

THE ALLIANCE

THE ALLIANCE is a Quarterly publication of the New York State Alliance of Sex Offender Service Providers (NYSASOSP) and the New York State Chapter of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (NYSATSA.)

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**New York State Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers
and
New York State Alliance of Sex Offender Treatment Providers
ANNOUNCE 12th Annual Conference**

**Intersections:
Research, Public Opinion, & Policy Making
in
Sex Offender Management & Treatment
May 3 & 4, 2007
The Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel—Poughkeepsie, New York**

Keynote Speakers:

**Alisa Klein, Policy Consultant
Joanne Archambault, Sexual Assault Training and Investigations**

Alisa Klein is a policy consultant on the prevention of and response to sexual abuse, sex offender-related policy, and restorative justice. She is currently working as the Public Policy Consultant to the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA); as the lead researcher and author for the National Project to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Violence in Disasters; and as a researcher, writer, and policy advocate for various sexual assault programs.

Joanne Archambault is the President and Training Director of SATI, Inc. (Sexual Assault Training and Investigations) and Executive Director of End Violence Against Women (EVAW) International. SATI provides effective, victim centered, multi-disciplinary training and expert consultation regarding crimes of sexual assault. In January 2003, Ms. Archambault founded EVAW International, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing affordable training for all disciplines with an emphasis on the law enforcement investigation and proper criminal justice responses to sexual assault and domestic violence. Before becoming a full time consultant, Ms. Archambault worked for the San Diego Police Department for almost 23 years, until her retirement in October, 2002. During the last ten years of her service, Sergeant Archambault supervised the Sex Crimes Unit, which investigates approximately 1,000 felony sexual assaults within the City of San Diego each year.

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AGREEMENT AUTHORIZES CIVIL COMMITMENT OF SEX OFFENDERS

The following is a press release issued by the Governor Eliot Spitzer's Office on March 1, 2007.

Governor Eliot Spitzer, Lieutenant Governor David Paterson and legislative leaders today announced an agreement on legislation that will help protect New Yorkers against repeat sex offenders. The legislation authorizes a new program of civil commitment of individuals who have been convicted of sex crimes, served their prison terms and yet remain a clear threat to commit additional sex crimes.

"We must do all we can to protect society from individuals who prey upon innocents," said Governor Spitzer. "This legislation will improve our ability to identify and properly confine the most dangerous sexual predators, while also expanding supervision and treatment of all sex offenders."

"Real, effective protection from the threat of sexual crimes has always been the Assembly's goal," said Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver. "This bill contains tough new penalties, eliminates parole for Article 130 sex offenses, mandates long periods of supervision and provides for indefinite civil confinement of dangerous predators. This comprehensive measure ensures viable options for civil confinement while mandating treatment for all offenders."

"This legislation will save lives, protect our children and keep our communities safe by making sure dangerous sexual predators are kept off the streets and get the treatment they so desperately need," said Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno. "I commend Senator Dale Volker, who has led the fight in the Senate to get civil commitment enacted for almost two decades. The most important responsibility of government is to protect the people, and this legislation will ensure that all New Yorkers, particularly the most vulnerable -- our children -- are protected from danger-

dangerous sexual offenders. This is another example of negotiating and compromising to get a result that will benefit all New Yorkers."

"Today's agreement on civil commitment is another sign that we have entered a new and productive era in state government," said Senate Minority Leader Malcolm A. Smith. "I'm proud the Senate Democratic Conference had a place at the table and a role in shaping this bill. The fact that we were able to reach an agreement on this issue is a clear sign that things are changing for the better in Albany, thanks in great part to the leadership of Governor Spitzer."

"On March 2nd 1993, the Assembly Republican Conference was the first to introduce civil confinement legislation for the most dangerous sex predators and pedophiles," said Assembly Minority Leader James Tedisco. "Nearly 14 years to the day, we can finally declare victory on behalf of all the families across the state who will now know that someone deemed likely to recommit their heinous sex crimes will not so easily be released back into our communities."

