
DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

DJJ Dedicates “Victims’ Memorial Garden”

On May 1, 2007, the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) held a dedication and ribbon cutting for its new “Victims’ Memorial Garden.” The flower garden, near the entrance to DJJ’s Broad River Road Complex, is a restorative justice project that was prepared and is maintained by DJJ juveniles. The garden is dedicated to, and intended to serve as a symbol of respect to victims of crime in South Carolina. It is hoped that cultivating a garden from seed to plant will build juveniles’ work ethics and help them show respect for the state’s crime victims. DJJ’s Director Bill Byars, Chief of Staff Margaret Barber, Veronica Swain, executive director of the South Carolina Victims Assistance Network, and other statewide and community leaders attended the event--as well as DJJ staff, juveniles, and members of the media, who gave the dedication very favorable coverage.

DJJ Correctional Officer of the Year

May is Correctional Officers' Month and the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) held a special luncheon program on May 11 to recognize the work of its security staff. During the luncheon, **Corporal Tenishia Coleman** was named 2007 Juvenile Correctional Officer of the Year. Corporal Coleman, who joined the DJJ staff in 2005, is a graduate of South Carolina State University with a degree in Social Work. She was chosen by her peers for the award.

Iraqi Corrections Officials Visit DJJ

The Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) provided a half-day of training and facility visits on May 9 for four juvenile correctional officials from Iraq. The group came to DJJ to learn about the operations and management of the South Carolina juvenile justice system so they can better organize their system for juvenile offenders. The group met with Director Byars, Chief of Staff Margaret Barber, deputy directors and the DJJ legal counsel. The visitors were part of a delegation of correctional professionals from Iraq and Afghanistan who were in South Carolina visiting juvenile and adult correctional facilities. They were accompanied by an interpreter and officials from the Justice and State Department.

DJJ Administrative Professionals Training Seminar

The Department of Juvenile Justice's administrative professionals held their fourth annual Administrative Professionals Appreciation Training Day on April 27 in observance of Administrative Professionals' Week. The training seminar was sponsored by the agency’s Administrative Management Team (AMT) and included several informative training sessions for which participants received six hours of training credit. Representatives from various DJJ divisions and offices were involved as well as an outside management development consultant, Dr. Mike Collins.

Schedule

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| May 31 | DJJ JROTC Dining Out Ceremony
Birchwood High School Gym |
| June 5 – 7 | New Mexico Judicial Conclave (Plenary Speaker)
Albuquerque, NM |