

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Office of Communications

Phone: (601) 359-5289, 359-5608 and 359-5689

E-mail: MDOCOfficeofCommunications@mdoc.state.ms.us

Commissioner Hall Participating in 50-State Public Safety Summit in Washington, D.C.

JACKSON –Commissioner Pelicia E. Hall will be among a host of leaders nationwide gathering in Washington, D.C., next week for a two-day summit that will examine crime, corrections, and behavioral health trends.

The 50-State Summit on Public Safety is meeting Monday and Tuesday (Nov. 13-14) with an agenda that includes addressing public safety challenges, reducing recidivism, and finding savings from cost-effective corrections and sentencing policies.

The Council of State Governments Justice Center and the Association of State Correctional Administrators (ASCA) are partnering to convene the summit including corrections leaders, key state lawmakers, and behavioral health officials.

“I think it is important that we learn from each other,” said Commissioner Hall, who is a member ASCA. “The Mississippi Department of Corrections is looking for ways to provide meaningful rehabilitation in the most cost-effective way possible in order to reduce recidivism. With a decline in our prison population since the passage of House Bill 585 three years ago, we need to start reinvesting in our prison system so we don’t find ourselves back where we started.”

Melody Winston, director of the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Services with the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, also will be representing Mississippi with Commissioner Hall.