



Impact Georgia

August 2013 Newsletter

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Have a great story idea?

Send to **Gwendolyn**

Hogan by **August 26.**

Email:

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GDC Hosts Military Job Fair at Fort Gordon



Military personnel and civilians signing in at the GA National Guard registration table at the US Army Reserve Center



Mobile Field Force (riot control) demonstration

On July 30, the Department in conjunction with the Georgia Department of Defense and Georgia National Guard hosted a Military Job Fair at the US Army Reserve Center at Fort Gordon in Augusta.

Nearly 500 active duty military, reservists, guardsmen, veterans and civilians attended.

Participating organizations included

Department of Corrections, Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Agriculture, Department of Public Safety, Department of Labor, Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Corrections Corporation of America, Columbia County Sheriff's Office, and the Albany and Gwinnett County Police Departments.

The Special Operations unit conducted demonstrations every thirty minutes to

include Cell Extraction, Mobile Field Force (riot control) and K9 handling.

Additionally, the Department offered on-site physical fitness tests to interested officer applicants, background checks, drug screens and on-site job offers.

At the end of the job fair, the Department had a total of 32 job offers!

Jay Sanders Appointed to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council



On July 19, Governor Nathan Deal appointed Special Assistant to the Director

of Probation Operations, Jay Sanders, to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council effective August 1.

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, created in 1981 by the Georgia General Assembly, is legislatively charged with eleven areas of criminal justice coordination. Among those responsibilities is to serve as the statewide clearinghouse for criminal justice information and research; develop criminal justice legislative and executive policy proposals; and serve in an advisory capacity to the Governor on issues impacting the criminal justice system.

Sanders began his career with the Department in 1992 as a Probation Officer. He has held positions as Regional Training Coordinator, Hearing Officer and Public

Safety Training Instructor during his time with the Department. In his current position, he manages special projects and coordinates the Department's Criminal Justice Reform and Justice Reinvestment initiatives.

Sanders is a POST Certified Master Instructor with certifications in firearms and defensive tactics. He received a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Pensacola Christian College and a Master's degree in Social Administration from Georgia Southwestern State University.

For more information on Sanders' appointment visit <http://gov.georgia.gov/press-releases/2013-07-23/deal-appoints-24-boards>.

Second Quarterly Awards Ceremony of 2013

Contributed by Michael Tolson, Specialist, Human Resources

On July 23, the Department held the second Quarterly Awards Ceremony of 2013 in Roberts Chapel at State Offices South at Tift College.

The Award recipients are as follows:
CORRECTIONS

PO of the Quarter
Matthew Lubelsky
Valdosta PO

CO of the Quarter
Cornellius Kemp
Burruss CTC

Customer Service Champion
Cheryl Wiggins
Johnson SP

Unsung Hero
Kristin Hosford
Facilities Div. Director's Office

OPERATIONS, PLANNING & TRAINING
Customer Service Champions
Dawn Mock, Angela Smith
Office of Information & Technology

Unsung Hero
Warren Reid
Planning & Strategic Management

ADMINISTRATION
Customer Service Champion
Jackson DeFore
Financial Services

Unsung Hero
Michelle Davis
Business Processes

Outstanding Agency Accreditation Achievement Award
Charles H. Smith & Staff
Procurement Services

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS
Customer Service Champion
Bethany Whetzel
Legal Services

Unsung Hero
Jeal Dorsey
Personnel

FAITHFUL SERVICE AWARDS

5 Years
James Abraham
Melanie Crew
Jeannie Davis
Deborah Haynes
Cliff Hogan
Francine Miesel
Deondra Richardson
Teri Stripling

10 Years
David Colon
Jodi Ford
Mary Mundie

15 Years
Garland Gillis
Jimmy Taylor



L to R: Commissioner Brian Owens, Matthew Lubelsky (PO of the Quarter), Asst. Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier and Director of Probation Operations Mike Kraft



L to R: Asst. Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier, Cornellius Kemp, Commissioner Brian Owens and Director of Facilities Operations Randy Tillman



L to R: Commissioner Brian Owens, Bethany Whetzel, General Counsel Rob Jones and Asst. Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier



L to R: Director of OIT Mike Nelson-Palmer, Commissioner Brian Owens, Angela Smith, Dawn Mock, Manager Mark Prater, Asst. Commissioner Gregory C. Dozier, Division Director Arnold Smith

20 Years
William Burse
Brenda Garnto
Gregory Howard
Cynthia Snow
John Tighe

25 Years
India Aycock

Scott Poitevint
Roger Pope
Rosalyn Shinholster
Conley Willis

30 Years
Michael Boulineau
Nancy Van Etten

Delivery of New Probation Vehicles

Contributed by Cliff Hartley, Manager, Field Services



Chief Probation Officers with new vehicles for their circuit



Commissioner Owens speaking with Chief Probation Officers

On July 23, Probation Operations delivered 15 of 109 new vehicles to Chief Probation Officers from across the state.

