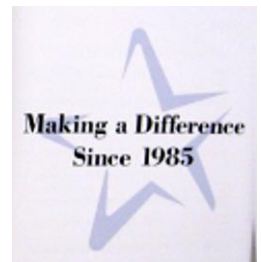


# Fall 2019

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## Letter from the President



Winter is coming...

I think a TV show about dragons and such said something like that. Anyway, it has been an active fall that apparently didn't want to stay around too long. The MJPS board was active planning and executing the Fall Conference with a stop at the Jail Administrators Conference in September.

Noelle Flesher (Wright) and I worked the MJPS booth during the vendor fair at the Jail Administrators Conference at Cragun's Resort. It is nice to be a part of the controlled chaos that is inside the vendor hall. Most are there to sell products or services while we are there to sell people on what we do and the trainings we offer. I think it's very important to promote not only what we offer for our facilities, but also how we are a connected network of people who collaborate across the state. We also found out who the Programmer of the Year and Volunteer of the Year were. Mark Fritel of Sherburne County was selected Programmer of the Year and Pat Dunning of Pennington County was selected Volunteer of the Year. Congratulations to a couple of deserving people! The Fall Conference was held at the Anoka County Sheriff's Office in their beautiful meeting space. A big thank you to Sheriff James Stuart for his kind words to open the conference and for use of the space. Tom Wells (MSA), Noelle (Wright) and Denise Eichten (Washington) did an excellent job of bringing us our speaker for the day, Sgt. Tim Harris from the Washington County Sheriff's Office. Sgt. Harris was very engaging and thought provoking with his presentation. Self-reflection can reveal some imperfections about ourselves, but I think it's important that we do that from time to time. Our line of work is focused on helping others and we can't forget to take care of ourselves so in turn, we can build strong relationships with our loved ones. Overall, it was an awesome day for training!

Looking ahead, we will be putting all of our efforts in getting the 2020 Spring Conference at Arrowwood set up. We always want to bring the most relevant and useful training to our membership. Please forward any and all ideas you have for speakers to anyone on the board.

In closing, I'd like to thank everyone on the board (Denise, Noelle, Jim, Nicole, Kelsey, Mary) for the work you have put in to keep our MJPS group strong and also the membership as a whole for the work you all do to keep the world turning.

Dustin Naumann, MJPS President

Oh yeah... thanks to Tom too. Tom's a solid guy!

## FALL CONFERENCE 2019



### MANDT SYSTEM

The Mandt System is a comprehensive, integrated approach to preventing, de-escalating, and if necessary, intervening when the behavior of an individual poses a threat of harm to themselves and/or others. The focus of The Mandt System is on building healthy relationships between all the stakeholders in human service settings in order to facilitate the development of an organizational culture that provides the emotional, psychological, and physical safety needed in order to teach new behaviors to replace the behaviors that are labeled “challenging”.

The Mandt System integrates knowledge about the neurobiological impact of childhood trauma with the principles of positive behavior support and provides a framework that empowers service providers to do their work in a way that minimizes the use of coercion in behavior change methodologies. Read Less

It is our intention that within this framework we create peace of mind, that The Mandt System® can help you find appropriate solutions and then share these with everyone. This peace of mind comes from the fact that the instructional certification provided by The Mandt System® truly puts all people first by building healthy workplace relationships in which: Your service users

- will be safer
- Your staff will be safer
- Your work will meet or exceed your industry standards for safety

These statements are not simply marketing gimmicks but represent verifiable research based outcomes in programs like yours.



Instructor: Washington County Sergeant Tim Harris- Tim has worked for Washington County Sheriff's Office for over 18 years and has held the positions of Correctional Officer, Patrol Deputy, Field Training Officer, Detective, D.A.R.E. Instructor, MN I.C.A.C. Investigator, Court Security Sergeant and Water, Parks & Trails Sergeant. He is currently assigned as the Sergeant of Security Operations for all Washington County Departments and Offices. Sergeant Harris received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Sociology-Criminal Justice from Winona State University and completed his Law Enforcement Skills training through Hibbing College.

The 2019 Fall MJPS Conference was held on Tue, Oct 15<sup>th</sup> 2019 at the Anoka County Sheriffs Office. Sgt Tim Harris of the Washington County Sheriffs Office spoke on the MANDT System. Lots of positive feedback from those who attended and Sgt Tim was a great instructor! Many walked away with new ideas on de-escalation and how to interact with others.

## MJPS SPRING CONFERENCE

APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup> – APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 - ARROWWOOD IN  
ALEXANDRIA,  
WATCH FOR REGISTRATION DETAILS COMING SOON!

DOUGLAS COUNTY REC PROGRAM.  
Jail Programmer Nicole Torgerson.

