



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lora H. Cole Appointed to Head the Mississippi Department of Corrections' Community Corrections Division

Jackson – Mississippi Department of Corrections Commissioner Christopher Epps has announced the appointment of Lora H. Cole to serve as Deputy Commissioner of the agency's Community Corrections Division. Cole is a **xxxx-year** veteran with the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC).

The community Corrections Division is charged with the supervision of offenders that are still under the supervision of the state but are not currently incarcerated. The division conducts field supervision of offenders and oversees a variety of programs that afford offenders an opportunity to re-assimilate into the community.

"I'm extremely excited to be afforded the opportunity to head the Treatment Programs Division," said Jacqueline Parker. "Providing the proper treatment to the offender population is a paramount role of MDOC's mission. It is incumbent of us to see that mission is fulfilled."

The Treatment Programs Division plays a major role in MDOC's efforts to rehabilitate offenders sentenced to its custody. The program encompasses Adult Basic Education, Vocational Education, Alcohol and Drug Treatment, Pre-Release/ Job Assistance, Inmate Legal Assistance, Administrative Remedy, and Religious and Volunteer programs. All of the programs play interrelated roles in helping offenders to find new hope and purpose in their lives past incarceration.

"The Mississippi Department of Corrections is extremely fortunate to have a person with Director Parker's background and knowledge in regard to treatment of offenders," said Commissioner Christopher Epps. "This experience will assist the agency as we explore ways to increase inmate treatment programs throughout the correctional system."

Prior to undertaking her new assignment as head of the Treatment Programs Division, Parker directed MDOC's Therapeutic Pre-Release and Alcohol & Drug Treatment Programs for the state prison system. Parker is a graduate of Delta State University in Cleveland and holds a Bachelor of Education Degree in Business Education and a Master of Education Degree in Guidance and Counseling.

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