



Mark your calendar...

- **FATSA Annual Conference May 29 & 30, 2015. See page 7 for details and registration information.**
- **Chapter 491 Licensure renewal by March 31, 2015.**

Forum Highlights:

President's	
Message	2
Board Members	3
Legislative	5
Research	6
Conference	7

January 2015

FATSA Member Services Improvements

By George Deitchman

We are making a move to modernize our website by keeping it up to date and adding content which will be a resource for members as well as embrace the focus on prevention theme being pushed by ATSA. Too often people see us as the people "helping offenders" rather than preventing reoffending. We also hope to add content that someone from the public might find on our site with information about safety and prevention or linking to the same.

We have used a system of spreadsheets to keep track of member payments and member information.

We are developing an administrative site for easily importing PayPal transactions and updating other member information. We hope to have a broader list for emails and notifications for other ATSA members or non-ATSA groups or affiliated groups like DOC, law enforcement, the judiciary, as well as other groups who have interests or lobby in the same space.

We are resurrecting the FATSA listserv so that members can receive notices as well as post questions, ideas or concerns to the membership or the president and board. This should be active

by the time you read this.

There is a research committee composed of Jill, Leo and chaired by George to look into legislative or other paths for the routine gathering of outcome data on current and former clients through the FDLE database and possibly other sources, as well as making this information freely available to professionals in the field who are doing evaluations on offenders referred to us, where the lack of relevant information might put children and others at risk.

Dues Renewal

According to our by-laws, dues are due each year on March 1. We are working on an online payment program, and notices for renewal should be going out shortly.

Members receive voting privileges, a discount to

FATSA conferences, and access to the list serve (which is currently being resurrected). Members can nominate themselves or other members for board or committee membership.

Qualifications to become a FATSA member: Any member of ATSA in good standing. Termination of membership: Failure to maintain ATSA membership or failure to pay the dues within 90 days of the due date.

Did you hear about the SAJRT blog?

Sexual Abuse: Journal of Research and Treatment has set up a blog which now provides a space on the Internet to interactive with colleagues to share and discuss news and articles and help raise awareness of sexual abuse and associated social issues. In addition, the "Resident Editor" of the blog is our very own Robin Wilson. <http://sajrt.blogspot.com>

New Online resource - www.CrimSpace.com

Crimspace is a multidimensional online network for the criminology and criminal justice academic communities. Sponsored by SAGE, a leading publisher of books and journals in criminology and criminal justice, the site is created for students and researchers to network and share research, resources and debates.

Need a referral?

Check out our referral list at www.floridaatsa.com. You can easily search by name or geographical location.

Adding yourself to our referral list is a great way to increase your visibility online. Email us at info@floridaatsa.com to get registered.

"The Board has been busy reorganizing and restructuring to improve our efficiency so that we can better address the needs of the membership."

**President's Message by Eric Imhof****Regrouping and Restructuring**

It is an honor to once again address you as the FATSA President and I am pleased be able to share some recent exciting developments for the FATSA membership. Following a recent infusion of energy from a number of recent additions, the Board has been busy reorganizing and restructuring to improve our efficiency so that we can better address the needs of the membership. Dr. Shelia Rapa joined the Board in 2013, bringing with her a focus on children and juveniles as well as community mental health systems. She jumped in with both feet and quickly assumed the position of Conference Chair, leading us to a successful conference in 2014 and putting together an exciting and diverse program for 2015. She is assisted in

planning the conference by the entire Board but most notably Wade Moss who coordinates all the details with the hotel. In 2014, Robert Parham joined the Board as our Secretary, freeing up Don Pake to focus on organizing our membership records and maintaining our CEU provider status. Robert has done an incredible job keeping the Board's business organized and our records easily accessible. Dr. George Deitchman also joined the Board in 2014 and immediately became our communications and "Tech Guru." He has re-implemented our Listserv, updated and improved our Website, and interfaced our conference registration, dues payment system, and membership list to improve the membership's ability to communicate with the Board and other members, a concern shared at last year's membership meeting. *-continued on page 8*

Your Board Members



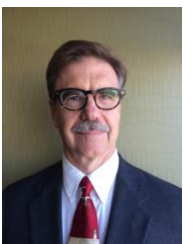
Eric Imhof, PsyD has been a member of the FATSA Board since 2004 and served as President from 2007 to 2010 and 2013 to the present. He began treating, evaluating, and studying typologies of juvenile sexual offenders in 1993 in Virginia and after relocating to Florida, established Specialized Treatment and Assessment Resources in 2000. He has served as a forensic examiner and expert witness for the Sexually Violent Predator Program and also has a specialization in adult Internet offenders.



