	Crim.Mischief	261	3.4
10	Poss.Dang.Weap.	155	2.3	10	Robbery	226	2.9

PRE-TRIAL SERVICES-- A vital component in helping to contain the jail population are probation's pre-trial services. These services are directed toward those people not yet convicted or sentenced but who might have been held after arrest in the Nassau County Jail. Each person released represents jail days saved for the County.

Release-on-Recognizance [ROR]

Investigations are conducted for the courts on persons held in detention or at the Nassau County jail pending trial to determine if they can be safely released to the community without bail or reduced bail.

Conditional Release Program [CROC]

This unit provides monitoring and limited supervision of persons who have been released to the community pending trial. It is designed to ensure their return for court appearances.

Pre-Trial Services

	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>Inc/Dec</u>	
			<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
ROR Investigations Completed	3990	4371	+381	+9.5
Conditional Release Cases Under Supervision	6149	5766	-383	-6.2

Victims Assistance Unit

This unit conducts between 400 to 600 restitution investigations per month. The crime victims' monetary losses are assessed by reviewing the documentation sent to the unit. Recommendations are made to the court regarding the amounts of restitution to be paid by offenders to their victims. In addition, officers in the Victims Assistance Unit often help the victims by referring them to appropriate agencies for compensation, redress, and therapeutic intervention. After sentencing of the offender, each victim is contacted and apprised of any restitution that may have been ordered by the court.

As victims' compensation and rights are gaining increased consideration in imposing sentencing sanctions, greater reliance is being placed upon the Victims Assistance Unit, not only by

investigating probation officers, but by the District Attorney's office and the Courts as well.

Each succeeding year has shown an increase in restitution investigations. As a result, there has been a proportionate increase in the amount of restitution ordered by the court and collected by the Probation Department. In 1988 \$1,356,000 was collected as compared to \$1,120,000 in 1987, an increase of \$236,000.

Probation Alcohol Screening Service [PASS]

A crisis intervention and rehabilitative strategy, the PASS program reaches out to the first-time DWI offender at the earliest possible time after arrest. Upon an evaluation at probation by a licensed alcohol treatment professional, defendants are offered the opportunity to enter alcohol treatment prior to sentencing with the possibility of a conditional discharge if they cooperate with the program.

PASS monitors participants' adherence to court mandated treatment conditions and provides intervention counseling and referral services. During 1988, intake was closed for four months. In the remaining months of the year 737 cases were screened; 194 cases were awaiting legal disposition at the end of the year; 332 cases were actively monitored at the year's end.

Since the beginning of the PASS program in 1986, approximately 3,000 first-time DWI offenders have been referred for treatment. The PASS program undoubtedly accounts in part for the continuing reduction in DWI investigations and supervision caseloads.

Court Liaison Unit

This Unit acts as a conduit for information and communication between the Probation Department and the Nassau County Courts, Long Beach City Court and Glen Cove City Court. Officers in this unit are responsible for screening pre-sentence reports, preparing commitment papers and communication with New York State Division of Correction and the Nassau County Sheriff's Department.

Other officers work directly in the courtrooms, communicating probation policy, handling judicial inquiries and conferencing with judges, law secretaries, defense attorneys and district attorneys.

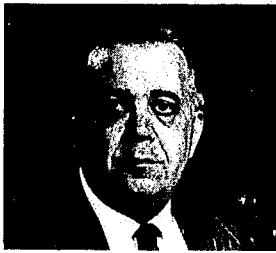
The Court Liaison Unit contributes to a smoother, more efficient tracking of probation's cases through the various court systems while keeping staff up to date concerning the status of cases.

Intensive Supervision

Completing its tenth year of operation in 1988, the intensive supervision program with a special screening unit is designed for the high-risk offender. The program focuses resources on this population through the use of a low caseload - high service management approach. Selected on the basis of risk assessment, the offenders in the ISP program are intensively supervised. Collateral sources as well, are contacted on a frequent basis for information on the probationer's functioning in the community.

Average probation officer caseloads in the intensive supervision program by state standards remained stable at 28.2 cases per officer in 1988. In keeping with the high-risk offender population, the violation of probation rate in 1988 was higher in the intensive supervision program than the previous year: 27.9 violations in 1988 to 23.3 violations per 100 cases in 1987.

Because the intensive supervision program deals only with high-risk offenders, and because those who are doing well are transferred to other programs, the failure rate (% of probationers discharged as unimproved or committed) for ISP as compared to other supervision programs is expected to be higher. In 1988, based on 201 discharged probationers, the ISP success rate (% of probationers discharged as improved) remained low at 24.9% while the failure rate rose to a high of 74.1%.



