IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Corrections Veteran Named Statewide Re-entry Coordinator for MDOC

JACKSON, MISS. – A corrections veteran who has worked in all aspects of the profession is the Mississippi Department of Corrections' new liaison between the agency and community partners and potential employers for re-entry services, Commissioner Pelicia E. Hall announces.

Statewide Re-entry Coordinator Tina Ladner entered corrections when there were few women working as officers, let alone as leaders. During her more than 30 years in corrections, she has served in many roles designed to help incarcerated individuals be successful in rehabilitation. She's been a case manager, case manager supervisor, program coordinator, house arrest coordinator, an associate warden, and coordinator for the Electric Monitoring Program.

"Ms. Ladner is well-suited for a role that is so important to the MDOC's success in reducing the number of people returning to prison," Commissioner Hall said. "With her background and networking experience, we expect to expand our community partners. We encourage those interested in partnering with us to contact her."

Ladner said she will work to not only build upon the programs the MDOC currently offers, but also to look for opportunities for new ones. "Offenders need the opportunity to build a resume of who they want to be," she said. "This can be accomplished by learning job skills, receiving industry-based certifications, earning a diploma, and focusing on addictive behaviors, to mention a few. Linking people to services and sharing the needs of our re-entry department with community partners is a giant first step."

She is a former president of the Mississippi Association of Professionals in Corrections (MAPC) and is its 2010 Criminal Justice Professional of the Year recipient. She is an adjunct professor at Mississippi State University and has served

likewise at Copiah-Lincoln Community College. She came to corrections after five years with the Mississippi Department of Human Services in Forrest County.

Ladner holds a master's degree in criminal justice and a bachelor's degree in juvenile counseling. A mother of four children and two grandsons, she is married to a retired MDOC warden.