

**Workshop #28**  
**FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2009 – Session 6 (2:45-4:15)**

**GPS MONITORING OF SEX OFFENDERS:  
SCHENECTADY COUNTY'S INITIATIVE**

**Presenters**

- Thomas Zampella, M.Ed., Probation Supervisor  
Schenectady County Probation
- Eric Lindh, Senior Probation Officer  
Schenectady County Probation
- Kathy Murtagh, Probation Officer  
Schenectady County Probation

**Audience**

Pertains to adults

**Level**

Beginner

**Workshop Summary**

The Legislature of the county of Schenectady has endorsed the use of Global Position Satellite (GPS) technology for adult offenders who require probation supervision. Subsequently, the GPS Monitoring Program was developed. GPS technology furnishes the monitoring staff with enhanced tools to observe and record the movements of these offenders on a 24 hour schedule, which historically, the probation department has not been required to fulfill. Offenders ordered to comply with GPS monitoring have a known risk to the community, established by their behavior which resulted in their conviction and conditions of probation. In this workshop, we will discuss how GPS technology works, what its limitations are, and explain how our after hours monitoring program operates. We will also discuss how Schenectady County Probation has used the GPS program in creative ways which have both improved victim safety in the community, and have strengthened Violation of Probation proceedings in court.