### A NOTE FROM THE INSIDE

Nicole Torgrimson has been employed at the Douglas County Sheriff's Office since July 1989. She has served as the jail programmer since fall 2008. That is when she first became involved with the REC program.

"REC had been an established program in our facility for almost a decade when I took over," Torgrimson said. "We feel fortunate to have our administration's support, and this fall we will celebrate our 20-year anniversary of hosting the REC program. We have held two RECs per year; except for two years, [when] only one was able to be scheduled. November 2019 we will host DCJ #38."

Torgrimson said she has been a "cheerleader" for the program because she has seen its benefits firsthand.

"REC exemplifies why I became a programmer — to work with 'the least of these,'" she said. "Many of

the people I work with have never felt unconditional love, never been introduced to Jesus Christ, never been allowed to feel worthy of love or that they can succeed. REC gives them that opportunity and sets an example to carry that with them to share with others."

Her role as the REC liaison is multifaceted. She works closely with REC coordinators deciding dates, number of attendees and volunteers, and facilitates background checks. During the REC weekend, she often tries to stay behind the scenes, helping make it as successful as possible.

"I have noticed several previous 'REC-ites' have been able to make significant enough life changes to stay out of jail or at least have longer periods of non-incarceration," Torgrimson said. "After a REC, the jail staff also comment how much quieter the housing units are and that residents are politer to staff and each other — at least for a while. Some start their own Bible study groups, have been

seen praying over other residents prior to release, and increase [their] attendance in other faith-based facility programs.

"It also gives me an opportunity to show the residents a different side of a jail programmer and not just 'the badge.' They seem much more willing to come in and visit with my partners and me, which allows us increased programming efforts as they transition back into society."

This summer, Torgrimson celebrated a milestone birthday and also suffered the loss of her father. For both occasions, the REC family supported her.

"Several REC volunteers traveled to share my joy and again my sorrow," she recalled. "I know that if the residents reach out, the volunteers also continue to stay in contact with them, through REC-Connect, to lift them up during life's ups and downs. That is the kind of support and energy this program has, and I'm so blessed to be a part of it."



## Carlton County Jail Programmer Stephanie Upton

### CARLTON COUNTY JAIL.

Parenting Class.

<https://www.pinejournal.com/community/corrections/4733403-Carlton-County-Jail-offers-inmate-parenting-classes>



## An inspiring Jail Programs story out of another state.

Massachusetts resident Laura Chagnon shares her story of forgiveness with inmates.

"Laura Chagnon is a true example of how a person with devout faith and an unbreakable spirit can overcome the most challenging obstacles. Despite being quadriplegic, legally blind, with a traumatic brain injury, she can create brilliant poetry and touch the souls of men and women through her motivational speeches in correctional facilities. Laura's journey has been remarkable and she strives to reach new heights." Tom Damoulakis, Laura's soulmate of 19 years.

<https://www.telegram.com/article/20150707/NEWS/150709350>



<https://www.civinmediarelations.com/product-page/my-name-is-not-jane-doe-by-laura-chagnon> A link for her book "My name is not Jane Doe"

**IRG Islamic Resource Group**  
November 1 at 12:20 PM · 🌐

IRG's 2019 Building Bridges Award in Law Enforcement is: Sergeant Noelle Flesher. Sgt Flesher has worked for the Wright County Sheriff's Office Jail Division since 2009 and has been recognized as a Field Training Officer and Emergency Response Team Member. Promoted to Sergeant in 2015, Sgt. Flesher oversees 4 Programs Staff and over 160 volunteers. She has implemented innovative programming in her division, some of which has included Islamic Resource Group.

**IRG**

**AWARD IN LAW ENFORCEMENT**

**SGT. NOELLE FLESHER**

Jail Program Sergeant  
Wright County Sheriff's Office  
Jail Division

**Islamic Resource Group's**  
2019 Building Bridges Awards  
Saturday, November 9th  
6-9PM

[ibba2019.eventbrite.com](http://ibba2019.eventbrite.com)



**Business Meeting Minutes  
October 15, 2019  
MJPS Fall Conference  
Anoka County Sheriff's Office**

**Call to order**

**Welcome New Programmers!**

**District Representative Updates:**

District 1 – No representation/new info

District 2 – Brent said they met in September to discuss mutual issues. Also introduced their new REC Director, Matt Seaman (sp)

District 3 – No representation/new info

District 4 – Noelle from Wright Co said they plan to organize a meeting early in December in Maple Grove.

District 5 – No representation/new info

District 6 – Amy Olson talked about a meeting they had with their local community resources. They brainstormed ideas about inmates transitioning into the community. Also, to have present resources meet each other as many have the same client base.