DANIEL EBBIN
Deputy Director

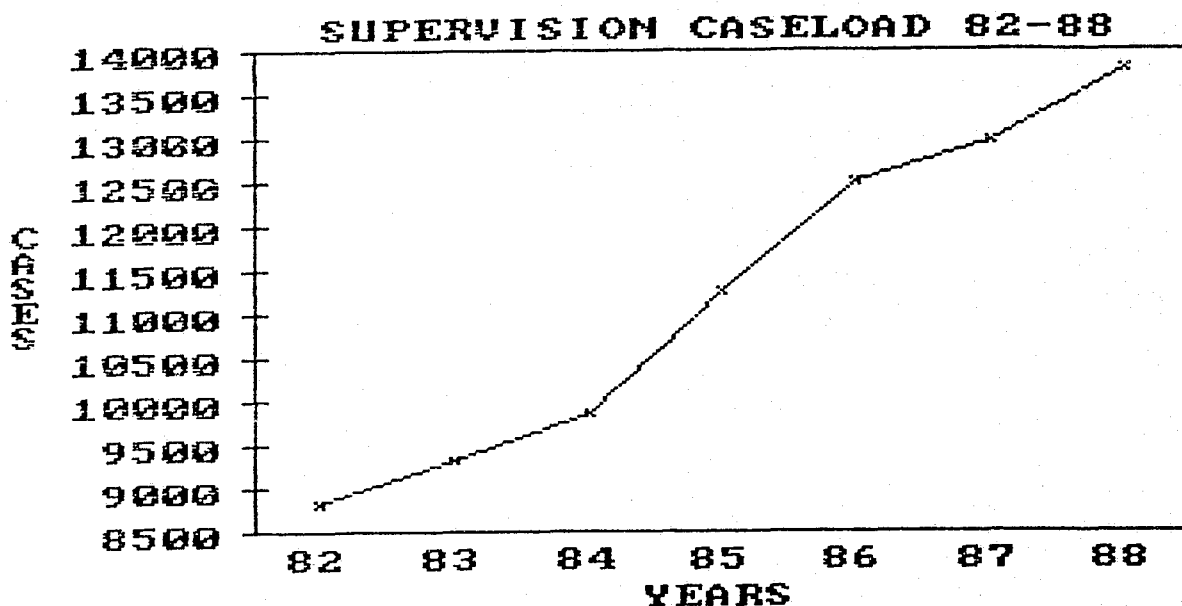
The supervising probation officer is entrusted with a dual responsibility: to protect the community and to re-direct offenders to law-abiding behavior. In 1988, the department witnessed a noticeable upsurge in problematic probationers, including the homeless, the undocumented aliens, the mentally impaired chemical abusers, and those diagnosed with AIDS. Despite the added difficulties for the probation officer in supervising such offenders, the safety of Nassau County's citizens was never compromised.

SUPERVISION BUREAU -- The supervision of sentenced offenders in the community continues to be the largest single program of probation. It is the alternative to incarceration that emphasizes community safety through effective monitoring of probationers while providing a wide array of services designed to promote lawful behavior. Under the guidance of a probation officer, individuals sentenced to probation are required to abide by the conditions of probation set forth by the court and, if appropriate, pay restitution to their victims, undergo treatment for addiction or emotional problems, be confined under house arrest, or perform community service. A large network of County and community based agencies as well as inhouse programs are utilized by the probation officer in working with probationers.

Caseloads in supervision continue to rise. In 1988, there was a 6.3% increase in the total overall caseload compared to 1987. During 1988, a record high total of 13,763 criminal offenders were on probation, an increase of 812 over 1987. The 1988 average caseload in the drug and alcohol units reached a record high of 99.8 cases per officer and the average caseload in the regular units reached a record high of 96.2 cases per officer.

Total Supervision Caseload During 1982 to 1988

	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>
Total Post Adjud. Cases Under Supv	8816	9291	9845	11,243	12,482	12,951	13,763
Inc/Dec over Previous Year	+ 585	+ 475	+ 554	+ 1,398	+ 1,239	+ 469	+ 812
% Inc/Dec Over Previous Year	+ 7.1	+ 5.4	+ 5.9	+ 14.2	+ 11.0	+ 3.8	+ 6.3



In addition to the record setting number of cases, there were significant increases in difficult offenders with greater supervision needs. Homeless individuals, undocumented aliens, the illiterates, the mentally impaired chemical abusers and those with the AIDS virus set unprecedented challenges for supervising probation officers in 1988.

Repeat offenders posed additional problems for the supervision programs. High levels of recidivists (66.3% in 1988) in the investigation program assured that a high level of recidivists would enter the supervision caseload. Almost 59% of these offenders were sentenced to probation. Recidivism represents an important variable in the offender profile. The probationer with a prior record indicates a higher risk both for successful adjustment to probation supervision and to outcome after discharge from probation.

