

President's Letter

November 2011

Dear Members,

I want to thank all who attended the recent NAPSA Conference & Training Institute in Louisville. The replies and evaluations we received were extremely positive. Conferences such as ours, of course, do not happen without the input of a host of people working many hours. Special thanks go to Charlotte McPherson and the Kentucky host committee for a wonderful opening ceremony and presentation of Kentucky pretrial, organizing the events and working with the hotel to ensure that all went smoothly, and especially working to organize the workshops and presentations. Thanks also to our new Executive Director, Barb Darbey, for organizing the registration, information desk, and day-to-day issues that needed tending, and, Amy Devires, our Fiscal Director, for her work with registrations and on-site handling of the NAPSA Mart.

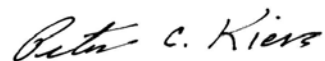
Our Board of Directors was instrumental in working to ensure the conference was organized. It was a true team effort with everyone pitching in to cover the multitude of tasks as well as conducting special meetings for various membership constituencies such as Affiliates, new attendees, and regional members. Pat Smith, our Conference Chair, did a yeoman's job in pulling everyone together and on track, coordinating awards, and keeping communication flowing. Greg Johnson and Amy Devires for working on contractual issues with the hotel, Elizabeth Simoni, for her work with the vendors who are so instrumental in supporting our conference.

Recognition most deservedly goes to our partners the Pretrial Justice Institute, the National Institute of Corrections, the federal Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Pretrial folks of Kentucky Pretrial.

Our final plenary addressed the recent Pretrial Symposium held in Washington, DC. that was presented by the Office of Justice Programs in conjunction with the Pretrial Justice Institute. It has been 50 years since Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy convened the first meeting on bail and pretrial release reform. The Symposium examined the nation's progress

toward a fair, safe, and accountable system of pretrial justice. Our plenary provided an overview of that Symposium and its recommendations focusing on the important role of pretrial services in ensuring pretrial justice for all. This however, was not the end of our conference, but the beginning of where we will be over the next year. Our 2012 conference in Washington, DC on August 19th to 22nd will explore these themes and present valuable discussion and recommendations for partnering with agencies and programs, evaluating the most recent data that is essential for program development, and implementing fair, safe and just pretrial services. Start planning now to attend our 40th Anniversary Conference!

Thank you all for supporting your Association!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter C. Kiers".

Peter C. Kiers
NAPSA President