



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **SEVEN MDOC MISSISSIPPI STATE PENITENTIARY EMPLOYEES RECEIVE EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARDS**

Jackson – Commissioner Robert L. Johnson presented The Mississippi Department of Corrections' (MDOC) second employee recognition awards this week to seven employees at the Mississippi State Penitentiary (MSP) at Parchman, Miss. The presentation was part of an employee service program instituted in July 2001 by MDOC to recognize exemplary employees within the agency. The first monthly awards were presented in August 2001.

#### **Mississippi State Penitentiary employees receiving Awards for September 2001 included:**

Bobby Jolly	Correctional Officer IV Central Security	Correctional Officer of the Month
Mary King	Correctional Supervisor Unit 29	Security Employee of the Month
Anthony Crawford	Correctional Officer IV Unit 24 Extension	Heroism Award
Sharon North	Correctional Services Aide II Unit 24 Administration	Extra Effort Award
Larry Brooks	Correctional Supervisor Unit 32B Building	Extra Effort Award
Danna Clemmons	Case Manager Unit 28	Extra Effort Award
Donnis Chatman	Compliance Officer Unit 30	Extra Effort Award

(more)

The 2:00 p.m. special awards presentation ceremony was held in the Superintendent's conference room. Superintendent Emmitt Sparkman announced the names of the award recipients as Corrections Commissioner Robert L. Johnson presented each employee with lapel pins and certificates. The Correctional and Security Officers of the Month also received plaques.

"The Mississippi State Penitentiary is truly blessed with dedicated correctional employees," said Superintendent Sparkman. He added, "Life in the field of corrections is frequently stressful, and it often requires many extra hours of hard work to get a job done. The recipients of these awards reflect their untiring dedication to duty. I consider it a personal honor to recognize these truly professional employees whose loyalty is representative of the nearly 1800 employees who work here at the Mississippi State Penitentiary."

### **Mississippi State Penitentiary Awards Recipients**

**Bobby Jolly**, Correctional Officer IV, works at Central Security. Jolly was nominated Correctional Officer of the Month by his immediate supervisor and his fellow correctional officers. He was nominated for his award for completing the very difficult task of converting Unit 3 into a record storage facility. Jolly's extensive planning and work over the course of several months led to the development of a new secure record system, which now facilitates researchers' ability in locating archived records in a minimal amount of time.

**Mary King**, Correctional Supervisor, who is assigned to Unit 29 in addition to serving in an alternate capacity as an Institutional Watch Commander at Central Security was placed in nomination by Lieutenant John Rogers as Security Employee of the Month. She was recommended for her untiring loyalty to her job and her repeated willingness to work extra shifts if needed. Her caring concern was noted on one occasion that she called her post at the institution and reported back to the prison to relieve her supervisor.

**Anthony Crawford**, Correctional Officer IV, was nominated by Lieutenant Amos Mitchner for the Heroism Award for Officer Crawford's attempt to save the life of State Inmate Eddie Clay #55587 who lapsed into unconsciousness at Unit 24 dining hall on July 25. Officer Crawford immediately notified appropriate staff for assistance. He administered (CPR) until the ambulance arrived.

**Sharon North**, Correctional services Aide II at unit 24 Administration, was nominated by her supervisor Warden Maude Irby for the Extra Effort Award. She was commended for developing and updating a staff personnel manual for Unit 24.

(more)

**Larry Brooks**, Correctional Supervisor, was nominated by his supervisor Deputy Warden Jessie Streeter for the Extra Effort Award for his untiring 24 years of dedicated service to the prison system. Officer Brooks' name was placed in nomination for his willingness to go the additional mile. Officer Brooks' was praised for his untiring work to preserve the integrity of security in his facility through the confiscation of contraband in his prison unit.

**Danna Clemmons**, Case Manager was nominated for Extra Effort Award by Associate Warden Stanley Flagg for outstanding productivity as case manager. During the month of August, she provided case manager services to over 270 inmates. Clemmons was described as a very dedicated employee who takes great pride in her work and always striving to complete her assigned tasks in an efficient and a timely manner.

**Donnis Chapman**, Compliance Officer at Unit 29 was nominated for Extra Effort Award by Warden Dwight Presley. She was described as a dedicated staff member. She was characterized as an employee who not only reported to duty early but one who constantly gave her all through role as Compliance Officer to see that the Mississippi State Penitentiary becomes accredited by the American Correctional Association.

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**MEDIA NOTE: If you would like a digital photograph of the service Award recipients, contact Bill Greenleaf at (601) 359-5646 or email him at: [bgreenleaf@mdoc.state.ms.us](mailto:bgreenleaf@mdoc.state.ms.us)**