



# PRESS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS EMPLOYEES GIVE THANKS FOR THE WORK OF UNITED WAY**

Jackson – The Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) recently completed its statewide 2001 fundraising campaign effort for the United Way. Employees from across Mississippi conducted cookouts and a variety of other unique approaches to raise a combined total of over \$15,000.

“We, the staff of the Mississippi Department of Corrections, collectively recognize the blessings we have received, including our health, our families and our communities,” said Commissioner Robert L. Johnson. “We know that through the hard work of the United Way and the organizations they support our communities are strengthened, one person at a time.”

The Mississippi Department of Corrections has over 3,600 workers in its employ across the State of Mississippi. They have the difficult responsibility of supervising nearly 12,000 offenders housed in MDOC facilities and another 19,000 offenders in the community.

The Mississippi State Penitentiary, which raised nearly \$6,000 of the overall total funds for the 2001 drive, donated its share to the Bolivar County United Way Chapter. The balance of the agency contributed over \$9,300 to the United Way of the Capital Area. The other contributors were:

<b>Central MS Correctional Facility</b>	<b>- \$2574.25</b>
<b>South MS Correctional Institution</b>	<b>- \$2342.50</b>
<b>Community Services Division</b>	<b>- \$1311.00</b>
<b>MDOC Central Office</b>	<b>- \$3300.00</b>

Commissioner Johnson, in presenting a check to Carol Berger, CEO for the Greater Jackson Area, United Way Chapter, said, “It is fitting during this festive time of Thanksgiving that we give to those who need our help. I am deeply proud of our employees who went over and beyond the call of duty in making this much needed contribution possible.”

The MDOC has participated in the United Way cause since its inception as a state agency in 1976. Workers with the state’s prison system are civic minded and show their caring nature through support of charitable causes.