

ANNUAL REPORT

2002



**PLUMAS COUNTY
PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

Message from the Chief

Another year has passed quickly and thanks to a dedicated and hard working staff, it has been a successful year for us.



We continue to experience significant turnover in Probation Officer Positions. Two officers left in 2002 and we still have one vacancy. At least part of our on-going recruitment problem is due to our salary scale and the lack of a Safety Retirement Program. We hope to see a resolution in 2003.

As can be noted in the summary and throughout this report, we have had what I believe to be tremendous successes. None of this would be possible without the close collaboration and support we share with all the agencies within the justice system.

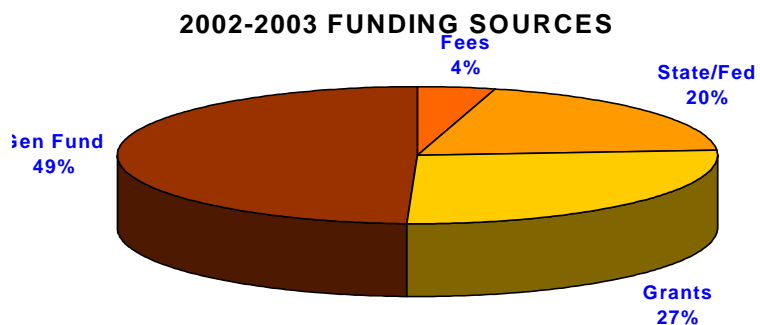
By all accounts, 2003 will be a difficult year financially. We look good for the rest of this fiscal year and are constantly looking for new funding sources and ways to enhance those we have. I am confident we will be able to survive the ebb and flow of funding to this Department.

Summary and Highlights.

- Individual adult caseloads were reduced from and average of 102 to 57.
 - Adult referrals and total caseload has remained roughly constant for five years.
 - There has been a **73% reduction** in juvenile citations since 1997.
 - There has been a **32% reduction** in the juvenile caseload since 1998.
- There has been a **20% reduction** in the average number of minors in foster/group placement since 1998.
- There has been a **15% reduction** in the Ave. Daily Population in juvenile hall since 2000.

Our extensive use of Probation Assistants (about 5FTE per week) to increase contact with clients and provide better case management has been a key to our success.

Budget and Financial. The Probation Budget for 2002 – 2003 is approximately \$1,512,000, approximately 50% of which comes from sources other than the County General fund. As this report is being written, the Board of Supervisors is working with the Management Council to find ways to lessen the impact of budget cuts for 2003 –2004.



Funding Sources.

Much of our time is spent researching, requesting and managing outside funding to maximize services locally. Below is a brief synopsis of our sources of funding.

Title IV e. \$215,000. These funds are Federal funds and are reimbursement for certain services Probation Officers offer eligible minors.

Targeted Case Management. \$90-130,000. This is so new to us, we haven't even received reimbursement yet. Like Title IV e, part of a Probation Officer's time performing certain duties with adults is reimbursable from the Federal Government.

Standards and Training in Corrections. \$5333. The State has mandated that Probation Officers have 200 hours of training in their first year and 40 hours each year, thereafter. This small amount of money covers about 1/3 our costs.

Intensive Drug Supervision. \$50,000. This is a three-way grant with the DA and Sheriff that has been in existence for over 12 years. Our share is used to hire 1 FTE Probation Officer to provide very intensive supervision to an adult drug caseload.

Sierra Valley Probation Assistant \$8000. These funds are used to pay for a resident Probation Assistant in Sierra Valley.

C.A.R.S. \$86,000. This three year grant has been used to purchase six vehicles for transporting minors to and from juvenile hall and for officers to use during supervision.

Juvenile Drug Court. \$208,000. JDC provides for very intensive supervision, including drug testing, for a number of minors. The grant pays for part of the salary of one Probation Officer and Probation Assistant. Most of the funds go to other agencies, such as Alcohol and Drug.

Juvenile Drug Court Enhancement (\$30,000). This is a brand new grant written to add services to our existing JDC.

