



August 19, 2025

Private and Regional Prison Wardens gather with MDOC

PEARL – Wardens from regional and private prisons across the state gathered Tuesday at the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility to share updates on activities and progress and discuss ongoing issues in their facilities.

The Mississippi Department of Corrections partnered with 15 regional prison facilities and two privately operated facilities across the state in managing state inmate populations. The MDOC also works with local sheriff departments, which utilizes state inmate labor as part of their joint state-county work programs.

Derrick Chambers, director of private and regional prisons, led the meeting that included topics such as accreditation, vocational work programs, education programs, addressing contraband, medical care, recruiting, and other topics. Wardens also shared information about ideas and initiatives they are implementing in their facilities and goals for additional improvements.

The wardens heard a brief presentation by MDOC Commissioner Burl Cain who praised them for their efforts in maintaining their facilities, noting no escapes, and continuing the emphasis on programs and rehabilitation.

Warden Derek Mingo, of Marion-Walthall County Regional Correctional Facility in Columbia, served as guest speaker and shared his vision and points of progress for his facility.

The assembly of wardens also heard from Steven Maxwell, director of MDOC's Correctional Investigation Division, who spoke about principles that apply to

prison operations including leading staff and guiding inmates toward successful rehabilitation.

The meeting culminated with Chambers presenting wardens with recognition awards for their work in the past year.

Excellence in Leadership Award: Tim Delaney, Wilkinson Correctional Facility; Jacquelin Morton, Yazoo County Correctional Facility; John Moran, Stone County Correctional Facility.

Outstanding Facility Performance Award: Terry Rodgers, George County Correctional Facility; and Henry Felton, Jefferson County Correctional Facility.

Most Improved Facility: Don Brown, Issaquena County Correctional Facility; Billy Barber, Washington County Correctional Facility; Brady Sistrunk, Winston County Correctional Facility; Barry Rule, Holmes County Correctional Facility; Angelena Johnson, East Mississippi Correctional Facility; Brenda Cox, Bolivar County Correctional Facility.

Rising Star Award: Byron Walker, Kemper County Correctional Facility; and Edward Evans, Alcorn County Correctional Facility.

ACA Accreditation Award: George Dallas, Chickasaw County Correctional Facility; and Don Brown, Issaquena County Correctional Facility.

Reentry Excellence Award: Brandon Smith, Carroll County Correctional Facility; Jerry Horn, Leake County Correctional Facility; Derek Mingo, and Marion-Walthall County Correctional Facility.