**Acknowledgements:** Mark Fritel from Sherburne Co was recognized as the 2019 MSA Programmer of the Year and Pat Dunning from Pennington Co was recognized as the 2019 MSA Volunteer of the Year.

The next newsletter is in the works. If anyone has anything to submit please contact any MJPS Board Member.

**Spring Conferences:** 2020 - Arrowwood in Alexandria, MN on April 28–30, 2020

2021 – Still researching Duluth venues or whether to stick with an Arrowwood and Ruttger's rotation.

**MJPS Forum:** Dustin Naumann is working with IT to get the forum sections and sub-sections laid out with the ability to archive. At this time Mel is still willing to be the hub of information sharing. Thanks Mel!

**Next Executive Board Meetings:** November 12, 2019 at 11:00 at the MSA Office  
All members welcome

**Meeting Adjourned**

# MJPS FORUM

The goal of the forum is to provide a place to collect feedback on various topics relating to jail programs and services so that we can all benefit from our collective knowledge and avoid reinventing the wheel on the most effective policies, procedures and practices in our field.

We are setting up a "Programmer's 101" area that will include forms, contact lists, and other useful information pertaining to jail programs. Please consider sharing some of your great work with and for others.

### How to Use the Forum

As of last October, the MJPS forum is available on the MSA website at [www.mnsheriffs.org](http://www.mnsheriffs.org). Navigate to the Divisions of the MSA section on the left sides and select MN Jail Programs and Services. Click on the MJPS Forum to view the discussion board. At the top you will be able to login or register if it is your first time posting to the board.

## MN Jail Programs and Services (MJPS)

Home Help Search

Welcome Guest. Please [Login](#) or [Register](#).

MN Jail Programs and Services (MJPS) > General > General Discussion >

ProBoards, The #1 FREE forum host.  
— CREATE A FORUM TODAY —



General Discussion					Create Thread
Subject	Created By	Replies	Views	Last Post	
Welcome to the MJPS Forum!	Admin	2	44	by marydavidson Oct 16, 2018 at 11:24am	

**Legend**

Thread 
 Announcement 
 Sticky 
 Locked 
 New 
 Poll 
 Bookmark

**Board Information & Statistics**

**General Discussion**  
You can talk about anything here.

	<b>Threads and Posts</b>	
	Total Threads:	1
	Total Posts:	3
	This board has 1 moderator	

**On This Board**  
 You **can** create threads.  
 You **can** reply to threads.  
 You **can** create polls.

## MJPS Board Members 2019–2020

Next board meeting is 1/21/20 and 3/10/20 at 11:00Am

<b>President</b> <b>Dustin Naumann</b> , Mille Lacs County dustin.naumann@co.mille-lacs.mn.us Phone: 320-983-8421	<b>Resource Coordinator</b> <b>Kelsey Knops</b> , Dakota County kelsey.knops@co.dakota.mn.us Phone: 651-438-4812	<b>Past President</b> <b>Mary Davidson</b> , Mower County maryd@co.mower.mn.us Phone: 507-434-2718
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<b>Training Coordinator</b> <b>Noelle Flesher</b> , Wright County noelle.flesher@co.wright.mn.us Phone: 320-983-8421	<b>Secretary / Historian</b> <b>Nicole Torgrimson</b> , Douglas County nicolet@co.douglas.mn.us Phone: 320-762-3095	<b>MSA Representative</b> <b>Tom Wells</b> twells@mnsheriffs.org Phone: 651-451-7216 ext. 6



## MJPS District Representatives

### District 1 – LaRayne Arvidson, Polk Co.

larayne.arvidson@co.polk.mn.us  
 Phone: 218-470-8153

### District 2 – Brent Jahnz, Pine Co.

brent.jahnz@co.pine.mn.us  
 Phone: 320-591-1450

### District 3 – Roger Edwardson, Kandiyohi Co.

3665@co.kandiyohi.mn.us  
 Phone: 320-214-6700 x 3693

### District 4 – Noelle Flesher, Wright Co.

noelle.flesher@co.wright.mn.us  
 Phone: 320-983-8421

### District 5 – Michelle Bell, Martin Co.

michelle.bell@co.martin.mn.us  
 Phone: 507-238-3150 x 314

### District 6 – Heather Coombs, Freeborn Co.

heather.coombs@co.freeborn.mn.us  
 Phone: 507-377-4687 (Out on medical leave)

### Interim District 6 – Jayme Olsen, Freeborn Co.

jayme.olson@freeborn.mn.us  
 Phone: 507-379-2990

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE  
 OR SHARE AN UPCOMING EVENT FOR THE NEXT  
 PUBLICATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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 JIM.WATT@CO.MEEKER.MN.US