Under the legislation, civil commitment procedures will be streamlined. The initial screening of cases will be done by mental health professionals, who will decide whether the inmate has a mental abnormality that might predispose them to commit sex offenses in the future. A final decision on this issue is entrusted to the unanimous determination of a jury after a trial. A judge will then determine the most appropriate form of management -- either confinement for the highest-risk offenders, or strict and intensive supervision for those who pose a lesser risk. In addition to establishing the new civil commitment program, the new legislation provides for the following:

- Mandatory treatment for all sex offenders -- both during incarceration and after release;

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12th Annual Conference Announcement

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A 21st Century Mandate: Making the Public Safe from Sexual Abuse by Making Sound Public Policy

Throughout the last decades of the 20th century, with legislation such as sex offender registration and community notification, mandated reporting, and other sex offender-specific laws, we have witnessed the creation of societal responses to sexual abuse that are laden with unintended and collateral consequences and that have not necessarily proven successful in ensuring public safety from sexual harm. As we move into the 21st century, with laws such as sex offender residency restrictions, GPS tracking, mandatory minimum sentencing, and a host of other "tough on sex offender" legislation, we see sex offender-related policy becoming increasingly aggressive in its attempt to quell (or perhaps stir up) public fear of sex offending.

On the opening day of the conference, **Ms. Klein** will analyze the ways in which current sex offender-related policy, legislation, and media coverage hamper or enhance our ability as sex offender treatment and management personnel, victim advocates, preventionists, and as a society, to encourage the prevention and disclosure of sexual violence.

Dynamics of Sexual Assault: Special Investigation and Prosecution Issues

Those of us who work in the field of sexual assault are painfully aware of the stereotype of "real rape" and the way that it is so often used to hurt victims. "Real rape," as originally described by Susan Estrich, depicts the stereotype of an assault by a stranger, committed with a weapon and a great deal of physical force. The victim is chaste and responds to the assault with tearful hysterics and a prompt report to police. Sadly, those victimized by sexual assault continue to be judged in comparison to this artificial standard -- and the less their case resembles the stereotype, the more likely they are to be viewed with doubt and/or blame. Unfortunately, those of us in the field are not immune to the power of this societal stereotype. Rather, we see its effects in the

perceptions of prosecutors, jurors, police, and even advocates.

The keynote address by **Ms. Archambault** on Friday will identify how sexual assault investigations are affected by the stereotype of "real rape" and ways to overcome these negative effects.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

The Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel, 40 Civic Center Plaza, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601,

Easily accessed from I-87 (New York State Thruway) Exit 18. Metro-North Railroad's Hudson Line and Amtrak stop at the Poughkeepsie train station. Detailed directions may be accessed at The Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel's website: www.pokgrand.com/area/maps.asp

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

For overnight accommodations, please call the hotel directly at (845) 485-5300.

A block of rooms has been reserved for conference attendees at the rate of \$119 (plus tax) a night for single or double occupancy. You must identify yourself as part of the New York State Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers conference in order to take advantage of this special rate. Discounted rates are available until April 2, 2007.

Other area hotels within a brief driving distance are:

Holiday Inn Express, 341 South Road, Poughkeepsie (845) 473-1153

Courtyard by Marriott, 2146 South Road, Poughkeepsie (845) 485-6336

QUESTIONS/MORE INFORMATION

Please contact Marie-Céleste Edwards at mcedwards@familyservicesny.org or by telephone at (845) 452-1110 Ext. 3134.

Please see pages 6 and 7 of this newsletter for conference workshops and Registration Form.

AGREEMENT AUTHORIZES CIVIL COMMITMENT OF SEX OFFENDERS

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- Longer periods of parole supervision for sex offenders;
- Establishment of a new crime of “sexually motivated felony;” and
- Creation of a new Office of Sex Offender Management in the State Division of Criminal Justice Services, comprehensive policies and standards for the evaluation, treatment and management of sex offenders.

“Our communities will benefit from a well rounded approach to this social problem,” said Lieutenant Governor “Involvement from law enforcement, mental health and judicial professionals will ensure not only that justice treatment plans address mental health issues and legal safeguards ensure due process is followed.”

“This legislation is an important step in the effort to protect all New Yorkers, especially children, from dangerous sexual predators,” said Attorney General Andrew Cuomo. “I applaud the Governor and Legislative leaders for coming together on a bill that strikes a balance between guarding the community while providing important due process protections. Under today’s agreement, the Attorney General’s office will play a critical role in the judicial process determining the continued confinement of the most dangerous sex offenders, and I will devote all of the energies and resources necessary to protect all New Yorkers.”

This press release can be access at the following link:

http://www.ny.gov/governor/press/0301071_print.html

Not a Member of NYS ATSA or the Alliance?

