CORRECTION NEWS

"Proudly Keeping Alabama Safe"

Professionalism-Integrity-Accountability

Spring 2018

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Alabama Dedicates Portion of Highway in Memory of Correctional Officer

Friends and family joined the department for the dedication ceremony of Officer Kenneth L. Bettis Memorial Highway

Through collaboration between correctional officers at William C. Holman Correctional Facility and the state legislature, the memory and life of Correctional Officer Kenneth L. Bettis will live on forever.

The Alabama Correctional Officer Kenneth L. Bettis Memorial Highway was dedicated Oct. 16 from the Atmore campus of Coastal Alabama Community College.

Family members, officers with the Alabama Department of Corrections and the Alabama Department of

"Today we remember and honor officer Bettis for his contributions and sacrifice made on our behalf. It is a time to reflect on all that he gave to the department of corrections and to our state with no expectation recognition or reward."

Jefferson Dunn
Commissioner

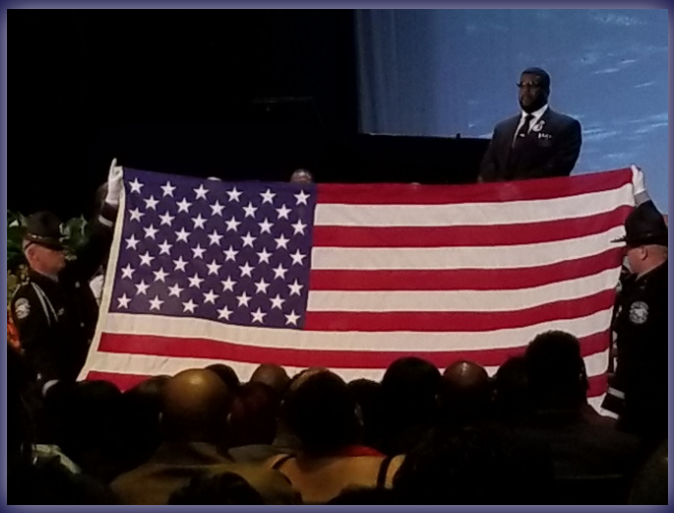
Continued on page 6

ADOC Welcomes New Deputy Commissioner

Dennis W. Stamper, former Federal Bureau of Prisons Warden, joined the team as a special assistant to the commissioner

His primary responsibilities are to help with departmental projects that require prioritized attention.

Stamper will lead the upcoming project management team to develop a master plan for capital projects related to the state's prison system, which includes construction of new prisons and the renovation of existing facilities.



On Oct. 21, Capt. Monica McCoy and Sgt. Thomas Glanton attended the North Carolina Department of Public Safety's fallen officers funerals.

Justin Smith, 35, a NCDOC correctional officer; and Veronica Darden, 50, a sewing plant supervisor were both killed on Oct. 12 after an escape attempt from the sewing plant.

Department Leaders Attend AJFO Conference

In December, eight of the department's leaders attended the Association of Justice-Involved Female Offenders (AJFO) Conference in Santa Clara, CA where they co-presented two workshops.

The two-part presentation explored two complementary ways to transform criminal justice policies and practices for women and their facilities, staff and communities - "from the inside out" and "from the outside in".

AJFO is a semi-annual conference that brings female correctional institutions together to share practices and elevate gender responsive strategies and tactics.

From left to right (bottom row): Warden Chad Crabtree, Warden Adrienne Givens, Warden Deidra Wright, and Deputy Commissioner Wendy Williams.
From left to right (top row): Ms. Tenesha Williams, Ms. Andie Moss, Sherry Kelley, Octavia Davis, and Warden Lagreta McClain

From the Investigations and Intelligence Director

Arnaldo Mercado

The Investigations and Intelligence Division (I&I) is the Alabama Department of Corrections law enforcement and criminal investigations arm. Its primary mission is to fairly and impartially conduct investigations concerning alleged violation of the Alabama Criminal Code and the Alabama Penal Statues, as well as violations to departmental rules, regulations, and procedures. I&I works in close collaboration with other law enforcement agencies at the local, state, and federal level, as well as the Alabama Attorney General's Office and the respective District Attorney's Offices throughout the state, in order to assure the safety of our communities. The I&I Division pursues justice and ensures a safer Alabama by providing excellence in criminal and administrative investigations for the department, and the citizens of the great state of Alabama.