Richard Brimer, LCSW, has worked in a variety of mental health agencies as well as private practice for over 30 years. He started the New Start Sexual Offender Treatment program in 1992, a faith-based program that provides evaluation and treatment to adolescent and adult sexual offenders in Polk, Highlands and Hardee Counties.



Leo P. Cotter, Ph.D., is a founding board member of ATSA's Florida chapter. He has provided outpatient sexual abuse treatment in the Tampa Bay area since 1984.



George Deitchman received his doctorate from Florida State in 1987 and started working in the field in 1990. He has a practice in Jacksonville. He tries to blend psychophysiological measures with the usual methods in assessing and treating clients.



Jill S. Levenson, Ph.D., LCSW, is a founding board member of ATSA's Florida chapter. She is an Associate Professor of Social Work at Barry University and provides outpatient treatment to adult sex offenders in Broward County.



Wade Moss has been a Polygraph Examiner for over 30 years. He Received his BA from Florida International University. He has been the Vice President of the Florida Polygraph Association for the past 8 years. He been an expert witness in both Federal Court and State Court. He has administered over 10,000 examinations.



Robert Parham, is a licensed mental health counselor who has been working with adolescents and their families for approximately 21 years. He has been working with adult and adolescent sexual abusers for the past 18 years in residential and outpatient settings.



Donald Pake, Jr., PsyD, ABPP is in private practice in Panama City, Florida. His interests include sex offender management, treatment outcome measurement, and the professional development of mental health service providers.



Sheila Rapa is a Psychologist and Chief Clinical Officer of Chrysalis Health, Inc. in South Florida. She also has a private practice consisting of forensic evaluations for criminal, civil, dependency, and family courts. Dr Rapa specializes in sexual abuse, sexual offending, and trauma based disorders.

Legislative Update: 2014-2015

On October 1, 2014, some new registration requirements went into effect for registered sex offenders. Treatment providers should be aware of these updates to discuss with their clients. Changes

include specifications in the information provided regarding Internet identifiers, vehicle registration (including vehicles at the offender's residence but which he/she does not own), and

reporting requirements.

For the full text of the registration statutes (F.S. 943.0435 for sexual offenders, and F.S. 775.21 for sexual predators), please visit: <http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/>.

RSO
Update

2015 Upcoming Legislative Agenda

State Rep. Rene Plasencia, R-Orlando, has filed a bill that extends the time a victim of a sexual crime has to come forward and report it. "The hole in the law is the short amount of time that a victim has to come forward... ours is four years." The bill (HB 133)

would extend that time frame to 10 years for any victim 16 years or older. Last year, the state eliminated the statute of limitations in sex crime cases involving victims under 16.

Senator Diaz de la Portilla has filed SB

0134 and Representative Artilles has filed HB 0203, both titled *Lifetime Electronic Monitoring of Sex Offenders*. This proposed legislation would require individuals convicted of specific sex offenses to wear monitoring devices monitored by FDLE.

Licensure Corner: Chapter 491

The required courses for the biennium ending March 31, 2015 are 3 hours of Ethics and Boundary Issues, and 2 hours of Prevention of Medical Errors. Additionally, licensees are required to take Domestic Violence (2 hours) every third Biennium.

Beginning next renewal period (2015), licensed social workers, mental health counselors, and marriage and family therapists will also be required to take a Laws and Rules Update (3 hours) every 6 years, or 3rd biennium.