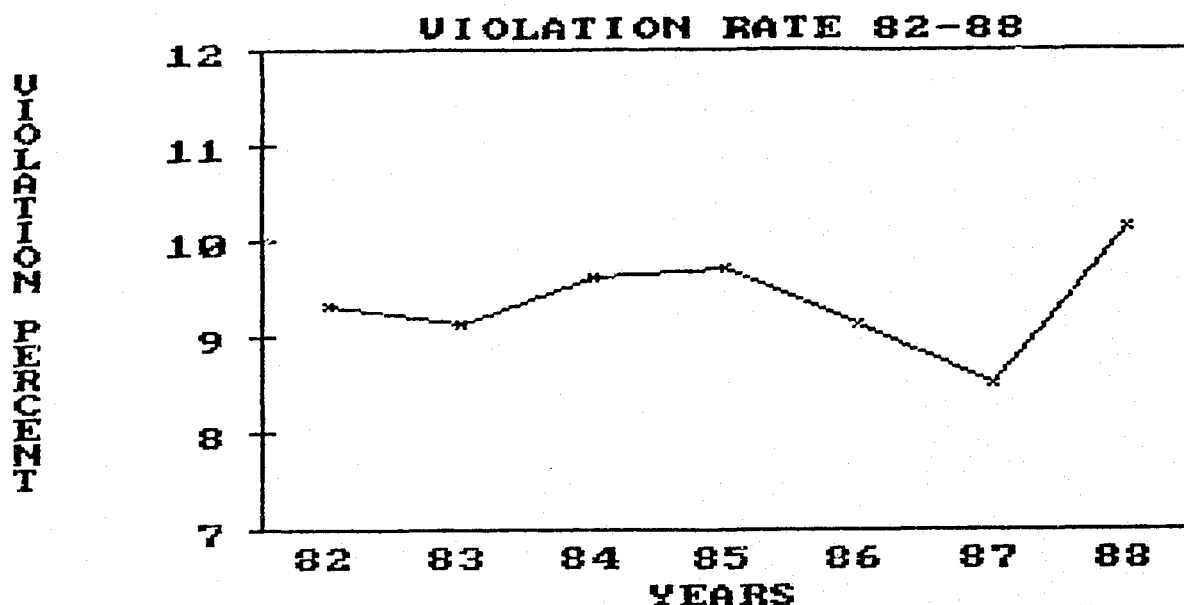
The increases in the number of cases, and the increases in difficult offenders contributed to a decline in the success rate for discharged probationers and an increase in the violation rate in 1988.

The number of violations filed was 1,389, an increase of 26.7% over 1987. The rate of violations filed rose to its highest level in this decade -- 10.1 violations per 100 cases under supervision.

In the drug and alcohol supervision program, 1988 saw a decline in the rate of individuals discharged as improved: 71.7% in 1988 as compared to 75.9% in 1987. Similarly, in the regular supervision program, the success rate declined from 62.2% in 1987 to 57.7% in 1988.

Violations of Probation Filed 1982 to 1988

	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>
Total No. Cases Under Supv.	8816	9291	9845	11,243	12,482	12,951	13,763
No. Violations	816	849	948	1,094	1,136	1,096	1,389
Violation Rate	9.3	9.1	9.6	9.7	9.1	8.5	10.1



Compact Services

The Compact Services Unit monitors approximately 30% of all offenders sentenced to probation in Nassau County. Because these offenders are non-residents of Nassau County, the Compact Unit arranges the transfer of their supervision from Nassau County to the offenders' home jurisdictions. However, the unit remains responsible for collecting restitution or fines ordered by the court from these offenders.

In 1988, the number of cases transferred by the Compact Services Unit to jurisdictions outside of Nassau County was 1,511 as compared to the 1987 figure of 1,271, an increase of 16%.

Probation Alcohol Treatment (PAT) Program

This is a special unit for probationers who meet specific criteria including multiple DWI arrests and a significant blood alcohol content (BAC) at the time of arrest.

PAT combines intensive supervision with group therapy. The group

therapy sessions are co-led by certified alcohol counselors and the specially trained probation officers in the PAT unit for a unique professional team approach to intervene with the DWI offender and his family. At the end of 1988, 194 cases were under supervision.

In August of 1988 the Probation Department instituted a breathalyzer program. All probation officers were trained in the proper use of the portable breath tester and in appropriate record keeping procedures. Between August 1, 1988 and December 31, 1988 a total of 2,786 tests were performed. The breathalyzer program is expected to significantly enhance the monitoring capabilities of probation's supervision program.

Probation Referral Program

In addressing the escalating problem of drugs and drug abuse in Nassau County, a cooperative undertaking between Probation and Nassau County Department of Drug and Alcohol Addiciton resulted in the Probation Referral Program (PRP). This program makes drug treatment services available at any one of 29 approved community agencies for probationers involved in drug offenses. Expectations are that such treatment, in conjunction with probation supervision, will help to curb future drug-related criminal activities.

Electronic Surveillance & Detention Unit [ESD]

Now in its second full year of operation, the ESD unit electronically monitored 89 offenders in 1988, bringing the total number of offenders monitored to 149 since the unit's inception.

The unit's electronic monitoring equipment provides 24 hour seven-day-a-week supervision. It consists of a transmitter (attached to the offender's ankle), a field monitor (attached to the offenders telephone), and a central computer in the ESD office. An offender's curfew schedule is programmed into the computer noting such data as work hours, therapy appointments and reports to probation. Any unauthorized absences from home automatically generate a violation message to the computer.

Presently a sentence by the court that includes electronic monitoring as a condition of probation is imposed most frequently on offenders who need a further sanction to straight probation, but a less harsh sanction than confinement in jail. Future planning for expanded use of the ESD unit's electronic monitoring functions is being directed at helping to ease the problem of jail overcrowding and includes pre-trial services and civil commitments.

