

Upcoming Events:

May 15-19

Association of Paroling Authorities
International Conference, Savannah, GA

May 23-27

American Jail Association Annual
Conference, Portland, OR

June 2-5

National Association of Drug Court
Professionals Conference, Boston, MA

June 21-23

National Law Enforcement and Corrections
Technology Center Conference, Fort
Lauderdale, FL

June 26-30

National Sheriffs' Association Annual
Conference, Anaheim, CA

July 16-20

National Association of Counties Annual
Conference, Reno, NV

July 30-Aug. 4

American Correctional Association 140th
Congress of Correction, Chicago, IL

Aug. 15-18

American Probation and Parole
Association 35th Annual Training Institute,
Washington, DC

BI Product Training:

BI offers continued product and software training for customers. To learn more about product training, please contact your local Account Representative. To learn more about software training, please contact the Monitoring Customer Service Department by calling 1-800-284-2847.

If you have questions or comments regarding the BI Viewpoint, please contact webmaster@bi.com.

Copyright 2010 BI Incorporated, 6400 Lookout Road, Boulder, CO 80301 All rights reserved.

The BI logo, BI Cellular, BI ExacuTrack, BI HomeGuard 200, BI Sobrietor, BI Profile, BI GuardWare, BI GuardCenter, BI GuardServer, BI VoicelD, BI Self Report, BI 9000 Series are trademarks of BI Incorporated. For information about this newsletter visit www.bi.com.

Transition celebrations mark new phase for offenders

Four BI cognitive behavioral programs—in Merced, Napa and Stockton, Calif. and Sedgwick County, Kan.—held transition celebrations to honor recent program graduates. If participants stay clean and follow supervision program guidelines at a BI Day Reporting Center, they participate in what is called a transition celebration, marking a move toward successful community re-integration. Local political, county, and state officials, along with families and program “graduates,” are usually on hand to mark this important milestone. View video clip from the Sedgwick County event at <http://www.kwch.com/global/story.asp?s=12345866>.



Inside BI:



Matt Wirtner

Eastern Regional Manager
BI Incorporated

Q. Tell us a little about your background. How did you come to work for BI?

A. After graduating from Indiana University I went to work for the Allen County Sheriff's Department in Fort Wayne. I started as a resident advisor and worked my way up to unit supervisor where I was responsible for the operation of a 75-bed, work-release facility. I worked for the Sheriff in Allen County nearly nine years. I also did some private consulting for a short time in Fort Wayne around a local alternative sentencing initiative. In 1999, BI was in the process of opening an offender-funded misdemeanor electronic monitoring program and recruited me to open the office. I began with the company on March 1, 1999.

Q. Since working in the Fort Wayne office, your role at BI has expanded. Tell us about these changes.

A. Shortly after becoming the program manager in Fort Wayne, I began overseeing an offender-funded electronic monitoring program in Luzerne County, Pa. In 2001, I decided to relocate to northeast Pennsylvania with BI, expanding my experience in operations and business development in other markets. In 2006, we opened our first county day reporting center, which expanded my experience into the day reporting arena. In March 2009, BI regionalized the New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania offices and created the position of eastern regional manager, a job I accepted a year ago.

Q. What is your top priority as a regional manager?

A. One of my top priorities is to better organize the talent and resources within BI's eastern offices and leverage it from office to office to address the challenges we – and our customers – face each day in this field. The principles that guide effective offender risk management are becoming more refined and validated. The challenge is operationalizing evidence-based practices more efficiently so that BI continues to be the leader in offender supervision and treatment.

Q. What are some of the more common challenges customers describe to you and how do you overcome them?

A. In this down economy, federal, state and local officials have become more aware and more supportive of the need for alternative sentencing options and quality, evidence-based reentry programs. Officials are very aware of the cost benefits these programs can have, even though the general public may not be there yet. For those able to educate their constituency well, and gain acceptance for alternatives to incarceration, the rewards have been very positive.