Intensive Supervision \$70,000. This grant pays most of the salary of a Mental Health Therapist, located in the Probation Department. Besides offering immediate counseling services to minors, the therapist also participates in the development of case plans and assesment of minors.

Jail Detention Alternatives IV. \$83,000. We have had this grant in one form or another for at least 12 years. It pays for much of the cost of detention of minors in other than an adult jail, specifically Lassen County Juvenile Hall.

Fees. \$65,000. Probationers are charged fees for many of the services they receive from Probation or for their participation in certain programs.



Community Service Work. In 2002, a total of 6717 hours of community service work was completed, 2778 by juveniles and 3939 by adults. The minimum wage value of the work was approximately \$50,000. A few hours were converted to fines or jail time.

Restitution. The determination and collection of restitution for victims has long been a priority for this department. In most cases, the department makes contact with victims, collects estimates of damage, works with insurance companies and makes a final determination on the amount of restitution owed. In 2002, **\$62,402 was collected and returned to victims.**

Department Caseload. The chart below indicates the total department caseload since 1975. As can be seen, until recently, the caseload has grown over the years. This is sometimes due to new programs or responsibilities added to the department's workload. For example, in 1998, we began to supervise adults who have been released from custody on bail or their own recognizance.

DEPARTMENT STAFF

Tom Frady – Chief Probation Officer

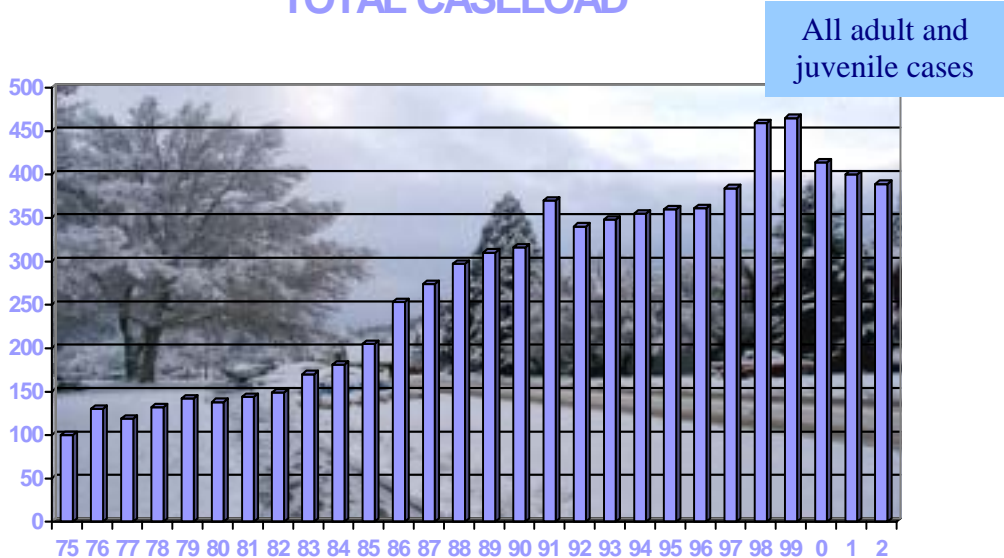
Rhonda Nelson – SDPO/Adult
 Ken Holtgrewe – DPO III/Adult
 Kris Blackwell – DPO II/Adult
 Dennis Pell – DPO II/Adult
 Dennis Julian – Report Writer

Sharon Reinert – SDPO/Juvenile
 Christine Lindley – DPO II/Juvenile
 Joel Jaureguito – DPO II/Juvenile
 Angela Rios – DPO II/Juv (to 5/02)
 Ruth Carnell – DPO III/Juv (fr7/02)
 Shannon Harston – MH Therapist

Shirley Bresciani – Admin Ass't
 Teri Minert – Detention Coordinator
 Jerry Adams – CSW Coordinator
 Linda Brownlee – Legal Services Ass't
 Marcy DeMartile – Legal Services Ass't
 Tami Moheit – Admin Aide III

...and 20 part time Probation Assistants

TOTAL CASELOAD



Juvenile Citations

Many factors can contribute to the final total of citations -- changes in law, policy or population, even weather. But a five year decrease in citations certainly means we are doing something right.