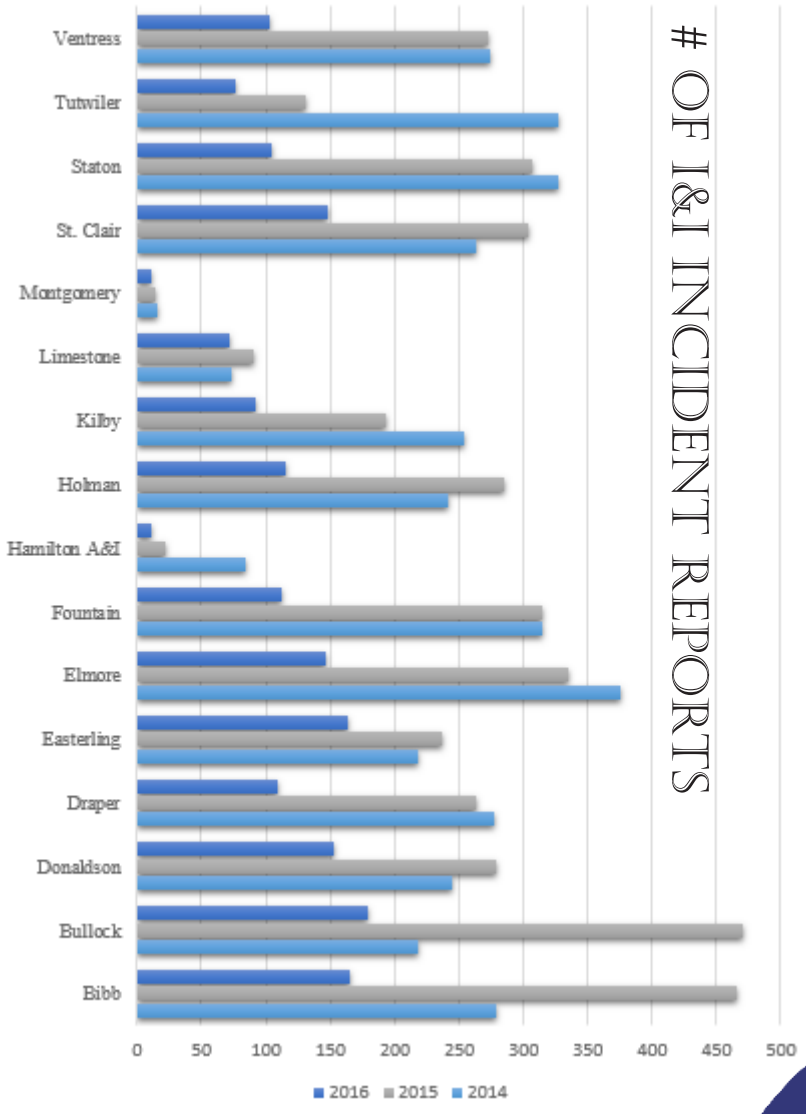
Our investigations include, but are not limited to, drugs, assaults, sexual victimization, illegal cellphones and contraband, crimes committed by free world persons, and public corruption. On average, annually the I&I Division receives around 4500 complaints, formally investigates around 1,500 to1,600 cases, and prosecutes around 450 investigations, all with the assistance of the respec-tive District Attorneys' offices throughout the state, as well as the Attorney General's Office, and federal prosecutors.

