Highlights from ADAA's FY 92 Annual Report on DWI Assessments

The Maryland Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration (ADAA) has just released its first separate annual report on Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) statistics. According to Maryland law, local health departments or designated entities are charged with the responsibility of providing assessment services to DWI offenders. Counties are encouraged to assess at least 70% of all guilty and probation before judgment (PBJ) dispositions. Highlights from the report include:

- A total of 20,974 DWI assessments were conducted in FY 92, down from 22,859 in FY 91.

- 85% of clients given a DWI assessment were male; 79% were White, 16% Black, and 6% some "Other" ethnicity; 81% were employed.

- 43% of assessed clients were under age 30, 6% were under age 21.

- Statewide, 36% of assessed persons report having at least one prior DWI arrest. Prince George's County had the highest proportion of repeat offenders (53%) followed by Anne Arundel County (45%), while Harford and Howard Counties had the lowest proprotion of repeat offenders, 24% and 26%, respectively.

- 71% of assessed persons were classified as "Problem Drinkers" and 29% as "Social Drinkers." Caroline County had the highest proportion of clients assessed as "Problem Drinkers" (95%) and Montgomery County had the lowest proportion (56%). [p]

[p] Refers to the county in which the client received his/her DWI assessment, and not necessarily his/her residence.

SOURCE: "DWI Annual Report, Fiscal Year 1992," Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration (ADAA). A copy of this report may be obtained from ADAA by calling Vickie Kaneko at (410) 225-6890.

CESAR SPEAKER SERIES: ACUPUNCTURE AND DRUG TREATMENT
April 27, 1993, Atrium of the Stamp Student Union, 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Dr. Michael Smith, Director of Substance Abuse, Lincoln Hospital, will be lecturing on the "Use of Acupuncture and Computers for Improving Drug Abuse Treatment."