Chapter 491:
New licensure CEU
Requirements
include
Laws & Rules

Research Highlights

A new study, by Jill Levenson of Barry University and Kristen Zgoba of the NJ Dept. of Corrections, investigated the impact of sexual offender management policies on sex crime repeat arrest rates in Florida. Aggregate data for the period 1990-2010 were provided by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. The repeat offense rate was defined as the proportion of arrests each year that were committed by an individual with a previous conviction in the same crime category. The average yearly repeat offense rate for sex crimes was

6.5%, which was consistently and significantly lower than rates for other crimes: 8.3% for non-sex assaults, 15.1% for robbery, 29.8% for drug offenses, and 11.6% for DUI. The average annual sexual repeat arrest rate prior to and after the implementation of sexual offender registration laws in 1997 was 4.9% and 7.5% respectively, indicating a statistically significant increase. The average annual repeat arrest rates for non-sex assaults, robberies, drug crimes, and DUIs also increased after 1997. No significant

differences were found when comparing the average annual percent change for sexual re-arrest (+3.47%) with nonsexual assault (+3.93%), robbery (-.73%), drug offenses (+1.59%), and DUI (+1.14). Sex crime repeat arrests in Florida do not appear to show a decline attributable to sex offender management policies implemented since 1997.

The article will be published in a forthcoming issue of the *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*.

Did you know that Google Scholar is a great way to find recent research articles? Just go to

<http://scholar.google.com/>

Abstracts are readily available, and many articles can be obtained in PDF format for free.

Did you know that ATSA members have free online access to a number of Sage journals? Check ATSA's members only page to sign in and access articles today!

<http://www.atsa.com/journal>

Around Florida

Robert Parham has been appointed Conference Chair for ATSA's 2016 conference at the Swan & Dolphin Resort in Orlando, Florida.

In August 2014, Dr. Jill Levenson joined

the faculty of Barry University School of Social Work in Miami Shores, FL.

Eric Imhof, PsyD and Ted Shaw, PhD have written a book chapter on assessing child pornography possessors to be

released in the Civic Research Institute's "The Sex Offender" series in the Spring of 2015. The chapter contains an extensive review of the internet child pornography literature and proposes a model for best practices assessment.

**2015 ATSA
Conference
October 14-17
Montreal, Canada
Don't forget to make
sure your passport is
up to date!**

**2015 Florida ATSA Annual Conference & Membership Meeting
 “SPECIAL POPULATIONS IN SEX OFFENDER EVALUATION AND TREATMENT”
 Friday May 29 and Saturday 30, 2015**

For more information, or to register, visit
<http://www.floridaatsa.com/>

1501 International Parkway
 Lake Mary, FL 32746
 Phone: 407/995-1100

**THE ORLANDO MARRIOTT
 LAKE MARY**

FATSA Conference room rate **\$99**
[Map & Directions](#)

**Pre-Conference Training
Friday May 29, 2015 9:00AM - 4:30PM**

Franca Cortoni, PhD

{Topic - Assessment & Treatment of Female Sexual Offenders}

\$100 (separate fee from Saturdays Conference/Meeting)
 7 CEUs, box lunch and snacks during breaks are included

Networking and Social Reception

Free to attendees

Friday 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Drinks and Light Hors-D'oeuvres will served

FATSA Conference and Membership Meeting Schedule

Saturday May 30, 2015 8:30AM - 4:30PM

\$50 for FATSA members, \$60 for ATSA members & \$75 for non-members
 (7 CEUs, box lunch and snacks during breaks are included)

Note: The 2015 FATSA Pre-Conference and Conference training will address post graduate degree continuing education in the following core areas as required by Florida Rule 64B4-7.0081 (Requirements to be a Qualified Practitioner for Completing Risk Assessments and Treatment of Sexual Offenders)

7:30 am - 8:30 am	Registration
8:30 am - 8:45 am	Conference Opening – Shelia Rapa, PsyD & Eric Imhof, PsyD
8:45 am – 10:15 am	Assessment and Treatment of Children with Sexual Behavior Problems (Brooke Foris, PsyD)
10:15 am - 10:30 am	Break - snacks & beverages will be available
10:30 am - 12:00 pm	Assessing Internet Solicitors and Travelers (Suzonne Kline, PsyD)
12:00 pm - 1:15 pm	FATSA Annual Membership Lunch Meeting
1:15 pm- 2:45 pm	Sexuality and Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) (Kimberly Spence, PhD)
2:45 pm - 3:00 pm	Break - snacks & beverages will be available.
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Diversions Programs & Transitional Living (Gail Colletta & Julie Martin)