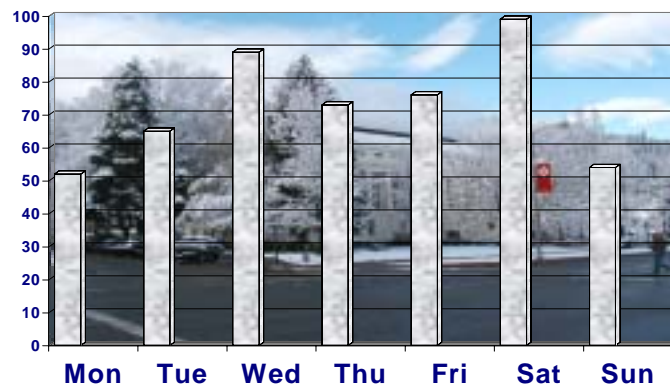
There is not the number of citations issued on the weekends that we would have thought.

Not surprisingly, the vast majority of the citations are issued to 15, 16 and 17 year olds. But we have received citations for minors as young as six.

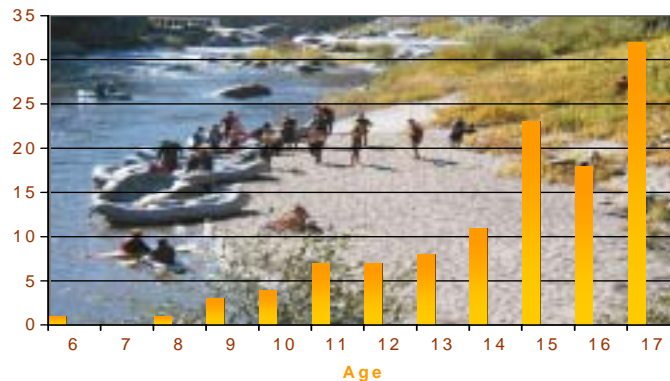
The Supervising DPO - Juvenile, reviews each cite to determine the best way to handle the case -- "consequences", informal or formal probation based on established criteria. Less than 17% re-offend.

	97	98	99	00	01	02
All Drugs/Alcohol/tobacco	166 ¹	57	73	45	60	49
All Traffic ²	7	12	7	2	1	0
Theft/Property	146	134	92	90	30	32
Assault/Sex Offenses	46	49	36	25	42	29
Runaway/beyond control	85	43	48	24	15	14
Violation of Probation ³			15	4	0	0
All other			19	26	13	03
Total	489	323	291	206	176	127

Citations by Day Issued from January 1999



Age at Referral

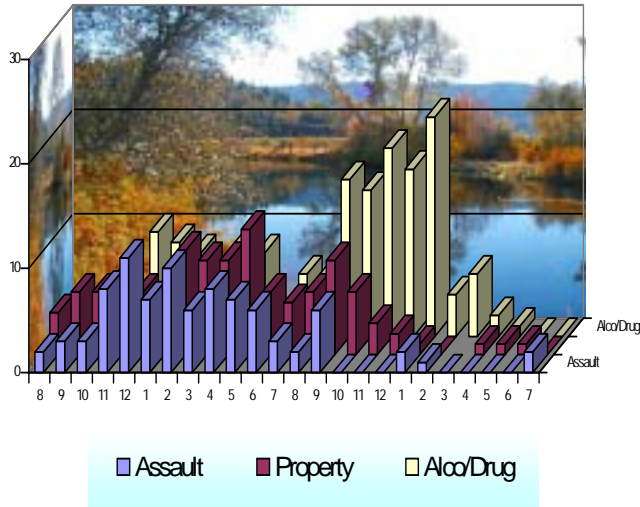


¹ In 1997, the Sheriff's Department began citing minors for possession of cigarettes and referring them to the Probation Department. In 1998, because of the volume, we screened the citations, but sent nearly all of them directly to Traffic Court for disposition.

² Virtually all traffic citations go to Traffic Court instead of probation.

