



**FY2008 RECOMMENDATION/FY08-CS63 TECHNICAL VIOLATIONS PROGRAM  
WITHIN PROBATION**

**Status:** Implementation Unknown

**Actions/Updates**

**2023 UPDATE (JUNE)**

During the FY 2023 Legislative Session, Senate Bill 2023-158 to reauthorize the Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ) was postponed indefinitely on May 7, 2023. Therefore, with the sunset of the Commission, all activities of the CCJJ ceased on June 30, 2023.

No further monitoring of CCJJ recommendations will occur.

**2012-2022 UPDATE**

Status unknown.

**2011 UPDATE - OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ACTION STEPS**

Division of Probation Services to report back to CCJJ staff with the status of this recommendation.

**2010 UPDATE**

*Implementation underway.* Officials from the Division of Probation Services report that in addition to the information in recommendations BP-35, BP-36, and GP-13, DPS has two evaluation projects aimed at improving outcomes, including the reduction of technical violators that fail on probation. Rather than design a specific program to address technical violators, probation is focusing its efforts on existing evidence-based programs and practices. An evaluation by LeCroy and Milligan Associates of two of the most prevalent cognitive-behavioral skill building groups, *Thinking For a Change* and *Why Try* began in the fall of 2008. The first year's evaluation included staff and client surveys, key informant interviews, training observations and a literature review. The focus of the second year of the study is the development and implementation of a fidelity and outcome study. In early 2008, an evaluation of two intensive programs (Adult Intensive Supervision Probation and Juvenile Intensive Supervision Probation) began. Justice System Assessment and Training, Inc. (JSAT) completed a literature review, focus groups, interviews and a logic model. The second and third year efforts include data analysis, program model development, and education design. The end result of the evaluation may affect how intensive programs are currently structured, including changes to the target populations. Both evaluations were introduced as part of an effort to better serve probationers for the purpose of improving outcomes (decrease criminal behavior and increase pro-social behavior).

## **2009 ACTION/IMPLEMENTATION**

The Commission's Probation Task Force worked with the Probation Advisory Committee to create a list of recommendations for probation to pursue regarding technical violators and absconders. In addition, the Division of Probation Services submitted a proposal for a Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) to provide resources for focus on the issue of technical violations. The Division of Probation Services intends to pursue this program regardless of the outcome of pending the JAG request.

## **2009 IMPACT**

Progress on this recommendation will be presented in future Commission reports.

## **Description**

To reduce the number of offenders with probation violations resulting in a prison sentence, the Division of Probation Services should implement a technical violations program that focuses on these offenders and encourages them to become compliant with probation supervision.

## **Agencies Responsible**

State Judicial

## **Discussion**

*Implementation of this recommendation is underway. Implementation of this recommendation is consistent with the Commission's statutory mandate "to investigate effective alternatives to incarceration [and] the factors contributing to recidivism..." [C.R.S. 16-11.3-103(2)(b)].*