Currently, the I&I division has 27 agents working out of five offices to better serve our correctional institutions throughout the state. Each office has a supervisor responsible for all the cases within their respective region. In addition, we have four correctional staff assigned to the Security Threat Group (STG) that does intelligence work such as identifying gangs within our prisons, and conducting investigations on the illegal use of social media by inmates. Three criminal intelligence analysts are assigned to our team. These intelligence analysts perform a critical task in identifying criminal trends within our system, provide analytical investigative support to the agents, and assist with background intelligence for the recruiting process. Lastly, we have staff assigned to the United States Marshal Fugitive Apprehension Task Forces throughout the state that provide critical support in the apprehension of escapees and fugitives from the law.

Anyone can report a crime, illegal activity, or the suspicion of such to the I&I Division directly. A little over a year ago, we launched the "Stop Corruption" campaign. I am sure everyone has seen the flier that is posted at every facility encouraging people to report corruption. Anyone can do so without fear of retaliation as provided by law. The number to report corruption to the I&I Division is 1-800-293-7799.

I am very proud to be a member of the I&I Division, but most importantly, a member of the ADOC team. Again, I thank each and every one of you for your efforts in making ADOC the shining star of Alabama law enforcement, and for your support of our goals and mission.

I&I FAST FACTS



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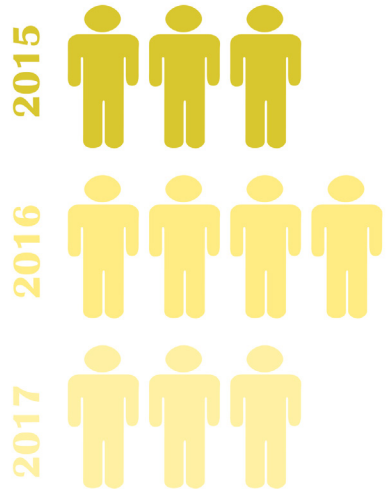
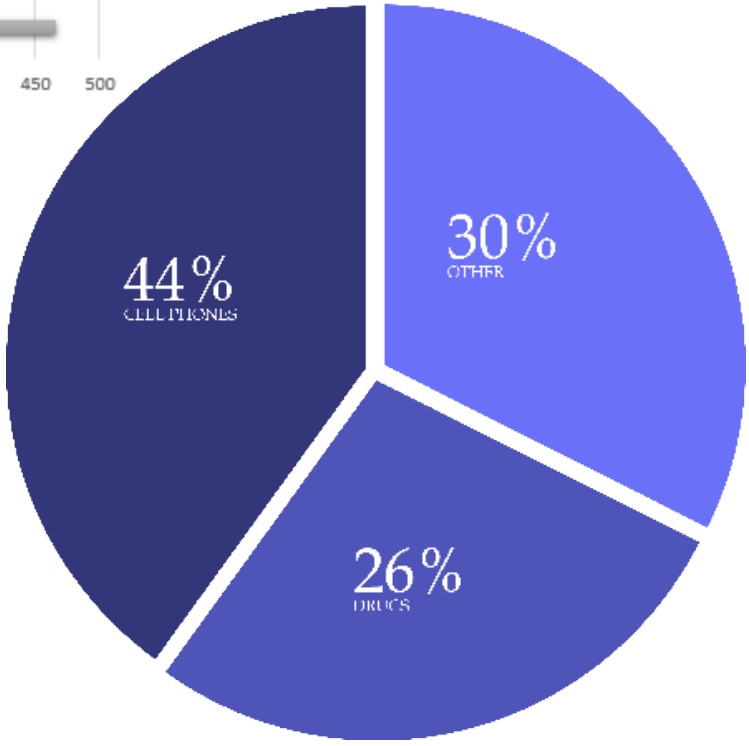
CELL PHONES CONFISCATED
in 2017

137

FACEBOOK ACCOUNTS CLOSED



Officer Arrests
=10 Officers



2016 Prison Contraband

Continued from page 1

Transportation, along with Rep. Alan Baker and Sen. Greg Albritton took part in the dedication.