³ There were many more VOPs filed by Probation Officers

Juvenile Citations by Time of Day



The chart to the left indicates what time of day specific types of offenses occur as measured by when citations are issued. Not surprisingly, most alcohol violations occur late in the evening/early morning, after the county's 11:00pm curfew. Not only can minors be cited for violation of the curfew ordinance, but parents can be cited for allowing their children out after 11:00pm without supervision. There are very few late night burglaries or assaults.

PETITIONS & REPORTS

A juvenile petition is similar to an adult complaint. While most offenses are handled by the department without court intervention, our accountability and treatment based system sees probationers back in front of the judge more often than in most other counties. A supplemental petition indicates a new offense (usually a technical violation) by a probationer.

Dispositional reports are the "sentencing" tool used by the court to determine what outcome is best for the minor. The reports are a detailed social study.

The increase in petitions more reflects an increase in accountability than crime.

	97	98	99	00	01	02
Petitions	101	114	95	62	83	109
Supp'mental	54	69	101	NA	91	102
Dispo Rpts	70	70	93	82	78	104
Reviews	75	78	70	123	114	150



DETENTION COSTS

During the last six months of calendar 2002 we saw an Average Daily Population in the juvenile hall of 4. We anticipate that the figures for the fiscal year will be closer to 5 per day, thereby saving at least \$20,000 in costs. There has been an increase in the use of Electronic Monitoring.



	00	01	02
House Arrest	50	69	45
Electronic Monitoring	2	0	22
Monitored Curfew	57	94	82
Minors sent to Juv Hall	91	96	88
Ave Daily Juv Hall Pop	6.68	5.59	5.68
Total Number of Trips to JH	432	420	395
Minors Sent to Boot Camp	15	11	4
Minors Sent to CYA	4	3	2

Removing minors from their homes is always an expensive proposition, therefore we look for alternatives that might save money without sacrificing public safety. Below are approximate costs of the various placement options.

Juvenile Hall	\$2400-3000/mo
CA Youth Auth	\$3000/mo
Group Home	\$4000-5000/mo
Foster Home	\$1700-2000/mo
House Arrest	\$50/mo
Elec Monitoring	\$100/mo
Monitored curfew	\$50/mo

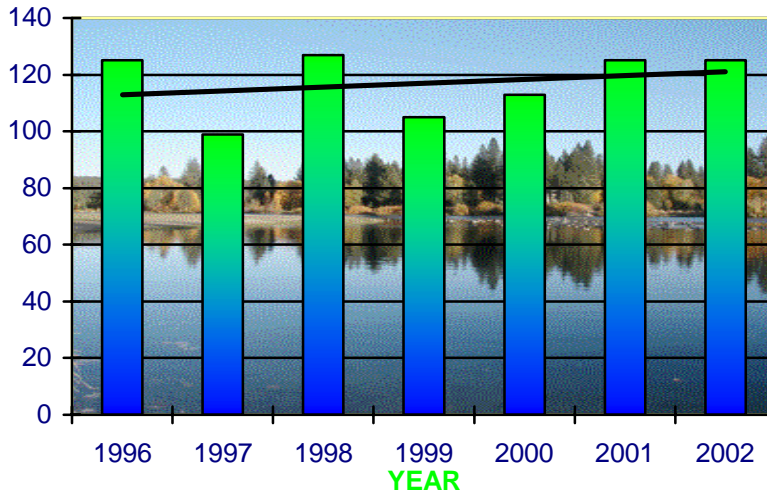


Plumas County does not have a full service juvenile hall. Instead, we have what is known as a Special Purpose Juvenile Hall, designed for a maximum of 96 hours of detention. It is used as our “staging area” and an after hours temporary detention facility for minors pending transportation to Lassen County. 84 minors were booked into the SPJH in

MISSION STATEMENT: The Plumas County Probation Department is committed to the protection of the community by providing services to the courts and selected offenders, minimizing the impact of crime on the community.