Join now and register for the conference at member rates! Please be sure to include a **separate check for membership and the form below** with your conference registration if you wish to join now. Benefits of membership include newsletter subscription, reduced conference rates, and opportunities for professional networking. Your \$35 membership fee covers your annual Alliance membership. NYS ATSA members (must be a member of national ATSA for state chapter membership) – your annual NYSATSA membership is included in your NYSASOSP membership.

New York State Alliance of Sex Offender Service Providers 2007 Membership Application

I would like to apply for membership in NYSASOSP,
and I am including my check for \$35
(made payable to NYSASOSP).

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Organization, Phone:

Email Address:

Mail application and payment along with conference registration form.

Encourage your colleagues in the field to join NYS ATSA or the NYS Alliance of Sex Offender Service Providers. Membership dues provide for a discount on conference fees and enables individuals to receive this publication. Inquiries can be made to NYSASOSP@nycap.rr.com

Notes from the President

New York State Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers and NYS Alliance of Sex Offender Service Providers

Dear Colleague:

As many of you know, members of the NYSATSA and Alliance have been working closely with the NYS Legislature and Governor regarding pending legislation related to Civil Commitment of Sex Offenders.

We have tried to encourage Legislators in Albany to look closely at pending S.O. legislation. We have tried to provide important information to all concerned so that if a bill is passed that it is well thought out and structured in a way that will provide appropriate protection for children, etc. in New York State.

It appears much progress has been made and today a Press Release entitled: "Agreement Authorizes Civil Commitment of Sex Offenders, Legislation will Enhance Public Safety and Provide Appropriate Due Process Protections". (See page 2.)

The Agreement includes a number of the points and recommendations NYSATSA and Alliance has been promoting. They include:

1. Office of Sex Offender Management.
2. Longer periods of supervision for some sex offenders.
3. Mandatory Treatment for all S.O. both during incarceration and after release.
4. Initial screening of cases by Mental Health professionals.

All professionals in NYS who are working with victims and sex offenders will need to continue to follow up on this Agreement to try to ensure that the changes that are implemented are not just window dressing but in fact protect our vulnerable population.

We will continue to need to stay on top of this issue and will try to keep our membership informed of future needed efforts.

Spring is near. Take Care,

Best wishes,

Kenneth J. Lau, LCSW (klau@fordham.edu)
NYS ATSA President

Richard Hamill, Ph.D.
NYS Alliance President

NYS ATSA/NYS Alliance Mission Statement

- To reduce the level of sexual victimization.
- To promote the increase, uniformity, and quality of assessment and treatment services for juvenile and adult sexual offenders.
- To promote the development of a fully integrated continuum of services for sexual offenders.
- To promote legislation on issues and funding for programs impacting sex offenders and survivors.
- To promote offender accountability through restitution, mediation, treatment, supervision and incarceration; and

To promote community safety through the confinement of sex offenders not amenable to community-based treatment services.

Thursday, May 3, 2007

1:00–2:30 PM **Workshops – Session 1**

- A. **Getting Down to It: Crafting and Implementing a Plan for Effective Sex Offender Policy Advocacy in New York State**
Alisa Klein, Policy Consultant *Combined Policy*
- B. **Paradox and Free Will in the Treatment of Involuntary Sex Offenders (Part I)**
Eliot Kaplan, Ph.D.
The Children's Village, Dobbs Ferry, NY *Adolescent & Adult Clinical*
- C. **Deception, Denial, Avoidance & Minimization: What's a Therapist to Do? (Part I)**
Carl Christensen, LCSW
Linden Oaks Sexual Abuse Treatment Services, Rochester, NY
Adolescent & Adult Clinical
- D. **The Assessment and Evaluation of Sex Offenders Under Consideration for Civil Commitment**
Dawne Amsler, MA
NYS Office of Mental Health, Albany, NY *Adult Clinical*

2:30–3:00 PM **Break**

3:00–4:30 PM **Workshops – Session II**

NOTE: You must have taken Part I of the Eliot Kaplan or Carl Christensen workshops in order to take Part II.

