

Christopher B. Epps, Commissioner
723 N. President Street
Jackson, MS 39202

Dear Fellow Mississippians:

It is my distinct honor to present the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Report. The report illustrates an in-depth profile of the state's felony population, along with the agency's many functions and operations.

Always striving to serve the state through efficient accountability, the agency has demonstrated fiscal discipline and innovation with more than \$107 million in savings and cost avoidances for the state over the past few years. MDOC continued the tradition of prudent accountability and excellence in public service during Fiscal Year 2010. Highlights of this effort include:

- ✦ The Mississippi Department of Corrections has reduced the recidivism rate from 34% to 30% in the last four years. This reduction has created an estimated annual cost avoidance of \$8,252,153 for the agency.
- ✦ MDOC has one of the lowest costs (\$40.67) per inmate/per day in the United States.
- ✦ While MDOC's population has increased by 28.9% since 2004, our expenditures have only increased by 18%.
- ✦ Offenders in the Community Work Centers contributed \$21,967,612 in free labor to local, county, state and non-profit charitable organizations throughout the state during Fiscal Year 2010. Offenders in the Joint County-State Work Programs also contributed \$16,826,300 in free labor to local, county, state and non-profit charitable organizations during the 2010 Fiscal Year.
- ✦ Educational programs offered to inmates resulted in 4,108 inmates successfully completing the following programs: General Education Development (GED) - 476, Vocational Trades - 426, Alcohol & Drug - 3,206.
- ✦ The Division of Victim Services (DVS) which began operation in November 2000 has registered 4,865 victims for services that include: notification prior to an inmate's release from incarceration; offender status; crisis intervention; Information regarding the Crime Victim Compensation Program and Crime Victims' Rights; liaison with law enforcement agencies and field officers; restitution matters; protective orders; harassment by offenders; support and assistance during victim/offender dialogue; meetings with the Parole Board; preparation/escort services during executions.

- ✦ The Mississippi Department of Corrections successfully secured a two-year \$500,000 federal grant to enhance the agency's current Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN) program by adding multiple enhancements to the existing program. The enhancements currently being worked on will provide even more safety measures and ease of use for the crime victims of Mississippi.
- ✦ MDOC continues to be one of only 15 states that maintain American Correctional Association accreditation for all prisons, central office and correctional field services.
- ✦ All three (3) state prisons have been awarded National Commission on Correctional Health Care accreditation for meeting correctional healthcare standards and providing quality healthcare to offenders.

I am proud to be part of the outstanding Mississippi Department of Corrections team. As we set our sights forward, I pledge our ongoing commitment to serve the state with fiscal responsibility and to carry out our mission with vision and excellence.

Sincerely,



Christopher B. Epps
Commissioner