Bettis died on Sept. 16, 2016, after being assaulted by an inmate 15 days prior at Holman, which is located north on Highway 21. The original resolution and subsequent memorial signage was prompted by fellow coworkers of Bettis at Holman Prison with Hayden Sizemore and William Despain leading that effort on behalf of the Holman staff in honoring the life and work of their friend and colleague.

Officer Bettis' friends and family filled the area in remembrance of the ultimate sacrifice he made for his state

"Much work went into this dedication," Baker said.

The dedication of the portion of Highway 21, which runs from the intersection of Interstate 65 and Highway 21 to the intersection of Highway 21 and Smithfield Road, came about as a result of the passage of House Joint Resolution No. 12. Baker was a main sponsor of the bill, among others.

To pay for the sign, Bettis' colleagues raised funds for the dedication.

"This memorial highway sign will serve as a visual remembrance of the loving life of Officer Bettis," Baker said.

Albritton said it seems like the willing, able and ready are the first to go.

"Officer Bettis was there; he stood his ground," Albritton said. "He absorbed the blow."

Correctional Officer Willie Harris, a 20-year veteran in corrections, said Bettis made quite an impression on his son. So much so that his son wouldn't stop talking about him, he said.

"This has to be a great guy," Harris said about Bettis.

Harris said soon after Bettis' death, safety precautions increased.

"The safety precautions tightened up," he said. "We now wear safety vests."

Prior to serving as a correctional officer, Bettis served in the Alabama Army National Guard.

Bettis served as a corrections officer at Holman since 2009. He was a military veteran and had served on active duty in Iraq with the Alabama Army National Guard. Bettis' military awards and decorations include the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal and Southwest Asia Service Medal with Bronze Service Star.

Danny McQuieter, Bettis' father, said it the dedication ceremony was a good day for his son's memory.

"It's a good day in his memory," McQuieter said. "The sign will never be forgot. It brings back the fact that I don't have him. I haven't had him for a year. I've just got to live with it."

McQuieter said his son was an all-around great person, and rarely got upset with anything.

"He had an even living attitude," he said. "He never drank, never smoke."

McQuieter said Bettis lived by the book.

"Whatever he tried to do, he tried to do it right," he said.

This story was contributed by BrewtonStandard.com

Gov. Ivey Awards Grant for State Corrections Program

Gov. Kay Ivey has awarded a $242,210 grant to aid inmates who desire to overcome addictions that may have led to their incarceration.

The grant to the state Department of Corrections will continue the residential substance abuse treatment program for inmates.

'We have a responsibility, both to the public and the incarcerated, to help rehabilitate inmates who want to end addictions and live fulfilling lives once they are released,' Ivey said. 'This program helps inmates take steps to end these damaging addictions.'

Inmates voluntarily enroll in the substance abuse program which is offered at seven state prisons. The six-month program involves counseling and program managers who specialize in addictions.

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs is administering the grant from funds made available by the U.S. Justice Department.

Ivey notified state Prison Commissioner Jeff Dunn that the grant had been approved.

ADECA administers an array of programs supporting law enforcement and traffic safety, economic development, energy conservation, water resource management and recreation development.

This story was contributed by Union Springs Herald

ADOC Raises over $88,000 for Alabama Charities

The ADOC is excited to announce they have exceeded their goal and raised $88,460 for Alabama Charities.

Elmore Correctional Facility raised the most for the larger facilities with $7,109 and 212 percent of their goal, Hamilton Work Release had the highest facility goal percentage at 647 percent raising $5,501 and the Supervised Reentry Program and Community Corrections Division combined had the highest division goal percentage of 784 percent raising $980.

The Alabama State Combined Campaign started in 1991 and has raised billions of dollars since. These donations benefit over 350 Alabama charities.

The 2017 total number of SCC pledges surpass $880,153.

ADOC Conducts its First Security Audit

In a move to evaluate the operational and administrative efficiencies of Alabama's largest law enforcement agency, the Department of Corrections today announced a new internal security audit system led by the agency's inspector general.