Warrant Squad

A highly specialized and intensively trained unit, the Warrant Squad is responsible for the apprehension of probation violators. The warrant squad processes all voluntary surrenders of probationers in the office and returns these probationers to court. The warrant squad also apprehends violators at large in the community. The officers in this unit receive training in weapons, self-defense, handgun retention, justification of physical force and search and seizure procedures. Because this unit processes offenders who may be intoxicated or psychotic or violent, the officers receive additional training in crisis intervention, hostage negotiations, and mediation techniques.

In 1988 the unit executed 1,249 warrants. There were 1,034 office arrests and 215 field arrests.

Mental Health Services

The Probation Mental Health Unit provides consultation and referral services to probation officers regarding probationers' psychiatric and emotional problems. The unit also serves as liaison with treatment facilities and participates in discharge planning and aftercare for probationers who have been hospitalized. In 1988, the Mental Health Unit worked with the Child Abuse Coordination and Treatment Team of the Nassau County Coalition on Child Abuse concerning treatment planning for both interfamilial and nonfamilial sex offenders.



KENT J. LEWIS
Deputy Director

The Family Division of the Nassau County Probation Department is charged by law with addressing some of the most complex issues arising from family disorganization. The individuals and families coming before the court increasingly manifest a multiplicity of problems reflecting the disorder, violence, and chemical dependency of society. Yet, with innovative programming, team management, and a dedicated staff, the Family Division in 1988 was not only able to meet these challenges but to advance its standing as the foremost family probation system in New York State.

FAMILY DIVISION

JUVENILE SERVICES -- The intent of all recent juvenile services legislation has been to divert juveniles from the formal court system. The policies, programs and initiatives of the Family Division reflect this trend. However, the efforts to divert offenders must be consistent with the protection of the community. Probation officers dealing with juveniles at each point in the system balance this paramount consideration with concern for the best interests of the child.

JUVENILE INTAKE

In most cases Probation Intake is the entry level to Family Court. During 1988 there was a slight increase in the number of youths referred to Juvenile Intake, reversing a decline over the last six years. New juvenile delinquency (J.D.) cases assigned totalled 1,068, an increase of 5 over 1987, while new PINS (persons in need of supervision) cases increased from 595 to 624.

Many of the youngsters referred this past year exhibited greater pathology and substance abuse than in the past. Nevertheless, 71.7% of all PINS cases and 38.2% of J.D. cases were diverted at Juvenile Intake.

In addition, juvenile intake collected a total of \$56,560 in restitution from 123 juveniles as part of the adjustment process.

Juvenile Intake, 1987-1988

	<u>Cases Assigned</u>				<u>Petitions Filed</u>			
	1987	1988	Inc/Dec		1987	1988	Inc/Dec	
			No.	%			No.	%
JD	1063	1068	+ 5	+ .5	641	646	+ 5	+ .8
PINS	<u>595</u>	<u>624</u>	<u>+29</u>	+4.9	<u>187</u>	<u>171</u>	-16	-8.6
Totals	1658	1692	+34	+2.1	828	817	-11	-1.3

Juvenile Investigations

Following an affirmative finding, the court may order a probation investigation and report to assist in arriving at a disposition.

Investigations assigned in 1988 showed a 24% drop in total numbers, from 545 in 1987 to 414 in 1988. This reflects the increasing emphasis on diversion at Juvenile Intake and the use by the court of less restrictive ACOD dispositions which in many cases do not involve initial probation investigations. Almost one-third of the juveniles referred by the Family Court judiciary for a probation investigation come from families which have been or are currently known to Child Protective Services for incidents of child abuse.

Investigations Assigned

<u>Type</u>	<u>1987</u>		<u>1988</u>		<u>Inc/Dec.</u>	
	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
JD	348	63.8	258	62.3	- 90	-25.9
PINS	197	36.2	156	37.7	- 41	-20.8
Total	545	100.0	414	100.0	-131	-24.0

Probation continues to be the most frequent disposition of juvenile cases. In 1988, probation was the disposition in 51.9% of the J.D. cases and 65.4% of PINS cases. Because of the availability of intensive supervision, drug testing, and lower caseloads in the supervision units, a sentence of probation is frequently recommended despite serious behavioral difficulties. All cases going to disposition are carefully screened to recommend the least restrictive option as required by law.

JD Dispositions

PINS Dispositions

<u>Type</u>	<u>1987</u>		<u>1988</u>		<u>Inc/Dec</u>		<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>		
Probation	174	152	-22	-12.6	138	110	-28	- 20.3
Placement	65	54	-11	- 1.7	35	29	- 6	- 17.1
W/D & Dismissed	54	14	-40	-74.1	19	14	- 7	- 3.7
CD & Susp.Judg.	44	16	-28	-63.6	12	4	- 8	+ 66.7
ACOD	47	52	+ 5	+10.6	2	9	+ 7	+350.0
Other	4	5	+ 1	-25.0	1	4	+ 3	+300.0
Totals	388	293	-95	-24.5	207	168	-39	- 18.8

For those J.D. investigations receiving dispositions, criminal mischief was the number one ranking offense comprising 16.4% of all JD offenses. As evidence of the escalating drug problem, possession of a controlled substance was included in the top five ranking offenses for the first time in 1988.