The Department purchased 79 Dodge Chargers and 30 GMC Tahoes to replace aging vehicles within their fleet. Dependability of vehicles became necessary because of Probation Operations' increased emphasis on offender field supervision.

All vehicles are equipped with identifying "Probation Field Team" decals,

communication consoles, mobile radios, lighting packages and rear seat prisoner partitions to ensure the safety of transported offenders.

These vehicles will be deployed statewide to all 49 Probation Circuits, where they will immediately be put into service-providing safe and dependable transportation to our field probation teams, as they manage offenders within Georgia's communities.

In the following weeks, all vehicles will be delivered.

Lee Arrendale's New Rescue Program

Contributed by Kathy Seabolt, Warden



Habersham County Animal Shelter delivers rescued dogs to Lee Arrendale State Prison



Offenders meeting the new rescued dogs

The beginning of July, Lee Arrendale State Prison received a group of dogs from the Habersham County Animal Shelter to begin a new program.

The program is the beginning of a new partnership between Lee Arrendale State Prison and Habersham County Animal Shelter.

Rescued animals are brought in through the Habersham County Animal Shelter to be trained and socialized one-on-one with an offender for six to eight weeks. After training, dogs are

placed into an adoption program where they are guaranteed a shelter-free experience.

Participating offenders can receive Veterinary Technician Certification through Middle Georgia Technical College.

The program is set to have an official Grand Opening in September.

Contributed by Jack Robers, Albany TC Superintendent

Contributed by Pamela Gould, CPO Augusta



On July 18, the Albany-Dougherty County hosted its first offender-focused job fair.

Around 200 parolees, probationers and offenders attended.

Their preparation and positive attitudes exceeded the expectations of the participating employers.

One employer stated they needed more applications forms because they were pleasantly surprised to see such a "talented pool of potential employees."

All employers agreed to return for

the next job fair and others are expected to join after witnessing such a successful event.

Agencies who participated included, Department of Labor, Goodwill, Vocational Rehabilitative Services and Albany Second Chance.

Chief Parole Officer Leslie Lamb said, "I can't say enough about the high quality of work and effort that was put into this event by all involved."

The next offender-focused job fair is scheduled to be held in six months.

On July 25, Richmond County Sheriff Richard Roundtree presented appreciation certificates to two Augusta Probation Officers, Surveillance Officer Christopher Smith and CIP Officer Mary Moyer.

They were recognized for their quick actions and response to a near fatal hit and run incident on June 6. The officers witnessed the accident, followed the perpetrator and apprehended him a few miles from the scene.

Sheriff Roundtree commended the officers for their bravery and swift response. He acknowledged the partnership shared by our agencies and encouraged us to continue to assist one another for the good of the community.

Tuesday, August 6
Metro ATL DRC
Graduation

Thursday, August 15
BCOT Graduation

Monday, August 19
GDC Roll-Up
"Day in Central Office"

Wednesday-Friday, August 21-23
GPA Summer
Training Conference

8th Annual GPAI Training Awards

Contributed by Robert Kiedinger, Program Director, Risk Reduction Services



L to R: Dir of Risk Reduction Services Sherri Bloodworth, DWCT Whitworth Women's Facility Mark Martin, Whitworth Counselor Richard Frady, Whitworth CO David Longworth, Dep Dir of OPTD Vanessa O'Donnell and Dir of Reentry Services Stacy Rivera

L to R: Dir of Probation Opns Mike Kraft, Statewide DRC Coord. Rosalyn Davis, FOM Scot Mullis, Dir of RRS Sherri Bloodworth, Tifton DRC Counselor Sarah Madison, Tifton DRC Administrator Kay Simpson, Tifton DRC PO Bryan Sain, Dep Dir of OPTD Vanessa O'Donnell and Dir of RS Stacy Rivera

On July 11, the eighth Annual GPAI (Georgia Programs Assessment Inventory) Training & Awards event was held at Roberts Chapel at State Offices South.

Approximately 175 employees attended from various facilities and probation sites across the state.

Training revolved around new information in the field of evidence-based practices as it relates to corrections and the awards honored those sites and individuals who best exemplified the pursuit of reducing recidivism in Georgia.

Dr. Patricia Van Voorhis, Professor Emerita from the University of Cincinnati, reported the results of the recently completed Faith & Character Based Dorm sites study. The study compared those who completed the FCBD program and a matched sample of inmates. Results indicated that the recidivism rate was about ten points lower than the matched sample, showing that FCBD programs reduce recidivism.

