



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

AVERY D. NILES, COMMISSIONER

A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Avery D. Niles, Commissioner

Jim Shuler, Director
Office of Communications



DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

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DJJ OFFICIAL STATEMENT

September 3, 2014

(AUGUSTA – GA)

DJJ STATEMENT RE: Arrest of Former Contract Employee

Former DJJ contract employee, Mr. Steven Boler, resigned on August 21st, 2014 while under investigation by the Department of Juvenile Justice for allegedly making inappropriate solicitations to a DJJ youth in custody. Mr. Boler was immediately escorted from the Augusta YDC secure campus following a harassment complaint reported by a youth on August 17th to a DJJ Corrections Officer.

Boler, who was not a state employee, had worked at the Augusta Youth Development Campus as a barber under contract. After an immediate follow up by DJJ investigators, Boler was formally charged with enticing a child for indecent purposes and booked into the Richmond County Detention Center without bond.

The Department of Juvenile Justice teaches young residents to stay alert and report sexual misconduct if they discover it. DJJ counselors, teachers and corrections officers actively encourage a “reporting culture” among youth in custody so residents won’t be intimidated about seeking help if they encounter sexual abuse or harassment from anyone.

Administrators also train juvenile corrections staff to take swift action wherever evidence is found and prosecution is warranted to protect Georgia’s youth in detention. The Department of Juvenile Justice does not tolerate sexual misconduct in its secure facilities or operations.

(END STATEMENT)

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