



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 was held today at Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in Pearl, Miss. At the ceremony, four employees were recognized.

Community Services Employees that received awards for October 2001 include:

Lillie Selmon	Yazoo County Community Work Center	Correctional Officer of the Month
Grady McEntee	Hinds County Restitution Center	Security Employee of the Month
Milton Haymer	Yazoo County Community Work Center	Extra Effort Award
Gregory Taylor	Hinds County Restitution Center	Extra Effort Award

Interim Deputy Commissioner of Community Services Lora Cole announced the names of the award recipients while MDOC Commissioner Robert L. Johnson presented each with certificates. The Correctional Officer of the Month and Security Employee of the Month recipients also received plaques.

“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 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

Lillie Selmon, Correctional Officer IV, works at the Yazoo County Community Work Center in Yazoo City. Sergeant Selmon was nominated for the Correctional Officer of the Month award by Walter Lockhart, the director of the Yazoo County Community Work Center. Selmon was nominated for the award because of her enthusiasm in helping her supervisor, Lieutenant Danny Neely, prepare for American Correctional Association (ACA) accreditation.

Grady McEntee, Correctional Supervisor, works at the Hinds County Restitution Center in Jackson as a Lieutenant. McEntee was nominated for the Security of the Month award by Robert Hughes, the director of the Hinds County Restitution Center. McEntee was nominated for the award because he exhibits an exceptional degree of professionalism and effectiveness in dealing with staff, offenders and the public.

Milton Haymer, Correctional Officer III, works at the Yazoo County Community Work Center in Yazoo City. Officer Haymer was nominated for an Extra Effort Award by Walter Lockhart, the director of the Yazoo County Community Work Center. Haymer is currently serving as acting case manager at the community work center and has been responsible for several additional tasks. Because Haymer has tackled these tasks with a smile, he was nominated for the Extra Effort Award.

Gregory Taylor, Correctional Case Manager, works at the Hinds County Restitution Center in Jackson. Taylor is a minister and also serves as the restitution center's chaplain. Taylor makes sure that all offenders at the community work center have the opportunity to worship, no matter what denomination.



Pictured left to right: Milton Haymer, Community Services Director Brenda Blanks, Lillie Selmon, Commissioner Robert Johnson, Interim Deputy Commissioner of Community Services Lora Cole, Grady McEntee, and Gregory Taylor.