Highest Ranking JD Offenses

		<u>1987</u>				<u>1988</u>	
<u>Rank</u>	<u>Offense</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>% all JD Offenses</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Offense</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>% all JD Offenses</u>
1.	Larceny	86	17.4	1.	Criminal Mischief	48	16.4
2.	Burglary	55	14.9	2.	Larceny	39	13.3
3.	Assault	52	13.5	3.	Assault	35	11.9
4.	Criminal Mischief	50	13.0	4.	Burglary	37	12.6
5.	Criminal Trespass	26	6.7	5.	Poss.Cont.Sub.	20	6.8

Juvenile Supervision

Juvenile Supervision was carried out in 1988 by two regular supervision units and one Juvenile Intensive Services Unit. The regular units supervised caseloads averaging 30 to 40 juveniles. The Juvenile Intensive Services Unit supervised at-risk-for-placement juveniles with caseloads generally half the size of regular units.

Probation officers supervising juveniles employ a wide array of techniques to encourage positive behavioral change. Extensive use of community resources and regular contact with school officials, parents, law enforcement agencies, therapists, and others are utilized.

In the Juvenile Intensive Services Unit, two highly trained senior probation officers monitor the most serious cases in the Family Division. Supervising juveniles residing in targeted, high crime areas, they use team and surveillance techniques; conduct frequent, unscheduled contact with probationers; collect and analyze intelligence regarding street activities; and coordinate a vigorous drug testing program for juveniles suspected of substance abuse.

Reflecting the trend to diversion there was a decline of 11.7% in 1988 in the number of post-adjudicatory cases under supervision. However, pre-adjudicatory cases (which are primarily ACOD cases) exhibited an increase of almost 8%. Such dispositions are being used more frequently by the Family Court as a less intrusive sentencing option.

Post-Adjudicatory Supervision

	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>Inc/Dec</u>	
			<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
JD	476	483	+ 7	- 1.4
PINS	379	272	-107	-28.2
Total	855	755	-100	-11.7

Pre-Adjudicatory Supervision

	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>Inc/Dec</u>	
			<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
Total during year	102	110	+ 8	+ 7.8

School Liaison/Aftercare Unit

This specialized unit serves the juvenile who is placed in a residential facility, providing a continuum of case management that is completed only when the youth is discharged from aftercare supervision. During the period of placement, the unit works closely with the residential school, the child and the child's family. Because of the ongoing cooperation and support provided by the School Liaison/Aftercare Unit, most placements of Nassau County juveniles are with private facilities at considerably lower costs than Division for Youth institutions.

Pre-Placement Screening Committee

This committee reviews all cases in which residential placement is under consideration. The committee's role is to assure that all viable alternatives to placement are explored and that the least restrictive or intrusive alternative is pursued as required by law.

In 1988, the committee reviewed 235 presentations and was able to recommend alternatives to placement in one-third of the cases. Such alternatives are proposed only when they are consistent with the need for community safety.

JD & PINS INSTITUTIONAL STATISTICS

	<u>1987</u>			<u>1988</u>			<u>Inc/Dec</u>	
	<u>Inst.</u>	<u>Care</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Inst.</u>	<u>Care</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
Placed During Year:								
Investigation	98	0	98	83	0	83	-15	-15.3
Supervision	29	0	29	53	0	53	+24	+82.7
Total Cases	366	37	403	366	16	382	-21	- 5.2
Discharged During Year	128	29	157	127	10	137	-20	-12.7
Remaining End of Year	238	8	246	239	6	245	- 1	- .4

ADULT/FAMILY SERVICES -- The Family Division provides services to the court on child abuse/neglect matters, custody/visitation problems and domestic violence. These services are generally initiated at the Adult Intake Unit. However at the request of the court, the Family Services Units offer investigatory and supervisory assistance at any stage of the proceedings.

Adult Intake

The Adult Intake Unit assists persons seeking resolution of family violence problems, custody/visitation matters, certain types of support cases as well as modifications or enforcement of court orders. Probation officers in this unit help applicants in filing petitions, but whenever possible, they attempt to resolve matters through informal agreements, the use of mediation, or appropriate referrals to outside agencies.

The Adult Intake Unit saw a significant increase of 17.4% in the numbers of petitioners requesting assistance in custody/visitation and family offense matters. Together, these two categories account for over 60% of all cases seen by the intake units. The increase in family offense petitions in 1988 reflects probation's intensified efforts to expedite services for family violence cases.

INTAKE UNIT 1987-1988

Category	<u>Cases Assigned</u>				<u>Petitions Filed</u>			
	1987	1988	Inc/Dec		1987	1988	Inc/Dec	
			No.	%			No.	%
Custody/Visitation	2407	2747	+ 340	+ 14.1	1974	2452	+ 478	+ 24.3
*Support	4831	2294	-2537	- 52.5	3867	2131	-1736	- 44.9
Family Offense	5452	5634	+ 182	+ 3.3	4383	4740	+ 357	+ 8.2
*Paternity	525	228	- 297	- 56.6	398	197	- 201	- 50.6
Other	514	1012	+ 498	+ 96.9	435	938	+ 503	+115.7
Totals	13,729	11,915	-1814	- 13.2	11,057	10,458	- 599	- 5.4

* Probation Intake statistics for support and paternity cases reflect cases assigned and petitions filed by respondents. Effective January 1, 1988, Department of Social Services assumed duties to assist petitioners in filing support and paternity petitions.