- E. **Paradox and Free Will in the Treatment of Involuntary Sex Offenders (Part II)**
Eliot Kaplan, Ph.D.
The Children's Village, Dobbs Ferry, NY *Adolescent & Adult Clinical*
- F. **Deception, Denial, Avoidance & Minimization: What's a Therapist to Do? (Part II)**
Carl Christensen, LCSW
Linden Oaks Sexual Abuse Treatment Services, Rochester, NY
Adolescent & Adult Clinical
- G. **Conditional Release of the Civilly Committed Sex Offender: The California Experience**
Ken Carabello, LCSW
Liberty Behavioral Health, Santa Monica, CA *Adult Clinical/Policy*
- H. **Reflecting the Victim's Voice: System Issues that Can Enable and Impede Victim Justice**
Melissa Peaslee, MS, CJSOC, and Vivian Thompson, LCSW, CJSOC
NYS Office of Children & Family Services,
Brooklyn Children's Center, Brooklyn, NY *Adolescent & Victims Clinical*

5:00–6:30 PM **Cocktail Reception (cash bar)**

Friday, May 4, 2007

1:00–2:30 PM **Workshops – Session 1**

- I. **False Sexual Assault Allegations**
Joanne Archambault
Sexual Assault Training & Investigations *Law Enforcement/Practice*
- J. **Brainstorming the Barriers to Recovery for Sex Offenders (Part I)**
Ellen Cooper-Festa, PhD and Panel
Delaware County Mental Health, Walton, NY *Adolescent & Adult Practice/Policy*
- K. **Creative Approaches to Managing Local Sex Offender Registries and Community Notification**
Robert Rollison with additional speakers
Detective, Town of Poughkeepsie Police / Dutchess County Legislator
Dutchess County, NY *Adult Law Enforcement/Policy*
- L. **Vicarious Traumatization When Working with Sex Offenders**
Michelle Warfield, PhD
Suzanne Gladitsch, LCSW
Private Practice, Hudson, NY *Adolescent & Adult Clinical*

2:30–3:00 PM **Break**

3:00–4:30 PM **Workshops – Session II**

NOTE: You must have taken Part I of the Cooper-Festa workshop in order to take Part II.

- M. **Brainstorming the Barriers to Recovery for Sex Offenders (Part II)**
Ellen Cooper-Festa, PhD and Panel
Delaware County Mental Health, Walton, NY *Adolescent & Adult Practice/Policy*
- N. **New York State Department of Corrections Sex Offender Program**
Karen Phillips, Assistant Director Office of Guidance and Counseling
Edwin Einfeldt, BSW, Guidance Specialist
NYS Department of Corrections, Albany, NY *Adult Clinical*
- O. **Working Outside the Workbook: Creative Techniques in Working with Juvenile Offenders**
Nancy O'Keeffe, LCSW
Lisa Bellard, LMSW
St. Anne Institute, Albany, NY *Adolescent Clinical*
- P. **Parents and Partners of Offenders: The Forgotten Victims**
Phyllis Adler, LCSW
Francine Balmaceda, LCSW
St. Anne Institute, Albany, NY *Adolescent & Adult Clinical*

4:30 PM **Conference Concludes**

Workshop abstracts and speakers' biographies may be viewed at:

nysatsa.com. Click on Upcoming Events

**New York State Alliance of
Sex Offender Service Providers**

**New York State Association for the
Treatment of Sexual Offenders**

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NCJJ Bulletins

The National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) is the research arm of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. NCJJ's Technical Assistance to the Juvenile Court Project, supported by a grant from OJJDP, periodically develops bulletins on important juvenile justice issues and emerging topics for best practices. Three recently-released new bulletins are the following:

- *The Guide to the State Juvenile Justice Profiles* guides users through the layout and content of the State Juvenile Justice Profiles Web site.

- *The Importance of Timely*

Processing in Non-Detained Juvenile Delinquency Cases lists seven steps for achieving timely court processing and describes promising practices to help courts accelerate court processing of non-detained delinquency cases.

- *How Does the Juvenile Justice System Measure Up? Applying Performance Measures in Five Jurisdictions* presents a case for measuring and reporting juvenile justice system performance outcomes.

Bulletins can be downloaded for free from <http://ncjj.servehttp.com/NCJJWebsite/publications/serial/taspecial.htm>.

Stalking Awareness Month

To commemorate the fourth anniversary of National Stalking Awareness Month, officials from the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) have joined with the National Center for Victims of Crime to host a program dedicated to educating the public, law enforcement agencies, and social service organizations about the serious dangers of stalking. "Stalking is an unwanted intrusion into the privacy of an individual and is a crime in every state and the District of Columbia.

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/newsroom/2007/OAAG7014.htm>