The WPA Forensic and Correctional Interest Section (FCIS) is comprised of psychologists who have a specialized professional interest and practice in the area of forensic psychology. This type of work routinely involves employment within a correctional facility and/or forensic hospital setting, as well as performing a variety of mental health evaluations designed to answer a narrowly focused psycholegal question for the Court. Such questions vary widely, but commonly include issues like competency to stand trial, mental responsibility (i.e. insanity defense), conditional release, sentencing issues, Miranda waivers, waivers between adult and juvenile justice systems, supervised release for sexually violent persons, fitness for duty, child-custody, disability determination, and protective guardianship/placement. The FCIS committee currently meets approximately once quarterly in the Milwaukee area. We are responsible for formulating and organizing an annual single-day conference providing Continuing Education credits to psychologists, and when possible, attorneys, on topics relating to forensic psychology. Our most recent conference featured Antionette Kavanaugh, Ph.D., ABPP. Her two-part presentation covered evaluations of juvenile defendants on the issues of waiver to adult jurisdictions and competency to waive Miranda rights. Next year’s conference is presently in the initial planning stages and will likely feature a topic/presenter originating from suggestions provided by this year’s conference attendees. We welcome any interested psychologists to become FCIS committee members.

Ways in which FCIS benefits WPA and its members:

- The committee provides an opportunity for psychologists in forensic practice to form professional relationships, including for consultation and referral purposes.
- The committee organizes an annual conference on a forensic psychology topic relevant to practice for which psychologists can earn continuing education credits.
- The annual conference further provides psychologists opportunity to network within a niche community that performs forensic work in all jurisdictions across the State of Wisconsin.