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## Caitlin Senesac

Recently, I had the privilege of attending a GED graduation inside our local jail. A 20-year-old client I've worked with for the past year and a half was graduating. He's currently in custody pending new charges., And while it was far from the ideal graduation setting, he still got to celebrate his achievement.


Before receiving his diploma, he was asked to give a speech. In it, he thanked his probation officer. That moment was one of countless reminders that this job is so much more than people often imagine.

Every day looks a little different. I might be someone's cheerleader one day, celebrating a new job they just got. I could be offering a steady presence when someone is going through a hard time or feeling overwhelmed. Usually, I'm helping them stay on track and holding them accountable to the commitments they've made to the court. The work isn't always easy, but it's meaningful. At the end of the day, I can look back knowing that what I do matters—to each person I support, and to the community we're building together.

I choose to get up every day and do this work because it has made me less cynical and more hopeful. It has reminded me that people who are often overlooked or written off are still people worth caring about. I get to witness change -- sometimes slow, sometimes messy, and sometimes it's years down the road when they check back in with you -- but it's real change. I've seen individuals fail, fall back into old patterns, and still find the courage to try again. And I've had a front-row seat to watch the justice system work—not perfectly, but with the potential to change lives

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**My community is stronger because of the work my fellow Court Services Officers and I do. We don't always operate in the public eye, and people may not fully understand the role we play. But moments like that GED graduation are proof that our presence matters. The belief, structure, and support we offer can help someone take a step toward a better future. And that's why I chose to be a Court Services Officer.**



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