Corrections Commissioner Jeff Dunn said the audit will assess the internal controls of his agency and determine the level of operational and administrative efficiencies of correctional facilities in meeting security standards.

In January 2016, Dunn appointed Mark Fassl to serve as DOC's first inspector general. Dunn said Fassl was tasked to create the framework for the DOC's internal auditing system and for overseeing the agency's internal affairs investigations.

Before his appointment, Fassl, a 30-year veteran of the U.S. Army, served as inspector general for NATO forces in Afghanistan.

"We established the Office of the Inspector General to assist our correctional facilities to operate more effectively and efficiently. Inspector General Fassl brings to the DOC the expertise and experience that will enable us to better evaluate the readiness of our agency," Dunn said.

In October, Fassl and a DOC audit team spent four days at the William E. Donaldson Correctional Facility in Bessemer reviewing the facility's adherence to security policies and procedures.

In DOC's first audit of a major correctional facility, Fassl said he was pleased with the outcome.

"We found that the leadership and staff at Donaldson Correctional Facility were very receptive to the audit and all those involved demonstrated a sense of unity in helping our team in achieving its objective. Warden Leon Bolling's leadership style fosters a climate of mutual respect among the staff and their support of ADOC's mission," said Fassl.

ADOC plans to conduct a minimum of four security audits per year.

ADOC Graduates 103 Correctional Officers in 2017

Class 2017-03

Since August the Alabama Department of Corrections has graduated 103 Correctional Officers from the Alabama Correctional Academy.

Guest speaker from graduation class 2017-03, Director Arnaldo Mercado, spoke to trainees about the commitment they have made to their state.

"When officers fail to do what is right they erode the public trust and further degrade law enforcement's ability to work within the community and carry out its mission."

Arnaldo Mercado
Investigations and Intelligence Director

Class 2017-02 graduated 43 officers, nearly doubling the previous class of 24 graduates. Academy class 2017-03 graduated 36 officers, making the year total 103 officers.

The next academy class will graduate May 2018.

Left to right: Tammy Jarvis, Joshua Morgan, Jody Gilchrist, Warden Kenneth Peters, Thomas Banda

#WAY2GO

Fountain Canine team came in **Second Place** in the Multi-Leash Division at the Blackwater Southeastern State Manhunt Field Trails in Berrydale, FL.

The team consists of Capt. Jody Gilchrist, Lt. Thomas Banda and Sgt. Joshua Morgan.

Two DOC Employees Complete Nationally Accredited Course

The Alabama Department of Corrections is pleased to congratulate Angie Baggett and Jelene Franklin for completing the Certified Public Manager® program.

Certified Public Manger® is a nationally accredited professional development program designed to enhance the professional and managerial skills of government employees.

"Our agency's ability to effectively carry out our mission is contingent upon a well-trained professional staff. CPM's 18 months of intensive leadership and professional development has proven invaluable in developing and improving leadership skill sets."

Steve Watson

Associate Commissioner for Plans and Programs

Commissioner Dunn recognized Angie Baggett and Jelene Franklin for completing the CPM course

The CPM course is broken into two sections, CPM I and CPM II. Each course is 9 months long. In order to complete a Certified Public Manager® certificate participants are required to complete coursework, management development projects and 60 additional elective hours.

Individuals interested in taking the CPM course can contact their division/facility director.

ADOC Executive Leadership Conference
Leading Through Change

The Alabama Department of Corrections brought together department leaders for the 12th annual Executive Leadership Conference held in Florence, Aug. 30- Sept. 1, 2018.

The three-day conference was facilitated by subject matter experts who spoke on issues and challenges within corrections and best practices for improving operational conditions through effective leadership development.

USMC retired General Charles Krulak ended the ELC with an inspirational testimony from his time serving as a top leader in the US military

Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., Chancellor of Troy University, opened the conference by sharing his views on enthusiasm and bringing an optimistic mindset to everyday challenges. "If you can see it, you can make it happen," said Hawkins. "Your vision has to affect your values, and your values can't be left out."

