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*Department
of Corrections*



Probation Operations

Community Corrections and Mental Health Probation Supervision

Presented to:

Joint Study Committee on Mental Health Access

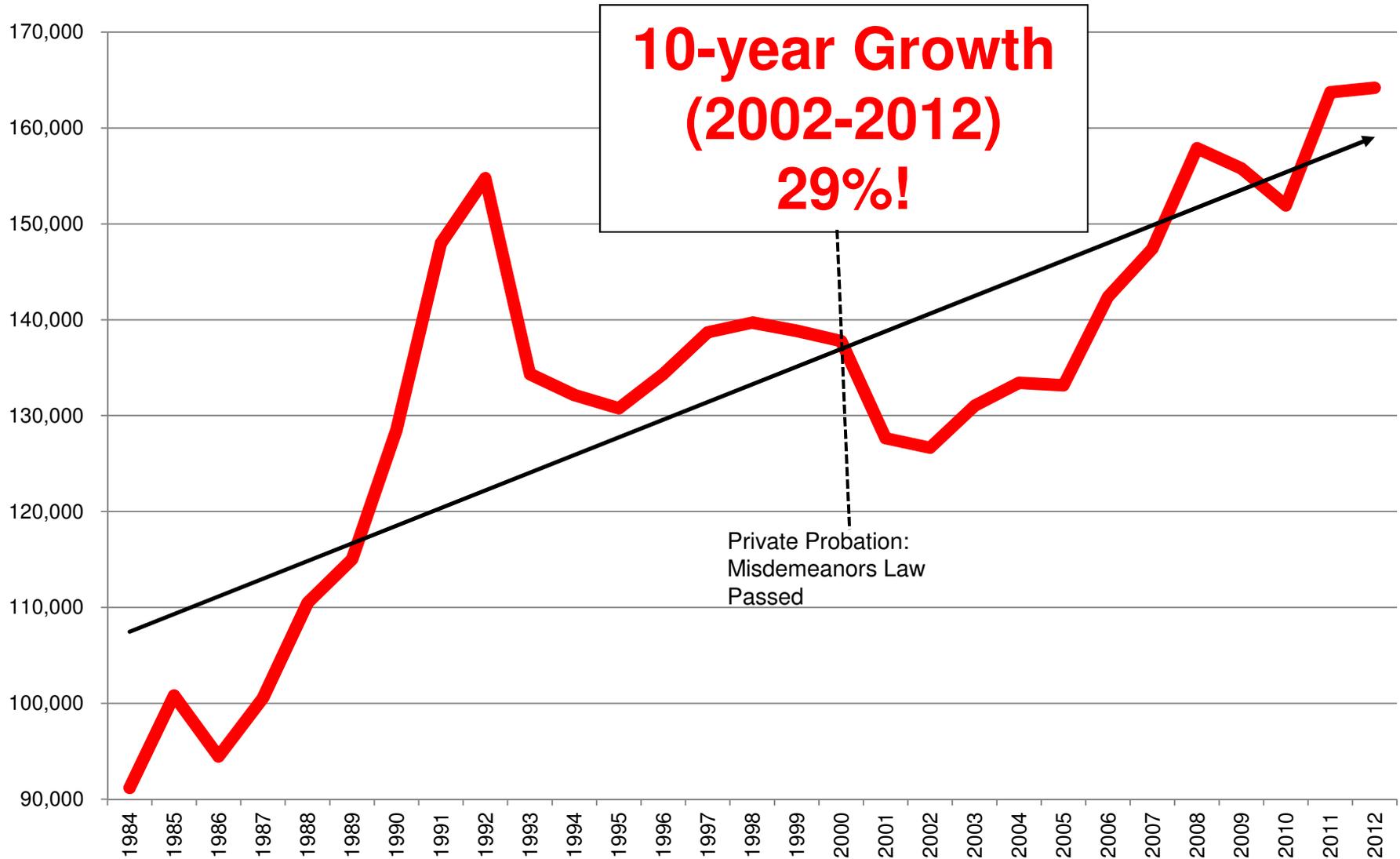
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December 10, 2013



Georgia Probation Population





Probation Operations



“People with mental illnesses are twice as likely as others under supervision to have their community sentence revoked — which only deepens their involvement in the criminal justice system.”