Family Services Unit I (Domestic Violence Cases)

This unit provides investigations of family offense cases for the court and supervises respondents who have been sentenced to probation as a result of domestic violence.

This past year saw an almost 50% increase in the family violence cases referred for supervision. Cognizant of the urgency of the domestic violence problem, Probation has responded by accepting supervision of family violence cases without a prior investigation and report. The department's focus continues to emphasize the role of probation in protecting the petitioner/victim and in monitoring and directing offenders to appropriate rehabilitation/treatment programs.

Family Service Unit I, 1987-1988

<u>Type</u>	<u>Investigations Assigned</u>				<u>Total Caseload During Year</u>			
	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>Inc/Dec</u>		<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>Inc/Dec</u>	
			<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>			<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
Family Offense	175	136	-39	-22.3	86	127	+41	+47.7

Family Services Unit II

Primarily an investigative unit, this unit provides Family, Supreme and Surrogate's Courts with reports on child abuse/neglect matters, custody/visitation and adoption proceedings.

Child Abuse/Neglect

As a result of petitions filed by Child Protective Services, there was a 60% increase in the number of abuse/neglect investigations in 1988. Some of the reasons for this dramatic increase are the babies who are born with symptoms of maternal drug abuse during pregnancy; an increased awareness of abuse and neglect by referral sources; and a large increase in the numbers of referrals being made to Child Protective Services.

Custody & Visitation/Adoption Matters

Although there was an increase in 1988 in the number of custody/visitation petitions filed at intake, there was a significant decrease of 25% in the numbers of custody/visitation cases referred for investigation. This suggests that the courts are moving to resolve these matters at an early stage in the proceedings without requiring a full probation investigation. To

assist the courts, Probation's Family Division has offered services in providing mediation for custody/visitation matters both at the intake level as well as after the filing of the petition.

Adoptions

Adoptions referred by both the Family and Surrogate's Courts are conducted by the Family Division's Supreme Court Unit. During 1988, the Family Division re-evaluated the content of its adoption investigations. More extensive evaluative investigations and reports will provide the courts with increased data for the decision-making process.

Family Service Unit II, 1987-1988

Investigations Assigned

<u>Type</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>Inc/Dec</u>	
			<u>No.</u>	<u>%</u>
Adoption	31	46	+ 15	+48.4
Neglect/Abuse	321	514	+193	+60.1
Custody/Visitation	<u>783</u>	<u>584</u>	<u>-199</u>	<u>-25.4</u>
Total	1135	1144	+ 9	+ .8

SUPPORT SERVICES

Mental Health Unit

The Mental Health Unit continues to provide case consultations for probation officers and the judiciary of the Family Court. The Mental Health Consultant acts as liaison between Family Court, the Probation Department, and Division of Forensic Services at Nassau County Medical Center. Additionally, the consultant chairs the division's preplacement committee which screens all juvenile cases for residential placement.

Community Resources Specialist

Efforts were initiated to explore the need for specialized treatment of adolescent sex offenders before the Family Court. Work is continuing on developing criteria for such treatment with expectations of creating such services in the near future.

This past year saw the continuation of groups covering effective parenting techniques for the parents of juveniles involved with

the Family Division.

The Family Division continued to emphasize the importance of family violence prevention and treatment. The Spouse Abusers Group Education Program (SAGE) and Victims' Information Group serves domestic violence cases before Family Court.

The Community Resource Specialist also provides liaison services with various county agencies. A number of these agencies offered training to staff in teenage pregnancy prevention, runaway and homeless youth, mental health services and substance abuse.



JOSEPH L. SCIARROTTA
Chief Deputy Director

The Administrative Division plans for the optimal allocation and utilization of the resources of the Probation Department to meet current and future needs within budgetary and personnel constraints. The division studies, evaluates and reports trends, develops programs to meet these needs and implements and refines them for ultimate incorporation into the line operations.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

The Administrative Division establishes and directs planning and policies while providing overall management of the entire department. Complying with New York State Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives, the department's planning and policies are based not only on present issues in criminal justice but also on trends and projected needs in Nassau County. In addition, the Administrative Division directs a number of programs designed to support and augment the effective functions of the line staff.

Budget & Finance

The total Probation Department budget for 1988 was \$22,781,573. Revenues amounted to \$9,355,210 and were derived mainly from reimbursement of 46.5% by the New York State Division of Probation and from the Stop-DWI program, the Intensive Supervision Project, and the Target Crimes Initiative. In addition, the Probation Department received grants for youth employment services from the New York State Division for Youth and the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services totalling \$151,000 for the year.

Personnel

The personnel office administers a comprehensive personnel program for all Probation Department employees in coordination with a number of County agencies and the State Division of Probation.

