

May 24, 2004

MEDIA ADVISORY– FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONFERENCE ON IMPROVING THE MANAGEMENT OF PROBATION
TO REDUCE RECIDIVISM**

- WHO:** The Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, the National Institute of Corrections and The Crime and Justice Institute; representatives of the judiciary, state's attorneys, the public defender and probation program managers from several Illinois counties.
- WHAT:** A two-day conference kicking off a technical assistance grant to the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts—one of only two given nationwide--on how to implement a nationwide program to reduce recidivism through successfully proven community strategies. This is an opportunity for the media to attend sessions and interview some of the leading principals about a new, improved way of administering probation programs to reduce the recidivism rate. Among those available for interviews are Elyse Clawson, executive director for the Crime and Justice Institute in Boston; George M. Keiser, chief of the National Institute of Corrections in Washington; Cynthia Y. Cobbs, director of the AOIC; James R. Grundel assistant director for the Probation Services Division of the AOIC. About 140 persons, including representatives from the Illinois counties of Cook, Lake, Coles, Cumberland, Adams, DuPage and Sangamon as well as representatives from the 2nd Judicial Circuit in southeastern Illinois will be participating.
- WHEN:** Conference begins Tuesday May 25, 2004 at 9 a.m.; and continues Wednesday May 26.
- WHERE:** Wyndham Drake Hotel, 2301 York Road, Oak Brook, Illinois