“10 Essential Elements for Successful Supervision of Mental Health Probationers”

The Justice Center



Probation Operations Initiatives



Integrated Treatment Program (ITP)

- Unsuccessful in the community
- Enhanced services in a residential treatment setting
- Co-occurring / dual diagnosis (Mental Health and Substance Abuse)

Mental Health Probation Officer Specialist

- Probationers with Mental Health or co-occurring diagnosis
- Collaborate with local service providers
- Treatment and services in the community
- Eliminate incarceration costs



Integrated Treatment Facility



Referral candidates

- Failed at the Day Reporting Center (DRC) and have a dual diagnosis
- Failed in Mental Health (MH) Court or Drug Court and have a dual diagnosis
- Current or previous Mental Health/Substance Abuse (dual diagnosis)
- History of MH treatment in prison or Probation Detention Center (PDC)
- Targeted population are those probationers with mental health and substance treatment needs (co-occurring diagnosis)



Admission Process for ITP



Screening and Evaluation

- Clinical Assessment completed by Mental Health Professional
 - CSB
 - Mental Health Court
 - GDCs MH Counselor
- Screening is done prior to sentencing (revocation hearing)

Placement

- Determined by a team (staffing)
 - Chief Probation Officer
 - Mental Health PO Specialist
 - Mental Health Counselor Mental Health
- No specified length of stay or location specified in the Court Order
- Duration: Until Program Completion (**9 month program**)
- Judicial Updates while in the facility



Re-entry and Aftercare



Requires the Mental Health PO Specialist to visit probationer prior to release from ITP

Smooth handoff from ITP back to the Circuit

- Transportation of probationers being released from Appling or West Central—determine best practices
 - Probation Officer
 - GDC transportation
 - Family

Return to Mental Health and/or Drug Courts program (if referred by MH or SA Court)

- Compliance Court-Judicial Oversight

Requires home visit within **24 hours of release**



Mental Health Probation Officer Specialist MHPOS



Caseload Criteria

- Caseload maximum = 40
- ITP releases (Aftercare) 6 months
- Level III re-entry (Have had inpatient treatment) / Split Cases
- DRC Mental Health Aftercare
- Specialty Court (Mental Health Court) aftercare
- Existing caseloads that meet criteria



Mental Health Population



Challenges

Communication

- Internal and External
- Collaboration with shared information

Medication

- Released with 30 day supply (is this enough?)
- Medication runs out before appointments

Resources / Assistance

- Employment
 - Improve skills
 - Partner with potential employers
- Disability
 - Improve process / wait time
- Housing
 - Long waiting list
- Transportation
- Education



Mental Health Population



Challenges

Training

- Improve data collections
- Proper documentation
- How to handle Crisis situations
 - Provide more trainings with scenarios
 - Critical Incident Training for current officers and in basic training

Sanctions

- How to handle and address violations
 - Failure/refusal to take medications
 - Failure to attend treatment classes
 - Continued drug use
- Develop Matrix for sanctions



Mental Health Statistics

Probationer Diagnosis Classification – male and female

Diagnosis	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
ADHD	210 (3.3%)	143 (4.0%)	353(3.6%)
Bipolar Disorder	682 (10.8%)	568 (15.8%)	1250 (12.6%)
Anxiety	705 (11.1%)	587 (16.4%)	1292 (13.0%)
Depression	2298 (36.2%)	1385 (38.6%)	3683 (37.1%)
Schizophrenia/ Psychotic	1200 (18.9%)	268 (7.5%)	1468 (14.8%)
PTSD	489 (7.9%)	442 (12.3%)	940 (9.5%)
Other	484 (7.6%)	159 (4.4%)	643 (6.5%)
Learning Disorders	263 (4.2%)	37 (1.0%)	300 (3.0%)



Mental Health Statistics

MH Supervision Levels – males and females

Supervision Level	Males	Females
Standard/MH	753	566
High/MH	370	121
Special/MH	126	62
Special/MH Reentry	47	35

1,296 Males
Standard/MH – 58.1%
High/MH – 28.6%
Special/MH Reentry – 3.6%
Special/MH – 9.7%

784 Females
Standard/MH – 72.2%
High/MH – 15.4%
Special/MH Reentry – 4.5%
Special/MH – 7.9%

2,080 total MH cases
56 MHPOs identified
Average caseload – 37



Thank you!