In 1988, the total number of full-time staff budgeted for the Probation Department was 479, the same as in 1987. As of December 31, 1988, there were 447 employees on payroll.

Despite rising workloads there were 12 less employees on the payroll in 1988 than in 1987. Staffing shortages are reflected

not only in the professional area, but in essential clerical functions as well.

Research & Staff Development

Research and Staff Development activities include program development, research, statistics, staff training and supervision of interns.

Research efforts continue to focus on statistical reporting and analyses of criminal and family division activities, offender profiles, community data, trends in criminal justice and general demographics.

Training activities resulted in the fulfillment of the staff development plan for 1988 with 100% of professional personnel completing minimum training requirements. Education in alcohol and substance abuse diagnosis and treatment was a high priority.

A significant portion of training hours were spent in firearms training as required by law, with 28 new officers qualifying and 184 requalifying. All probation officers and many trainees have completed the basic course for peace officers and all professional staff participated in the annual seminar on legislative changes that affect probation. All qualified probation officers received instruction in use of chemical agents (Mace), handgun retention and defensive tactics.

The audio-visual section participated in numerous training films and taping to assist probation officers in on-the-job training, and in providing the agency with materials to enhance public information programs.

Employment Unit

Securing and maintaining employment or vocational training is a condition of probation for most adult offenders and an important element in reducing recidivism and supporting lawful behavior in both juveniles and adults. The Employment Unit serves both the Criminal and Family Divisions with programs designed to help probationers find jobs and to assist those who require guidance, job readiness skills or vocational training.

The unit administers two special employment programs for youthful probationers, 14 to 21 years of age providing job readiness training and subsidized and unsubsidized employment.

A community service component for juveniles 11 to 16 years of age was established within the unit for those referred from Family Court intake or supervision. This program presents an alternative sanction for Family Court Probation.

The unit maintains an extensive job bank for the hard-to-place probation population.

During 1988, over 1000 probationers received 2777 employment and vocational guidance services including counseling, job referrals and placements, testing, and referrals to literacy, remedial reading and high school equivalency programs. Additionally, 230 probationers, 14 to 21 years of age, participated in 26 job readiness workshops. Of the 230, 194 participants were placed in employment.

The community service program enabled 126 juveniles to complete over 2700 hours of community service at not-for-profit and tax supported agencies throughout Nassau County.

Hempstead Community Services

An outreach program serving the village of Hempstead and surrounding areas, Hempstead Community Services provides crisis intervention, information and referral services. Since its beginnings in 1967, this unit has participated with other organizations working to alleviate some of the community problems associated with high crime and delinquency rates.

The center is staffed by professional and para-professional workers. As a walk-in service, it is open weekdays with evening hours for regular probation reports.

During 1988, over 600 people were assisted in the areas of employment, vocational training, marital difficulties, financial assistance, transportation, drug abuse and school problems.

Community Resources Specialist

As part of the department's commitment to quality probation, the Community Resources Specialist seeks to provide probation officers in the Criminal Division with enhanced knowledge of community resources. During 1988, liaison was established with a number of agencies offering the department services for probationers including crisis intervention, literacy, addiction problems, and employment skills.

In addition, the Community Resources Specialist arranged for agencies to present their programs to Criminal Division personnel covering innovations in alcohol treatment, aftercare for institutionalized youth, and health programs for those at risk for AIDS.

Recognizing the need for expanded services for selected probationers, the Community Resources Specialist initiated discussions on special programs for developmentally disabled offenders with concerned government and community based agencies.

STATISTICAL SUMMARIES - 1988
NASSAU COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

I. INVESTIGATIONS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

A. Criminal Division	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	
1. County Court				
Post-adjudicatory Investigations	2,157	236	2,393	
Release on Recognizance	338	43	381	
Violations of Probation	321	30	351	
Transfers - Other Courts	293	37	330	
2. Youth Part - County Court				
Post-adjudicatory Investigations	286	23	309	
Violations of Probation	110	13	123	
Transfers - Other Courts	38	4	42	
3. District Court				
Post-adjudicatory Investigations	3,652	732	4,384	
Release on Recognizance	3,416	574	3,990	
Violations of Probation	511	91	602	
Transfers - Other Courts	289	39	328	
4. Youth Part - District Court				
Post-adjudicatory Investigations	550	122	672	
Violations of Probation	82	17	99	
Transfers - Other Courts	22	5	27	
B. Family Division - Family Court				
1. Juvenile Investigations				
Pre-adjudicatory Investigations	57	19	76	
Post-adjudicatory Investigations	323	137	460	
Supplemental Investigations	144	72	216	
Violations of Probation	126	64	190	
Transfers - Other Courts	10	2	12	
2. Family Investigations				
Post-adjudicatory Investigations	629	543	1,172	
Supplemental Investigations	30	21	51	
3. Intake Unit Cases			13,607	
C. Reports on Inquiries	<u>Crim. Div.</u>	<u>Family Div.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
1. Investigations Requested	M	F	M	F
by Other Jurisdictions	11	1	56	36
2. Military Requests	50	28	12	0
3. Copy Case Record Inquiry	322	28	432	138
4. Misc. Requests	18	5	115	75
5. Req. Transfer-In	436	62	48	24
6. Relief from Disability	104	19	0	0
Total	<u>941</u>	<u>143</u>	<u>663</u>	<u>273</u>
			1,604	416
				<u>2,020</u>
Total Investigations				9,466
Total Supplemental Investigations*				22,369
Grand Total				<u>31,835</u>