President's Message, continued from page 2

I encourage the membership to take advantage of all of George's hard work and visit our new and improved website and listserv. George is also spearheading an effort to gain access to criminal recidivism data with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for research and program outcome studies. Leo Cotter has revived the Legislation Committee and is assisted by the Board in identifying and responding to key legislative issues which directly impact our practices and the clients we serve. He is currently working on legislation related to proposed lifetime electronic monitoring, the need for better assessments in family court as it relates to sexual offenders, and, as always, Qualified Practitioner. Jill Levenson remains focused on researching residence restrictions and registration policies in the state of Florida and assisting our legislature with implementing evidence based public policies. She has also assumed the task of producing the FATSA Forum. Richard Brimer continues to serve as the FATSA treasurer, ensuring our books are balanced and that we have sufficient funds to continue to provide high quality conferences and continuing education to the membership. Wade Moss assists in the conference planning and coordination with the hotel and also serves as our interface with the state polygrapher's association. Now that the infrastructure has been reestablished within the Board, I encourage the membership to be more involved by joining any number of our committees. The membership has a variety of untapped skills and relationships in their respective communities that will only serve to enhance FATSA's integrity.

We are putting the finishing touches on the 2015 annual conference to be held on May 29 & 30, 2015 in Lake Mary, Florida. This year we have a diverse program with a number of speakers presenting on specialized topics and populations. Dr. Franca Cortoni, a researcher and treatment provider from the University of Montreal, will be our featured speaker, presenting on female sex offenders and sex offender treatment. Additionally, Dr. Brooke

Foris, Director of Clinical Training with Chrysalis Health, will present on the assessment and treatment of children with sexual behavior problems and Dr. Suzonne Kline, the former administrator of the Florida's Sexually Violent Predator Program, will be speaking on the assessment of internet offenders and expert witness testimony in the Saturday morning sessions. In the afternoon, Dr. Kimberly Spence, Coordinator of Educational Training Programs with the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) will be speaking on sexuality and Autism Spectrum Disorders and Gail Colletta from Florida Action Committee (FAC) and Julie Martin will be presenting on the current state of sex offender transitional housing and visions for the future. New this year will be a Networking and Social Reception with cocktails and hors-d'oeuvres where you can connect with the presenters and colleagues in a less formal setting. Furthermore, we will be inviting key members of the Florida legislature and other state agencies to attend to raise the profile of FATSA as the primary source of knowledge of sex offenders in the state of Florida. I encourage you to join us in Lake Mary on May 29th and 30th for this exciting event!

I look forward to building upon our past successes with the goal of raising FATSA as the preeminent source of information about sex offenders. I plan to continue building on relationships established with other professional organizations and state agencies such as DJJ, FDLE, and DOC. By combining our resources with other professional organizations, we can further our legislative agendas and better negotiate with state agencies. I plan to solidify these relationships by becoming more personally involved as FATSA's representative as well as offering trainings and consultation by FATSA members and involvement in sex offender related issues or committees. I look forward to the future and will continue to pursue the goal of further enhancing our prominence in the state as the source of information about sex offender treatment, treatment, and management. - Eric

FATSA

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We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.floridaatsa.com

The Florida Forum wants to hear from you!

One benefit of your membership is to stay up to date on news in Florida and to correspond with colleagues around the state. The board is committed to reinstating twice-yearly editions of the Florida Forum, in January and July.

We need you to keep **US** updated on what's happening in

your area of the state! Please contact us with news and information from the field.

As well, we welcome short articles by our members which discuss best practices, policy issues, research summaries, or ethical dilemmas.

Submissions for the July edition of the

Forum will be due June 1. So think about sharing information with your colleagues through the Florida Forum.

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