



PRESS RELEASE

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

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Contact: Jennifer Griffin
Phone: (601) 359-5721
Fax: (601) 359-5738

MDOC Mourns Loss of Correctional Officer of the Month at South Mississippi Correctional Institution

Jackson—Dedicated, committed and competent are just a few of the words that South Mississippi Correctional Institution (SMCI) employees used in describing the work of Correctional Officer Shelton Madden. Officer Madden, recognized Wednesday, September 26, as the SMCI Correctional Officer of the Month for August 2001, died following an accident in Forrest County yesterday.

Officer Madden always placed public safety and security at SMCI as one of his top priorities. Thursdays are normally one of his regular days off, but Officer Madden volunteered to work the day shift to maintain security at the prison. He was driving to his Petal, Miss., home at approximately 3:50 p.m. when he was involved in a one-vehicle accident on James Street Extension near Highway 98 in Forrest County. He was taken to Forrest General Hospital where he was pronounced dead at 11:05 p.m.

“Throughout his career with MDOC, Officer Madden has consistently gone above and beyond the call of duty in his work,” said SMCI Superintendent David Turner. “Officer Madden’s death is a tragic loss to SMCI and the Mississippi Department of Corrections. He will be missed greatly by our correctional family.”

Officer Madden was nominated as Correctional Officer of the Month for August 2001 by his supervisor and fellow Correctional Officers of SMCI Area 1. In their nomination form they stated, “Officer Madden performs his assigned duties in a professional manner. Officer Madden is assigned to lock down, but has also worked as the yard officer, in the visitation area, in the vocational technological programs, and in the garment factory. With security as top priority, Officer Madden has also worked on his regular days office to insure that the Area-1 compound is staffed.”

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“Officer Shelton Madden was a model correctional officer and friend. I think all his first watch co-workers and supervisors would agree, that is asked to describe Officer Madden in one word, that word would be dedicated,” said friend and colleague Officer Diane Massey. “He really liked his job and excelled in all areas of performing his duties. I found in working with him that he was not only a professional, but also a man of integrity and honor, yet he had a quick and easy sense of humor. Officer Madden had something I think we all would like to have. Everybody liked him and considered him one of the very best.”

“I wouldn’t have traded him for nothing. I always said if I went into a situation, I wanted him there,” said fellow Officer Jeffery Dennis.



Correctional Office Shelton Madden

Officer Madden, age 49, and a resident of Petal, worked for MDOC since February of 1999. He is survived by his wife, four children ages 30, 14, 13 and 5, mother and three brothers.

Visitation is 5 – 9 p.m. Sunday, September 30, at Moore’s Funeral Home in Hattiesburg. Services are 10 a.m. Monday, October 1, in the chapel of the funeral home.

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