

## Letter from the Commissioner

Dear Fellow Mississippians:

I am pleased to present the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) 2013 Annual Report. This report represents the scope and depth of the agency and its staff during fiscal 2013 (July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013). It also provides an in-depth profile of the state's felony population and MDOC's tradition of prudent accountability and excellence in public service.

On Jan. 28, I was sworn in as the 102nd president of the American Correctional Association, the oldest and largest international correctional association in the world with over 24,000 members. I am proud of that accomplishment as well as many others, including that Mississippi has attracted international attention because of the reforms we have made to our corrections system in the last 10 years. During fiscal 2013, MDOC hosted visitors from such countries as South Korea and Australia, and states including Virginia, Indiana, and New York, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons especially interested in how the state handles confinement of inmates from the general population, commonly referred to as administrative segregation, and illegal cell phone usage through Managed Access.

MDOC is committed to fiscal responsibility, and I look forward to the challenges we face together in the coming year. It is an honor to serve as your commissioner.

Sincerely,



Christopher B. Epps  
Commissioner