



PRESS RELEASE

Miss. Department of Corrections * 723 N. President St. * Jackson, Miss. * 39202 * (601) 359-5600 * Fax: (601) 359-5738

Date: March 31, 2003
Contact: Ken Jones
Phone: (601) 359-5608
Fax: (601) 359-5738

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MDOC PRISON EMPLOYEES RECEIVE EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARDS DURING FEBRUARY

Jackson – Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) employees from the state’s three public institutions were presented recognition and awards during February. The awards program was initiated by the agency in July 2001 to recognize exemplary employees within the MDOC. The state corrections agency currently has over 3,600 people in its employ statewide.

Mississippi State Penitentiary Recognition Award Recipients

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Job Title</u> | <u>Hometown</u> | <u>Award</u> |
|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Thomas Moss | Correctional Officer IV | Drew | Extra Effort Award |
| Jeffrey Hunter | Correctional Officer IV | Clarksdale | Correctional Officer of the Month |
| Dean Serio | Maintenance Manager | Clarksdale | Staff Employee of the Month |

South Mississippi Correctional Institution Recognition Award Recipients

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Job Title</u> | <u>Hometown</u> | <u>Award</u> |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| LaGradis Breland | Correctional Inmate Locator | Leakesville | Staff Employee of the Month |
| Patsy McLain | Correctional Officer III | Neely | Correctional Officer of the Month |

Central Mississippi Correctional Facility Recognition Award Recipients

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Job Title</u> | <u>Hometown</u> | <u>Award</u> |
|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Ollie Bass | Correctional Supervisor | Crystal Springs | Security Employee of the Month |
| James Bishop | Inspection Chief | Jackson | Staff Employee of the Month |
| Lloyce Ainsworth | Correctional Officer | Jackson | Extra Effort Award |

(more)

Central Mississippi Correctional Facility Recognition Award Recipients (cont.)

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| Charles Burks | Correctional Officer III | Newton | Extra Effort Award |
| Joseph Graves | Correctional Officer | Magee | Extra Effort Award |
| Lynda Jordan-Haymer | Correctional Officer III | Jackson | Extra Effort Award |
| Brian Ladner | Associate Warden | Brandon | Extra Effort Award |
| Emma Reed | Correctional Officer IV | Brandon | Extra Effort Award |
| Roger Smith | Correctional Officer II | Mendenhall | Extra Effort Award |
| Wendell Walsh | Correctional Officer | Sebastopol | Extra Effort Award |

“I wish to personally salute each of the service award recipients and also to acknowledge my deep appreciation to all of our loyal, dedicated men and women with our agency for a job well done,” said Commissioner Christopher Epps. “Your public service role in corrections is highly important to public safety.”

Recipients received award certificates and lapel pins. Additionally the recipients of the Correctional Officer of the Month, the Security Employee of the Month, and the Staff Employee of the Month received plaques in token of the agency’s appreciation for their outstanding service to corrections in Mississippi.

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MEDIA NOTE: If you would like more information about the award recipients, contact Ken Jones at (601) 359-5608 or send an e-mail to kjones@mdoc.state.ms.us.