

## **BETTER TOGETHER**

2018 ATSA Conference | Thursday October 18 | 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

**T-37**

### **Recasting the Containment Approach to Enhance Team Collaboration and Responsivity**

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For two decades, many state-level sex offender management strategies have included the Containment Approach. Based on a review of what was working at the time, English and colleagues (1996) identified the key components to include: victim-centeredness, multi-disciplinary collaboration, sex offender specific strategies including the polygraph, informed policies, and quality control. Since that time, the Containment Approach has continued in use and been supported by a number of studies (Aytes et al., 2001; Lowden et al., 2003).

With the advent of an emphasis on the Risk, Need, Responsivity (RNR) model for use with correctional populations, including clients who commit sexual offenses, many policymakers and practitioners have taken a critical look at the Containment Approach. The Colorado Sex Offender Management Board (SOMB) recently reviewed its Standards and Guidelines (2018) for treating and supervising this population, and decided to recast the Containment Approach within the newly developed Treatment, Engagement, Assessment, Management, and Supervision (TEAMS) Model. While maintaining some of the features of the Containment Approach, this new model incorporates responsivity components more directly including a collaborative approach with the client, an emphasis on therapeutic engagement and alliance, and enhancing protective factors. Even the choice of acronym (TEAMS) was designed to change the narrative away from “containing the offender.” For anyone still interested in or employing the Containment Approach, this session will highlight how one state has modified its strategy to create greater consistency with the RNR model and the current thinking related to clients who have been convicted of sexual offenses.

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### **Learning Goals:**

- At the end of the session, participants will have an increased understanding of the current challenges associated with the Containment Approach for sex offense specific treatment and supervision.
- At the end of the session, participants will have identified some potential new approaches to the treatment and supervision of those who have been convicted of sexual offenses.
- At the end of the session, participants will have an increased understanding of the research related to the Containment Approach, and how to modify the approach without losing the research-supported components.

### **References:**

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Lowden, K., Hetz, N., Harrison, L., Patrick, D., English, K., & Pasini-Hill, D. (2003). *Evaluation of Colorado's Prison Therapeutic Community for Sex Offenders: A Report of Findings*.

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**Christopher Lobanov-Rostovsky** has worked for the Division of Criminal Justice within the Colorado Department of Public Safety as the Program Manager for the Colorado Sex Offender Management Board since 2006, where he is responsible for overseeing the development of standards for the treatment and management of sexual offenders, approving treatment providers, and providing legislative and policy input. Mr. Lobanov-Rostovsky holds a Master Degree in Social Work from the University of Michigan, and has been a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) since 1990. Prior to his current position, Mr. Lobanov-Rostovsky worked as a clinician and evaluator of adult sex offenders and juveniles who commit sexual offenses. Mr. Lobanov-Rostovsky also works as a private consultant for a variety of federal, state, tribal, and private agencies in developing and enhancing sex offender management services, including providing training and technical assistance, program assessment, literature reviews, peer review of grant solicitations and reports, and legislative and policy development. Finally, Mr. Lobanov-Rostovsky has

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published a number of articles and chapters related to federal and state sex offender management public policy, and was recently awarded the 2015 National Adolescent Perpetration Network Advocacy Award for his work in promoting evidence-based policies and legislation.

**Angel Weant** has been working in the criminal justice system for 18 years. Angel's employment with the Judicial Branch began in 1998. Angel was a probation officer in the 1st Judicial District, Jefferson County Colorado for ten years and worked with adult sex offenders. Angel has been with the Colorado Judicial Branch's Division of Probation Services, State Court Administrator's office since 2007. She managed and executed a statewide court improvement project lasting two years. She conducted a two year research project relating to the systemic response to technical violations of sex offenders on probation. Angel has been in her current position as a Probation Analyst since 2010. Her duties include program oversight for probation programs in Colorado supervising adult and juveniles who've committed sexual offenses as well as probationers who are sentenced to probation for economic crimes. She assists in policy development and implementation. She participates in legislative testimony and provides widespread technical assistance to stakeholders. Angel has conducted extensive training locally and nationally related to sex offender management, assessments and supervision. She is the Judicial Representative to the Colorado Sex Offender Management Board. Angel holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice Administration/Management.