Departments eaders attended various workshops throughout the conference

Dr. Hawkins earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Montevallo and his doctorate from the University of Alabama. Upon completion of his bachelor's degree in 1967, Hawkins was commissioned a lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps and served as a platoon leader during the Vietnam War. For his combat duty, he received the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart and a citation from the Korean Marine Corps.

Derrick Schofield, former Tennessee Department of Correction Commissioner and Executive Vice President of GEO Group, spoke to the group about the impact of adapting leadership styles, taking initiative and being open to make changes.

Dr. Hank Dasinger, Dean of Troy University's College of Education, explored ideas and strategies for motivating self and employees.

Beatrice Dolihite, United States Air Force Colonel, shared an influential presentation on her experiences with toxic leadership. In her presentation, Dolihite used her personal experience serving under a toxic leader and the steps she took to confront this type of leadership.

The conference concluded with an inspirational testimony about leadership from the 31st Commandant of the Marine Corps and former president of Birmingham Southern, General Charles Krulak.

ADOC Recognizes Professional Development Course

At the 2017 Executive Leadership Conference in Muscle Shoals, the Alabama Department of Corrections graduated 21 supervisors from the department's leadership development course, FORWARD.

Students were recommended by their superiors to participate in the program to advance their leadership skills.

The 10-month course incorporates ADOC administrative and operational systems training with emphasis on leadership development, management strategies, and best practices.

This year the Operations Division revised the application process and now accepted non-security applications. The FORWARD class was comprised of four non-security personnel, seven correctional lieutenants, six captains and four wardens.

Mellon Foundation provides support for Auburn University's prison education program

Auburn University recently received a $900,000 grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in support of the Alabama Prison Arts + Education Project, or APAEP, at Auburn University.

The new Mellon grant represents the largest philanthropic investment APAEP has received to date. It will enable Auburn to have a major impact on prison education in Alabama by supporting a program that offers students at Staton Correctional Facility in Elmore County the opportunity to pursue a bachelor's degree from Auburn University.

"We are living in an historic moment when the social, economic, and political consequences of mass incarceration have become part of the national conversation," said Eugene Tobin, a senior program officer at the Mellon Foundation. "We are proud to support the Alabama Prison Arts + Education Project's efforts to improve the lives of underserved individuals, their families, and the communities to which they will return upon release. Such public-private partnerships represent values that should be at the heart of a democratic society."

APAEP is dedicated to bringing educational opportunities to those in prison in Alabama through a partnership with the Alabama Department of Corrections. Faculty and staff currently teach 238 students, offering more than 17 classes including semester-long courses in arts, humanities, science, technology, engineering and math in eight correctional facilities across the state.

APAEP recently added a component enabling students who successfully complete a rigorous application process to pursue degree coursework in business or human development and family studies, earning credits toward a bachelor's degree from Auburn.

"As the Alabama Prison Arts + Education Project has grown and the degree program emerged through the U.S. Department of Education's Experimental Sites Second Chance Pell research program, Auburn and APAEP are reaching further and more substantially into the educationally under-resourced communities impacted by incarceration," said Kyes Stevens, APAEP director and founder. "This grant will help us advance our goals based on the university's land-grant mission of increasing access to higher education."

Since 2015, the Foundation has awarded $6.905 million in grants that support prison education and reentry, as well as curricular initiatives focused on incarceration. Mellon's gift in support of APAEP is the second grant Auburn University has received from the Mellon Foundation; the first was awarded in 1997 in the amount of $54,000 to support dissertation seminars for PhD candidates in literature and history.

"We are thrilled to receive this generous gift from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation," said Jane DiFolco Parker, vice president for development and president of the Auburn University Foundation. "Philanthropic support from prestigious organizations like the Mellon Foundation is crucial to the continuation of our pioneering work in prison education and providing nontraditional students access to the exceptional education Auburn provides."

