



PRESS RELEASE

MS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS*723 N. PRESIDENT ST.*JACKSON, MS 39202*(601)359-5600*(FAX: 5738)

Date: July 26, 2001
Contact: Ken Jones
Phone: (601) 359-5608
Fax: (601) 359-5738

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BRENDA BLANKS INSTALLED AS NEW PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTHERN STATES CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION

Jackson....Brenda Blanks, a 24 year veteran with the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC), was installed as the Southern States Correctional Association's (SSCA) new president at its 32nd annual training conference held in Mobile, AL on July 22-25. Mrs. Blanks, who currently serves as Director of Treatment and Programs with MDOC, is responsible for overseeing the corrections department's operation of six statewide agency programs which include: Education, Pre-Release, Alcohol & Drug Treatment, Inmate Legal Services, Administrative Remedy, and Religious Programs.

SSCA is an affiliate of the American Correctional Association. Its current 1300 members come from the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. Virtually every type of corrections agency represents SSCA. Its ranks range from youth and adult services, probation and parole supervisors, to counselors, teachers, administrators and volunteers. Its mission is to further advance the field of corrections by providing training for its members.

"Being elected to serve as head of SSCA for the coming year is the high point of my professional career in corrections." President Blanks said. "I do not take lightly this great responsibility you have entrusted me with to serve as your new president. I can assure you that I will strive to leave your association even stronger than it is today."

SSCA's 33rd annual training conference will be held in Biloxi in July 2002.