



THE SALVATION ARMY CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT

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Director: Linda G. Rankin

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November 10, 2014

Ms. Caroline Kochman
Deputy Executive Director
National Association for Shoplifting Prevention
225 Broadhollow Road – Suite 400E
Melville, NY 11747

Dear Ms. Kochman,

As part of the mission of The Salvation Army Corrections Department, we strive to provide offenders with the tools needed for maximum behavior change, resulting in lower recidivism rates and improving the quality of life for the clients, their families and the community. As such, The Army has worked in partnership with NASP for the last 25 years referring its offenders caught shoplifting to the Shoplifters Alternative Course (SA Course).

To ensure that the sanctions we provide continue to support our mission, we recently concluded a study of the offenders who completed the SA Course over the last 6 ½ years. Since we handle a varied population of offenders, the cases were categorized by Deferred/PTI cases and Probation cases.

The study of 1,171 offenders revealed the following:

- **91% of probation cases (many of which were repeat offenders) did not re-offend for shoplifting**

- **95% of deferred/PTI cases did not re-offend for shoplifting**

In addition to reducing the number of repeat shoplifting offenses in our community, further study of the data revealed that the program also had an impressive effect on reducing the re-offense rate for crimes other than shoplifting as well.

We are delighted that our partnership with NASP continues to support our mission and look forward to our ongoing efforts to reduce crime in our community.

Sincerely,

Linda Rankin
Director