While there has been a slight drop in the over all adult caseload in the past years, the referrals for pre-sentence reports has remained relatively constant. One recent change is that some drug defendants do not require a traditional pre-sentence report because they are eligible for special programs by statute (drug court, Proposition 36, Deferred Entry of Judgment). Each of these programs requires only a brief report from the Probation Officer. Those reports are not reflected in the chart below.

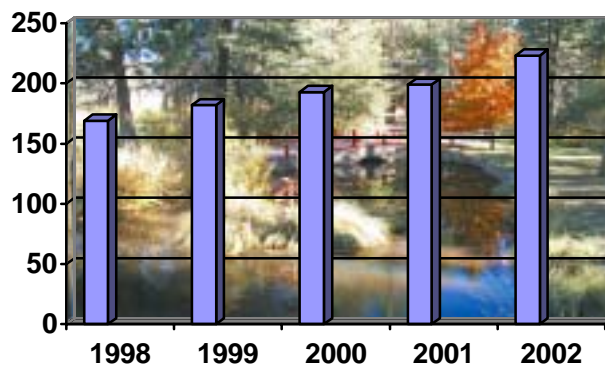
ADULT REFERRALS



OWN RECOGNIZANCE BAIL REDUCTION REPORTS

One very important report prepared for the court by the Probation Department is the OR/Bail Reduction Report. Using both an objective point scale and professional evaluation, the Department recommends whether a defendant should be released from custody pending the next hearing –will he be a danger to others and will he show up – and if he is to be released, under what conditions. Many of those who are O.R.ed are supervised, something not done in many other counties.

Own Recognizance Reports



The nature of adult referrals to the department has changed slightly since last year.

	<u>Assaults</u>	<u>Drugs/Alco</u>	<u>Property</u>
2001	30%	35%	35%
2002	37%	30%	33%

New Adult Referrals for Investigation, by Offense

98	99	00	01	02
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“I just wanted to thank you for everything you’ve done for me. I know and you know I couldn’t have done it without the support of you and my family”

Drugs & Alcohol

Felony and Misd DUI	7	8	6	8	8
All Felony Drugs	28	13	19	21	17
All Misd Drugs	1	0	5	4	11
All Alcohol	4	1	2	2	1

Assault

Assault on cohabitant	6	7	8	8	8
Assault, battery, etc.	13	18	16	14	12
Child Endangerment	1	8	7	6	8
Sex Offenses	4	3	0	1	3

Property

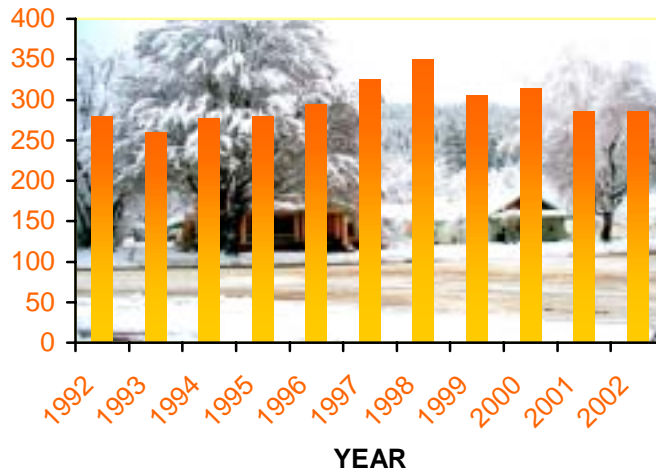
Theft, Poss Stolen Prop	20	10	16	18	16
Burglary	11	5	5	5	9
Robbery	1	1	0	0	0
Auto theft	4	0	4	4	4
Other Property Crimes	3	1	0	2	6

All other, incl traffic	23	30	21	26	22
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Total	127	105	113	125	125
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“I just wanted to thank you and thank his Probation Officer. Probation here is awesome.

ADULT CASELOAD



“I am grateful for your support and consistent concern about these matters, and I commend to you your highly professional, motivated and truly dedicated staff

Using careful case management and by transferring an officer from the juvenile division, we were able to reduce the average adult caseload from 102 to 57 in 2002.