

WCPA REPORT FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 3, 2009

Press Releases/Announcements

- **Sauk County Board to Consider Marijuana Paraphernalia Charge**
The charge, which was approved by a committee and will receive a final vote in several weeks, will give prosecutors more options in pursuing charges related to marijuana paraphernalia. According to the Baraboo News Republic and District Attorney Patricia Barrett, this change in code creates a less ambiguous way for prosecutors to charge people with non criminal paraphernalia charges. Read more [here](#).
- **Arrest made in 1980 Cold Case**
The Jefferson County Sheriff's Department and the state Department of Justice announced that Edward W. Edwards was arrested in connection with the murders of Kelly Drew and Timothy Hack. Read the release [here](#).
- **Marathon and Portage Counties Consider Regional Jail**
As a way to decrease overcrowding and costs, county leadership has been researching the use of joint or regional jails, and has enlisted state Senator Russ Decker to help their cause. Such a project would need to be approved by the DOC, but could possibly be modeled after the Chippewa Valley Correctional Facility. For more information, click [here](#).
- **State Agency Warns of New Wave of Scams**
The Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection has issued a warning to senior citizens of "fake grandchildren." Scammers have been reported to contact the elderly posing as a grandchild seeking emergency financial help. Scammers are usually prepared with information obtained from social networking sites or other means that provide information such as a grandchild's name. Read the warning [here](#).
- **Bill to Override Partial Veto on Council on Offender Reentry Report**
Representative Joe Parisi (D-Madison) and Senator Lena Taylor (D-Milwaukee) introduced AB 364, which would reinstate language regarding the report Governor Doyle had previously vetoed. The language in question is that "any impact the council's work had had on recidivism, the effectiveness of agency coordination and communication, the implantation of a reentry strategic plan and recommendations on relevant legislative and policy initiatives" should be included in the report. Read the bill [here](#).

Hearings/Meetings

Tuesday August 18, 2009
Senate Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs

1:00 PM
Room 201 SE
State Capitol

- SB-11 relating to a Requirement for all employers to grant a paid leave of absence on Veterans Day to employees who are veterans.