



PRESS RELEASE

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MDOC Hires Food Services Director

Jackson – Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) today announced that E.G. Nelams has been employed to direct the statewide food service program for the state prison system. Nelams, who will be headquartered at the Mississippi State Penitentiary, replaces Gene Rowzee who retired from the agency in June 2002.

Nelams, who has 35 years of experience in the food service industry, has held positions at several correctional facilities including Marshall County Correctional Facility in Holly Springs, Miss., and Angola State Penitentiary in Angola, La. Nelams also worked in the restaurant industry in Louisiana.

“We feel most fortunate that we were able to secure a person with Nelams’ experience in correctional food service to direct our statewide program,” said MDOC Commissioner Christopher Epps. “His knowledge as a practitioner in institutional food preparation, coupled with his experience in commodity procurement and inventory accountability will play a highly crucial role in our agency’s continued resolve to provide quality meals to the offender population at the most economical cost possible. Additionally, his familiarity of American Correctional Association (ACA) standards relative to institutional food service will greatly facilitate the continuation of our agency’s mission to gain full statewide accreditation of its prison facilities.”

In his role as food service director for the agency, Nelams will oversee the daily food service program for nearly 12,000 inmates at MDOC’s three prisons (Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in Pearl, Miss.; Mississippi State Penitentiary in Parchman, Miss.; and South Mississippi Correctional Facility in Leakesville, Miss.), at the 17 community work centers located throughout the state and at the four MDOC restitution centers.

Nelams has a business degree from Texas Western University in El Paso, Texas, and is from Westlake, La.

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