II. SUPERVISION CASES

A. Criminal Division	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Conditional Release	4,489	1,277	5,766
Post-adjudicatory Supervision			
1. County Court	3,622	561	4,183
2. Youth Part - County Court	903	84	987
3. District Court	6,240	1,157	7,397
4. Youth Part - District Court	1,002	194	1,196
Total	<u>11,767</u>	<u>1,996</u>	<u>13,763</u>
Total Supervision Cases - Criminal Div.	16,256	3,273	19,529
B. Family Division			
1. Pre-adjudicatory Supervision	88	22	110
2. Post-adjudicatory Supervision	668	239	907
3. After-Care Unit	250	132	382
Total Supervision Cases - Family Div.	<u>1,006</u>	<u>393</u>	<u>1,399</u>
Grand Total	17,262	3,666	20,928

* Also includes Release on Recognizance, Violations, Transfers, Intake Unit Cases, and Reports on Inquiries.

COMPARATIVE SUMMARIES 1987-1988
INVESTIGATIONS AND SUPERVISION
NASSAU COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

I. INVESTIGATIONS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES	1987	1988	Inc/Dec 1988 over 1987	
	No.	No.	No.	%
A. Criminal Division				
1. County Court				
Post-adjudicatory Investigations	2,062	2,393	+ 331	+ 16.1
Release on Recognizance	359	381	+ 22	+ 6.1
Violations of Probation	263	351	+ 88	+ 33.5
Transfers - Other Courts	281	330	+ 49	+ 17.4
2. Youth Part - County Court				
Post-adjudicatory Investigations	254	309	+ 55	+ 21.7
Violations of Probation	123	123	0	0.0
Transfers - Other Courts	44	42	- 2	- 4.5
3. District Court				
Post-adjudicatory Investigations	3,910	4,384	+ 474	+ 12.1
Release on Recognizance	3,631	3,990	+ 359	+ 9.9
Violations of Probation	502	602	+ 100	+ 19.9
Transfers - Other Courts	277	328	+ 51	+ 18.4
4. Youth Part - District Court				
Post-adjudicatory Investigations	635	672	+ 37	+ 5.8
Violations of Probation	105	99	- 6	- 5.7
Transfers - Other Courts	16	27	+ 11	+ 68.7
5. Other				
Reports on Inquiries	1,321	1,084	- 237	- 17.9
Total Investigations	6,861	7,758	+ 897	+ 13.1
Total Supplemental Investigations	6,922	7,357	+ 435	+ 6.3
Grand Total	13,783	15,115	+1,332	+ 9.7
B. Family Division				
1. Juvenile Investigations				
Pre-adjudicatory Investigations	68	76	+ 8	+ 11.8
Post-adjudicatory Investigations	595	460	- 135	- 22.7
Supplemental Investigations	183	216	+ 33	+ 18.0
Violations of Probation	114	190	+ 76	+ 66.7
Transfers - Other Courts	12	12	0	0
2. Family Investigations				
Post-adjudicatory Investigations	988	1,172	+ 184	+ 18.6
Supplemental Investigations	43	51	+ 8	+ 18.6
3. Intake Unit Cases	15,387	13,607	- 1,780	- 11.6
4. Reports on Inquiries	927	936	+ 9	+ 0.9
Total Investigations	1,651	1,708	+ 57	+ 3.5
Total Supplemental Investigations	16,666	15,012	- 1,654	- 9.9
Grand Total	18,317	16,720	- 1,597	- 8.7
II. SUPERVISION				
A. Criminal Division				
Conditional Release	6,149	5,766	- 383	- 6.2
Post-adjudicatory Supervision				
1. County Court	3,768	4,183	+ 415	+ 11.0
2. Youth Part - County Court	996	987	- 9	+ 0.9
3. District Court	7,019	7,397	+ 378	+ 5.4
4. Youth Part - District Court	1,168	1,196	+ 28	+ 2.4
Total	12,951	13,763	+ 812	+ 6.3
Total Criminal Division	19,100	19,529	+ 429	+ 2.2
B. Family Division				
1. Pre-adjudicatory Supervision	102	110	+ 8	+ 7.8
2. Post-adjudicatory Supervision	964	907	- 57	- 5.9
3. After Care Unit	403	382	- 21	- 5.2
Total Family Division	1,469	1,399	- 70	- 4.8
DEPARTMENTAL SUMMARY TOTALS				
Total Investigations	8,512	9,466	+ 954	+ 11.2
Total Supplemental Investigations*	23,588	22,369	- 1,219	- 5.2
Grand Total	32,100	31,835	- 265	- 0.8
Total Supervision Caseload	20,569	20,928	+ 359	+ 1.7

* Also includes Release on Recognizance, Violations, Transfers, Intake Unit Cases, and Reports on Inquiries.

NASSAU COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART 1988