Site Awardees for the highest scores included: Tifton Day Reporting Center for all sites; LaGrange TC for Transitional

Centers; Walker State Prison for Specialty Program Prison; Whitworth Parole Revocation Center for Substance Abuse Treatment.

Individual Leadership awards included: Rome Chief Probation Officer (CPO) Chad Dabbs; Rome DRC Center Administrator Ken Ward; Smith TC Superintendent Cliff Kennedy; Arrendale SP Warden Kathy Seabolt; Johnson SP Warden Jose Morales; and Autry SP Counselor Claudette Bullard.

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GA_Corrections

Contributed by Robert Mallory, Master Instructor, Training & Development

P.O.S.T. Instructor Training is an 80-hour course that is offered several times a year to those wishing to become an instructor to assist with training GDC staff.

The course is broken down into three primary course requirements. The first is passing a written examination, after learning such information as Instructor Liability, Adult Learning, Communication Skills, Effective Presentation Skills, Classroom Management, Instructional System Design, Constructing Effective Performance Objectives, Lesson Planning, Testing and Evaluation, Practical Exercises, Teaching Methods, and Managing Training Aids.

The second is the creation of an approved original narrative lesson plan. This requirement is met when the proper performance objectives are given, and when the lesson plan is written in the proper format.

The third requirement is the 50 minute presentation of the lesson plan. After

the presentation, the student is then evaluated to determine whether or not he/she has met the requirements according to P.O.S.T. guidelines.

While considered by most students to be a "hard course," the main challenge to each participant is the work—both inside and outside of the classroom—that goes into the preparation and delivery of the lesson plan.

Those who pace themselves and manage their time wisely are generally very successful in the program. The Department's Training Section is striving to teach this course to our utmost abilities in order to provide the best training experience possible, so in turn we will produce the best instructors.

Congratulations to the most recent graduating class (May 2013):

James Roberts, Phillips SP; Craig Ogilvie, McDonough PO; Tracey Pirotsch, Leadership Development Unit; Blake Sims, Phillips TC (Parole); Ryan Fletcher, Investigations Unit; Darrin Myers, Rutledge SP; Angel Perrine, Macon PO; Mark Zamnuik, GCA Macon SP



L to R: James Roberts, Phillips SP; Craig Ogilvie, McDonough PO; Tracey Pirotsch, Leadership Development Unit at SOSTC; Blake Sims, Phillips TC (Parole); Ryan Fletcher, Investigations Unit at SOSTC; Darrin Myers, Rutledge SP; Angel Perrine, Macon PO; Mark Zamnuik, GCA Macon SP

Fletcher, Investigations Unit; Darrin Myers, Rutledge SP; Angel Perrine, Macon PO; and Mark Zamnuik, GCA Macon SP.

If you are interested in P.O.S.T Instructor Training ask your supervisor for more information.

Southwestern Judicial Circuit assists GSP

Contributed by Americus Chief Probation Officer William Christopher Hall



GDC officers at one of the five road blocks



Officers involved in the road blocks

On June 28 from 6pm to 11:30pm, Probation Officers Chief Probation Officer Chris Hall, Probation Officer (PO) III Terra Cochran, Specialized Probation Supervision (SPS) Officer Victor Dydell, SPS Officer Jeff Paulk, PO Kevin Devane, PO Tyler Denham, PO Chad Norton, Surveillance Officer Jerome Smith and SO Steve Preskitt, of the Southwestern Judicial Circuit assisted the Georgia State Patrol in a concentrated patrol in Sumter and Terrell counties. Road blocks were set up

at four heavy traffic areas in Sumter and one in Terrell.

A total of 57 offenders were charged with numerous violations with 25 were incarcerated in the local jail.

Other agencies involved included the Americus Police Department, Sumter County Sheriffs Office, Department of Natural Resources, Americus Parole Office and Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Calhoun SP F&CB Graduation and Family Day

Contributed by Administrative Assistant Rachel Wiggins



Fun and games at FBC Graduation

On June 26, Calhoun State Prison held its semi-annual Faith and Character Based (F&CB) Graduation and Family Day.

The event gave the 23 graduates an opportunity to reflect on the changes they had made in their lives while surrounded by their supportive loved ones.

Newly-transferred Warden Jose Morales and special guest Lisa Haughey

both spoke at the ceremony, providing words of support and hope for the graduating men. Games, entertainment, food, and informational activities followed the graduation ceremony.

The F&CB program has a 12% recidivism rate for its graduates as opposed to the 26.56% rate of those in general population.

MISSION

The Department of Corrections creates a safer Georgia by effectively managing offenders and providing opportunities for positive change

VISION

To be recognized as the best corrections organization in the nation.



BRIAN OWENS

Commissioner

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