



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
OF **JUVENILE JUSTICE**

L. GALE BUCKNER, COMMISSIONER

A MESSAGE FROM THE
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

L. Gale Buckner, Commissioner

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DJJ COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF NEW MACON RYDC DIRECTOR

(ATLANTA-GA) Today the Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice is pleased to announce the appointment of a new Director of the Macon Regional Youth Detention Center (RYDC). Commissioner L. Gale Buckner confirmed that effective August 1st, 2012, Ms. Janette Nihles has been named to the top correctional leadership spot at DJJ's secure detention facility in Bibb County, Georgia.

Director Nihles comes to the Department of Juvenile Justice with 21 years of Corrections Facility experience. During sixteen of those years she worked in management positions. Director Nihles has served in many corrections capacities including Programs, Security and Training.

Nihles is a six-year United States Navy veteran who served in Desert Storm. She is presently responsible for dual responsibilities at Emanuel Women's Facility as the Deputy Warden of Security and for Care and Treatment.

Director Nihles is a graduate of the UGA Corrections Leadership Institute and the Columbus State University Professional Management Program. She is currently working toward a Bachelor Degree in Criminal Justice Studies through Thomas University.

DJJ'S Deputy Commissioner of the Division of Secure Facilities, Sarah Draper, said the Macon Regional RYDC is a facility designed to provide temporary secure care and supervision for youth who have been convicted of offenses and are awaiting disposition of their cases by the court. "And sometimes youth who have been committed to DJJ custody are placed in an RYDC like Macon while they wait for treatment in a community program or a long-term facility," said the Deputy Commissioner.

"It will be Director Nihles' responsibility to ensure that departmental policy and procedures for safety and security will be observed at Macon RYDC and that facility staff follow the strict professional standards outlined in DJJ policies and programs," the Deputy Commissioner said.

END RELEASE

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