



Saluting Employees

An employee publication of the
Texas Department of Criminal Justice

CJAD co-hosts 2014 Sentencing Conference

In January, the Judicial Advisory Council (JAC) and Community Justice Assistance Division (CJAD) co-hosted the 2014 Sentencing Conference in San Antonio. More than 200 participants, including judges, prosecuting attorneys, criminal defense attorneys and Community Supervision and Corrections Department (CSCD) staff members met to enhance community supervision sentencing. Texas Board of Criminal Justice (TBCJ) member Judge Larry Gist opened the conference by saying, “The vision when this all started (was) to get everyone together

and talk about what factors were important in setting correct sentences in the right kind of cases.”

Conference highlights included a presentation about the principles for successful intervention, the new Texas Risk Assessment System (TRAS) tool for CSCDs, the impact of national health reform and a workshop on how criminal justice professionals can use data to make better-informed decisions within their respective jurisdictions.

When asked what impressed her most about this year’s conference, CJAD Director Carey Welebob replied, “It was exciting to discuss the new risk assessment with so many judges and prosecutors. Our probation chiefs have had an ongoing dialog about risk assessments for years, but the Sentencing Conference helped take that discussion to a new level. I had several prosecutors tell me that the conference made them change how they look at their current cases. We hope to increase this knowledge and include even more judges, prosecutors and defense attorneys at future conferences and events.” ●



CJAD Director Carey Welebob, right, greets an audience of community criminal justice professionals attending the 2014 Sentencing Conference in San Antonio.