



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **MDOC Receives \$2 Million Offender Reentry Grant**

Jackson—The Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) has received a \$2 million dollar grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs to initiate a program designed to assist offender's reentry back into the community. The MDOC is partnering with Jackson State University and the Mississippi Department of Human Services-Youth Services Division with this grant to ensure public safety and reduce victimization by helping offenders become productive members of their communities. The Reentry grant will also allow these agencies to provide education, job and life skills training, and substance abuse treatment while carefully monitoring the offender's activities after release from prison.

“Our goal is to provide offenders additional support in the community to successfully complete their sentence and reduce the likelihood of their return to the correctional system,” said MDOC Commissioner Christopher Epps.

The MDOC will also partner with mentoring programs in the capitol area to establish an after care program that will prepare offenders for their release from a state prison to a successful transition back into the community. The MDOC will utilize the grant monies to establish the offender day reporting center in Hinds County, which has the highest number of offenders serving probation or parole or completing their sentence on earned release supervision or in the intensive supervision program.

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