APAEP began as an arts and humanities program, offering creative and intellectual opportunities to individuals in Alabama's prisons. The program has grown significantly in scope since its inception in 2002, and today, Auburn University is one of the few public land-grant institutions chosen to participate in the Second Chance Pell Pilot Program, a federal financial aid program providing roughly a third of the tuition for students in prison.

This story was contributed by Sheryl Nix from Auburn University

Calhoun Community College Inducts 50 Incarcerated Students into Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

On November 16th Calhoun Community College held its first correctional Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society induction ceremony for 50 incarcerated students at Limestone Correctional Facility in Harvest.

A recent revision to the PTK bi-laws now allows incarcerated students taking classes at community colleges eligible for invitation to the honor society. These students must meet all necessary requirements of a 3.5 grade point average, with 12 or more completed credit hours and current enrollment in classes.

Alabama inmates inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

It is our hope that this membership opportunity, with the support of our student members and the college, will help to give these deserving students motivation and skills that will be beneficial throughout their lives."

Necia Nicholas
Co-sponsor of Calhoun's Sigma Lambda Chapter

Commissioner Dunn congratulates inductees on their great accomplishment

The local chapter officers and officials voted to waive their portion of the one-time membership fee, leaving a balance of $60 per member. Calls went out across Calhoun's campus to faculty and staff requesting assistance to help cover the remaining member fees. After an overwhelming response, they were able to raise $4,000 for all 50 students.

These 50 individuals are the first incarcerated students from Alabama to be inducted into the honor society.

ADOC Graduates the First Lieutenants and Captains Academy

In Oct. the Alabama Department of Corrections graduated 31 supervisors from the Training Academy.

In July the DOC graduated 18 correctional lieutenants and on Nov. 13 senior supervisors completed the course. In his remarks to the Captains Academy class, Associate Commissioner for Administrative Services, Matthew Brand reminded the staff of how important it is to blend all aspects of leadership.

"This year we decided to put security and non-security together to bounce ideas off each other and create cohesive leadership skills"

Matthew Brand
Associate Commissioner for Administrative Services

The supervisor training academies are a part of ADOC's new professional development program that offers department leaders at all levels the opportunity to enhance their skill-training, that will prepare them for increased responsibility and promotion opportunities.

In 2018 the Corrections Academy will have multiple developmental courses for all levels of leadership.

Captains Academy class 2017-01

Commissioner Dunn and Warden Givens presenting Captain Brown with her certificate of completion

Lieutenants Academy class 2017-01

Easterling Announces Fall Promotions

Warden Walter Myers of Easterling Correctional Facility announced the promotion of four facility staff members.

Jesse Stanford and Lakeith Thompkins were promoted to Correctional Sergeant, Christopher Gordy was promoted to Correctional Lieutenant and Mariah Lawson was promoted to Steward III.

> *"These individuals have been a huge asset to Easterling and we are excited to promote them to higher level positions."*
> **Walter Myers**
> Warden III

Stanford began his career with corrections in 2015 at Ventress Correctional Facility in Clayton where he later joined the Correctional Emergency Response Team (CERT).

Easterling Promotions Continued on Page 15

WELCOME NEW WARDENS

Warden II Charles Tipton
Red Eagle Community
Work Center

Warden II Adrienne Givens
Montgomery Womens
Facility

Warden I Legretta McClain
Tutwiler Prison for Women

Warden I Chadwick Crabtree
Birmingham Community
Based Facility

Jefferson County Planning to Pay Inmates to Keep Roadways Clean

Jefferson County is working with the Alabama Department of Correction to hire inmates to help the county with removing litter from road ways.

The county is planning to pay $76,000 a year for about two dozen female inmates to work on its litter crew.

Jefferson County Roads and Transportation Direction Cal Markert said these inmates will allow the county to triple the amount of work they're currently able to do.

The inmates are assigned to the department of correction's work release program.

Birmingham Community Based Facility

Jefferson County Commission President Jimmie Stephens said this program is good for the inmates and the people of Jefferson County.

