



PRESS RELEASE

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Four MDOC Community Services Division Employees Receive Employee Recognition Awards

Jackson - The employee recognition awards ceremony for the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) Community Services Division Region III was held today at South Mississippi Correctional Institution in Leakesville, Miss. At the ceremony, four employees were recognized.

Community Services Employees that received awards for October 2001 include:

Clarence Thomas	Jefferson County Community Work Center	Extra Effort Award
Janell Walton	Jefferson County Community Work Center	Extra Effort Award
Pam Weber	Pike/Walthall County	Extra Effort Award
Barbara Tyler	Jefferson County Community Work Center	Award of Excellence

Interim Deputy Commissioner of Community Services Lora Cole announced the names of the award recipients while MDOC Commissioner Robert Johnson presented each with certificates.

“I take every opportunity I can when I talk to people to tell them about all of the hard work MDOC employees are doing,” said Commissioner Johnson. “I know that I really appreciate each and every one of you and the dedication you have to MDOC.”

The MDOC Employee Service Award Program originated in July 2001 to nominate fellow MDOC employees for the following awards:

- Correctional Officer of the Month
- Field Officer of the Month
- Staff Employee of the Month
- Security Employee of the Month

In addition, MDOC established the Heroism Award and Extra Effort Award. The Heroism Award is given to MDOC employees who go above and beyond the call of duty in heroic efforts to either save the life of an individual or prevent

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other lives from dangerous situations. The Extra Effort Award is designed to recognize employees who go the extra mile or take on additional duties to assist in a project in order to get it done.

MDOC will hold ceremonies each month to officially recognize outstanding employees at all three state institutions (Mississippi State Penitentiary in Parchman, Miss; Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in Pearl, Miss; and South Mississippi Correctional Institution in Leakesville, Miss.) and at the MDOC central office in Jackson.

Community Services Division Service Award Recipients

Clarence Thomas, Field Officer III, works at the Jefferson County Community Work Center in Fayette. Thomas was nominated for the Extra Effort Award by his supervisor, Henry Norton. “He has excellent work habits and he works well with his fellow co-workers,” said Norton. “He is always willing to participate in all events at the facility.”

Janell Walton, Correctional Officer II, works at the Jefferson County Community Work Center in Fayette. Walton was nominated for the Extra Effort Award by her supervisor, Henry Norton. “Officer Walton has shown willingness to work for the betterment of this facility,” said Norton. “She hasn’t even complained about having to work the night shift over the last several months.”

Pam Weber, Field Officer II, works at the Pike County Probation & Parole office in McComb. Weber was nominated for the Extra Effort Award by her supervisor, Ronnie Brown. Weber supervises Intensive Supervision Program (ISP) offenders in Pike and Walthall counties. In addition to her regular caseload, Weber recently had to assist in supervising offenders on probation during a recent field officer vacancy. “She always goes above and beyond what is expected of her in her job performance,” said Brown. “She didn’t even complain when her workload increased when we were short a field officer.”

Barbary Tyler, Correctional Officer II, works at the Jefferson County Community Work Center in Fayette. Tyler was nominated for an Award of Excellence by her supervisor, Henry Norton. Tyler is the first MDOC employee to receive an Award of Excellence. The Award of Excellence is designed to recognize an employee who has shown his/her dedication to the betterment of society or their community by actions or deeds. Tyler was nominated for the award because of her dedication to youths in her community. “Officer Tyler supports her community little league by donating many hours of her time practicing with them and counseling them to show them the spiritual side of life,” said Norton.



Pictured left to right: Lora Cole, Interim Deputy Commissioner of Community Services; Constance Taylor, Community Services Director for Region 3; Pam Weber, Community Services Field Officer; Robert Johnson, MDOC Commissioner