



PRESS RELEASE

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MDOC ANNOUNCES OPERATION GREEN CLEAN

JACKSON - The Mississippi Department of Corrections will provide inmate labor to pick up trash along state highways starting Aug. 1 in its new program called Operation Green Clean.

Mobile work crews from the three state prisons and inmates from the 16 community work centers will be available as needed, Commissioner Marshall Fisher said.

MDOC is committed to seeing that the state continues its anti-litter efforts, Fisher said, in response to Central District Transportation Commissioner Dick Hall's claim that the Mississippi Department of Transportation's Inmate Litter Removal program will suffer when MDOC ends the Joint State County Work Programs.

"We will alleviate the litter problem so that Commissioner Hall can return to focusing on roads and bridges," Fisher said. "He wants to second-guess MDOC's decision, which is being made in the best interest of taxpayers' money. Commissioner Hall has yet to contact MDOC about his litter worries. We would be more than happy to provide him with the facts."

MDOC will request information from MDOT regarding where inmate labor is needed for Operation Green Clean.

The department is proceeding with plans to phase out the joint programs starting Aug. 1. Based upon request, MDOC will allow participating counties on a case-by-case basis to continue to house inmates in the future without reimbursement. In addition, counties that participate will be required to provide GED programs and alcohol & drug programs to inmates.

"I have consistently said MDOC will continue to offer inmate labor not only through the community work centers but also through mobile work crews," Fisher said.

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