"These inmates are going to be on work release somewhere. That's part of the system, part of their rehabilitation," Stephens said. "So if they're going to be at work somewhere, why not have them work for the benefit of the citizens of Jefferson County?"

Hiring inmates through the work release program is expected to save the county about $330,000, according to Markert.

This story was contributed by Sarah Killian from WVTM 13 News

Easterling Promotions Continued from Page 14

Thompkins began his career with corrections in 2014 at Easterling Correctional Facility after a seven-year enlistment with the Navy.

Gordy began his career with the department when he was 22-years-old, following in father's (Warden III Christopher Gordy) footsteps.

"I want to make sure everyone I supervise knows their job and can run the kitchen," said Lawson. "I want to train and prepare all who work under me for their future careers as a chief steward."

Sgt. Jesse Stanford

Mariah Lawson

Sgt. LaKeith Thompkins

Lt. Christopher Gordy

Merry

William E. Donaldson Correctional Facility Donates Holiday Gifts to Cooper Green Community Center

Employees of the William E. Donaldson Correctional Facility in Bessemer are helping to make the holiday season bright for one community in Jefferson County.

Officers and staff at the Donaldson facility spent the month of November collecting toys and other gifts that were donated to the Birmingham Housing Authority's Cooper Green Community Center. The donations went toward the center's 2017 Spirit of the Season Section 3 Program that provides monetary donations, toys, food and clothing to families that may be struggling financially.

"By giving back to the community in a small way, our hope is to bring a little joy to children that may not receive anything during the holiday season."

Warden Leon Bolling

Each year the community center sets aside a day during the holiday season to provide families with self-sufficiency resources, food, gifts and music.

"The event brings smiles to the faces of the youth and their parents," said Jason Pennywell, social worker with the Cooper Green Community Center. "We're very thankful for the generous donations and support from the community that makes the day a special occasion for the families."

Christmas

2017 Correctional Christmas Highlights

Donaldson Correctional Facility donated to two families in need from Oak Grove Elementary School in Bessemer.

Hamilton Work Release Center spread Christmas joy in their community by giving a family Christmas toys for their three children.

Fountain Correctional Facility and the Department of Human Resources donated over 100 Christmas gifts to five local families in need.

Administrative staff at Fountain Correctional Facility held a *Decorate Your Space* contest to spread Christmas joy.

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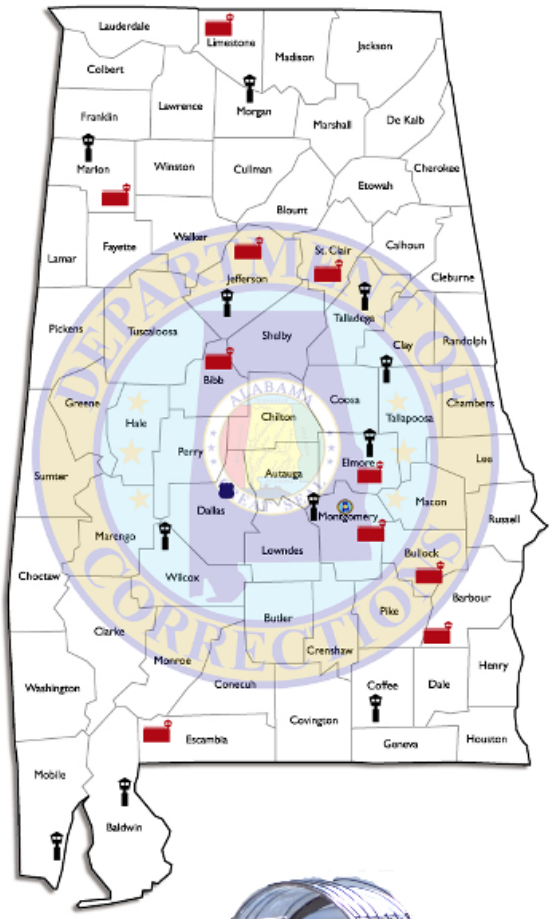
DOC.ALABAMA.GOV



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