



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT  
OF **JUVENILE JUSTICE**

L. GALE BUCKNER, COMMISSIONER

## A MESSAGE FROM THE **OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS**

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### **DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE COMPLETES 1ST “SERGEANTS ACADEMY”**

**(Georgia Juvenile Justice Training Academy – FORSYTH-GA)** The Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice is pleased to announce the completion of this agency’s first-ever “Sergeants Academy” at the Georgia Juvenile Justice Training Academy in Forsyth, Georgia. The graduation of thirty-four sergeants, captains and lieutenants at the new Sergeants Academy marks the launch of a challenging new advanced correctional officer training course designed to mold and motivate DJJ’s front line supervisors.

The DJJ Sergeants Academy was designed specifically to enhance critical leadership skills for Correctional Officers in Georgia’s juvenile justice system. Each class will seat a minimum of twenty-seven candidates – One from each Department of Juvenile Justice secure facility at a DJJ Youth Development Campus or DJJ Regional Youth Detention Center around the state.

“Outstanding Sergeants Academy graduates will be recognized and each class will conclude with a formal graduation and reception,” said DJJ Commissioner L. Gale Buckner. “We have designed this new Academy to advance the professional development of every agency supervisor. The courses help identify and enhance the primary skills that every officer in charge must develop to be effective in their chain of command.”

The Commissioner addressed the hand-picked contingent during their first week of leadership training and underlined the importance of safety and security policy at DJJ secure facilities. “Courage is contagious,” she said, quoting advice from motivational speaker Reverend Billy Graham. “When a brave man takes a stand, the spines of others are often stiffened,” she said.

The Commissioner repeated her core message that it is the critical duty of DJJ Correctional Officers to make education and socialization programs possible by enforcing security measures at Georgia’s juvenile justice facilities so that youth in custody and staff can all feel safe in a secure learning environment.

**(MORE MORE MORE)**

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## PAGE TWO

The Sergeants Academy two week curriculum keeps focus on course content like Command Presence, Fitness for Duty and Ethical Leadership. The leadership program is designed to provide DJJ's newly promoted Juvenile Correctional Sergeants and rising Juvenile Correctional Officers with knowledge and skills they need to fulfill their supervisory position responsibilities.

Candidates in Sergeants Academy Class 001 were subjected to twenty situational exercises to test their endurance under stressful conditions. Instructors assess their decision-making and policy knowledge in test scenarios similar to those new supervisors might actually find in real-life encounters at juvenile detention facilities.

Throughout this special eighty-hour training school, Sergeants Academy classmates are reminded of their responsibilities as role models to "lead by example". Their new motto headlines a gold and blue banner that dominates the classroom – "*BE-KNOW-DO*".

"'*BE-KNOW-DO*' – May be just three words on a banner, but for these Juvenile Correctional Officers, those words represent big values of loyalty, duty, respect and the service, honor and personal courage they bring to this challenging career," said Commissioner Buckner.

"'*BE*,'" she explained, "Refers to leaders as people. '*KNOW*' is what those leaders know.. And '*DO*' refers to the actions of those leaders," said Buckner. "The Sergeants Academy will help us build a dedicated cadre of Juvenile Correctional Officers who can *BE* and *KNOW* and *DO* what it takes to influence positive change at DJJ."

"The Command Staff at the Department of Juvenile Justice was encouraged by the motivation and enthusiasm of the graduates of Class 001," said Terry Edge, Assistant Director of the DJJ Office of Training. "Now our instructors will review the concentrated course curriculum looking for places to tweak and improve for the next class," Edge said.

Rose Williams is Commandant of the DJJ Sergeants Academy. Commandant Williams said, "The Department of Juvenile Justice views the new Sergeants Academy training concept as a successful new model for developing advanced Correctional Staff professionalism and leadership for its facilities throughout the state."

The following roster of sixteen Captains, sixteen Lieutenants and two sergeants left the ranks of DJJ's first Sergeants Academy at the Georgia Juvenile Justice Training Academy to help fill the ranks of DJJ's Correctional Staff at twenty-seven secure facilities across the state:

### **DJJ SERGEANTS ACADEMY CLASS 001**

Lt. Jamie D. Allen	DeKalb Regional Youth Detention Center
Lt. Kenneth Appleberry	Gwinnett Regional Youth Detention Center
Capt. Derrick Bell	Atlanta Youth Development Campus
Lt. Joseph Brittain	Paulding Regional Youth Detention Center
Lt. Teresa Brown	Albany Regional Youth Detention Center
Lt. Vangila Carter	Claxton Regional Youth Detention Center
Lt. Mario Ellison	Metro Regional Youth Detention Center
Capt. Preston Ellison	Augusta Regional Youth Detention Center
Sgt. Ruby Foster	Waycross Regional Youth Detention Center
Capt. Dewayne Hardeman	Crisp Regional Youth Detention Center
Capt. John Harp	DeKalb Regional Youth Detention Center

**PAGE THREE**

Lt. Douglas Hartline  
Capt. Covery Hill  
Lt. Jeannette Hunter  
Capt. Norbert Ingram  
Lt. William H. Jefferson Jr.  
Lt. Janice Jones  
Lt. Roy Lango Jr.  
Capt. Natondra S. Mann  
Capt. Marvin Menafee  
Lt. Lemuel Peterson  
Lt. Todd Pound  
Capt. Christopher Raiford  
Sgt. Dan Roberts  
Lt. Abdul M. Saleem  
Capt. Ricky A. Smiley  
Capt. Silas C. Smith  
Capt. Dana Snell  
Capt. Rotosha Switzer  
Capt. Marla D. Tucker  
Lt. Marie Washington  
Capt. Keith Wynn  
Capt. Marquis Young  
Lt. Rodney G. Young Sr.

Elbert Shaw Regional Youth Detention Center  
Sumter Youth Development Campus  
Sandersville Regional Youth Detention Center  
Milan Youth Development Campus  
Bob Richards Regional Youth Detention Center  
Macon Youth Development Campus  
Metro Regional Youth Detention Center  
Macon Regional Youth Detention Center  
Muscogee Youth Development Campus  
Gwinnett Regional Youth Detention Center  
Eastman Regional Youth Detention Center  
Bob Richards Regional Youth Detention Center  
Gainesville Regional Youth Detention Center  
Savannah Regional Youth Detention Center  
Augusta Youth Development Campus  
Aaron Cohn Regional Youth Detention Center  
Martha K. Glaze Regional Youth Detention Center  
Gwinnett Regional Youth Detention Center  
Milan Youth Development Campus  
Loftiss Regional Youth Detention Center  
Eastman Youth Development Campus  
Savannah Regional Youth Detention Center  
Marietta Regional Youth Detention Center

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