



PRESS Announcement

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F OR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

72 OFFICER CADETS BEGIN TRAINING AT MDOC'S THREE STATE PRISONS IN APRIL

Jackson – The Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) announced that 72 correctional officer cadets began four weeks of intense training on Monday at the prison system's three training academies. The Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman and the South Mississippi Correctional Institution near Leakesville each have 20 cadets enrolled in the specialized security training and the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility located near Pearl has 32 cadet officer recruits.

“We are indeed pleased that this important training program has begun,” said MDOC Commissioner Christopher Epps. “Suffice it to say, the successful completion of this correctional officer cadet training is crucial to our agency’s ongoing efforts of maintaining the necessary complement of security personnel.” Epps added, “The recent active duty call-up of several guard and reserve units across our state has impacted on our operation. Our agency has lost 61 employees, most of whom are security, as a result of the military call-up.”

The Mississippi Department of Corrections’ Training Department conducts its own instruction program for correctional cadets. The correctional officer cadet program is four weeks in length. The initial week of instruction involves agency orientation. The remaining three weeks of the course training covers a wide range of correctional topics essential to the correctional officer’s daily role including firearms, use of force, tool control, academics, report writing, physical fitness, professional ethics, first aid, weapons qualification, use of restraint gear, contraband control, and use of chemical agents. Upon completion of the four week course, cadets must then complete a six week on-job-training program.

