

GDC Annual Awards Program (2008 Awardees)

The 5th Annual GDC Awards Ceremony, honoring 2008 Award Recipients, was held on Wednesday, May 27, 2009 at Tift College's Rutland Student Center in Forsyth. The theme for this year's ceremony was "Setting the Standard". The ceremony was held to recognize and honor staff, partners, volunteers and members of the community for their contributions toward completing our agency's mission and going above and beyond the call of duty.

The Colors were presented by the Color Guard from Burruss Correctional Training Center followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Brooks Benton, Deputy Warden at Lee Arrendale State Prison, impressed the crowd with an inspiring rendition of the National Anthem. Chaplain Danny Horne delivered the Invocation and Commissioner Owens welcomed those in attendance.



Commissioner Owens

This year's guest speakers were Jim Lientz, Chief Executive Officer for the State of Georgia and Representative Jim Cole. Commissioner Owens and GDC Board Chairman Robert Jones, along with Mr. Lientz and Rep. Cole presented the awards to the recipients. Assistant Commissioner Derrick Schofield served as the Master of Ceremonies this year.



Corporate Sponsors

The **Corporate Sponsor of the Year Awards** were presented to **Cagles, Inc.** - LaGrange Transitional Center; **God's Marketplace** - Wilkes Pre-Release Center; **Habersham Enterprises** - Macon Transitional Center; **G. E. Robinson** - LaGrange Transitional Center; **Ryan's Steakhouse** - LaGrange Transitional Center.



Faith Based Contributors

The **Faith-Based Contributor of the Year Awards** were presented to **First Methodist Church of Washington** - Wilkes Pre Release Center; **Frank Abrahamsen** - LaGrange Transitional Center; **Hope Harbor Ministries** - LaGrange Transitional Center; **Harry Leverett** - LaGrange Transitional Center; **Rodney Stamey** - Calhoun State Prison; **Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church** - Men's State Prison.



Partner Agencies

The **Partner Agency Awards** were presented to **Enotah Anti-Drug Coalition**; **Family Nurturing Center of Georgia**; **North Georgia Technical College**.



Volunteers of the Year

The **Volunteer of the Year Awards** were presented to **Alex Habersham** - Macon Transitional Center; **Gary & Ann Hewitt** – Augusta State Medical Prison; **Becky Hooten** – Wilkes Pre-release Center; **Johnny Jett** – Arrendale State Prison; **David & Jeanette Spivey** – West Central Pre-Release Center; **Katie Wright** - Macon State Prison.



**Gregory Goodson
CO of the Year**

The **Correctional Officer of the Year** honors went to **Gregory Goodson** of **Metro State Prison**. Officer Goodson was selected from a group of 16 nominees for this award. Nominees included Willis Beal – Rutledge State Prison; Ricky Carpenter – Patten Probation Detention Center; Teresa Caruthers – Pulaski State Prison; Randolph Dunn – Augusta State Medical Prison; Angelica Grier – Washington State Prison; James Hargrove – Scott State Prison; Kenneth Harris – Lee State Prison; Dwayne Humphrey – Treutlen Probation Detention Center; Emmett McKenzie – Macon State Prison; Angela Sullivan – Calhoun State Prison; Darrell Tempelman – Dodge State Prison; Melinda Turner – Appling Pre-Release Center; LaTonya Wilson – Augusta State Medical Prison; John Williams – Augusta State Medical Prison; Latharreo Womble – Men’s State Prison.



**Virginia “Chan” Strickland
PO of the Year**

The **Probation Officer of the Year** honors went to **Virginia “Chan” Strickland** of the **Bainbridge Probation Office**. Officer Strickland was selected from a group of 23 nominees for this award. Nominees included Lynn Baker - Thomasville Probation Office; Rajun Bogan - Sylvester Probation Office; Tina Brock - Clarksville Probation Office; Rita Denson - Douglasville Probation Office; Ricky Entrekin - Macon Probation Office; Dan Farris - Marietta Probation Office; Isaac Gillard - Columbus Probation Office; Gary Glommen - Carrollton Probation Office; Kelly Gwynn - Blairsville Probation Office; Katrina Hall - Americus Probation Office; Emery Heard - Hartwell Probation Office; Teresa Hegwood - McDonough Probation Office; Kevin Holmes - Albany Probation Office; Christy Murphy - Cuthbert Probation Office; Matthew Overstreet - Rome Probation Office; Lagina Shanks - Central Dekalb Probation Office; Doug Silva - Cartersville Probation Office; Elizabeth Smith - Griffin Probation Office; Brian Stanford - Blue Ridge Probation Office; Tracy Stephens - Fitzgerald Probation Office; Mike Taylor - Douglas Probation Office; Bill Watson - Lakeland Probation Office.



Raynard Smith
Facilities Supv. of the Year

The **Facility Supervisor of the Year** honors went to **Raynard Smith** of **West Central Probation Detention Center**. Mr. Smith was selected from a group of 10 nominees for this award. Nominees included Ramika Christian - Calhoun State Prison; Verneal Evans – Augusta State Medical Prison; James Hinton - Macon State Prison; Waymon Leath – Augusta State Medical Prison; Joseph Mullis - Dodge State Prison; Allen Powell - Pulaski State Prison; Connie Rouse - Pulaski State Prison; Dawn Scarborough - Calhoun State Prison; Melvin Womble – Augusta State Medical Prison.



Stacy Rivera
Probation Supv. of the Year

The **Probation Supervisor of the Year** honors went to **Stacy Rivera** of the **Macon Probation Office**. Officer Rivera was selected from a group of 5 nominees for this award. Nominees included Sharon Castin – Athens Day Reporting Center; Elaine Cranford – Perry Probation Office; Susan Echols – Washington Probation Office; Gary Vaughn – Rome Probation Office.



Brad Patterson
Customer Service Champion

The **Customer Service Champion of the Year** honors went to **Brad Patterson** of **Central Personnel Office**. Mr. Patterson was selected from a group of 32 nominees for this award. Nominees included Sarah Adkins - Risk Reduction Services; Sallie Alexander - Calhoun State Prison; Nicole Babb - Risk Reduction Services; Kenneth Barnes - Macon Transitional Center; Claretha Belcher - Metro State Prison; Edward Blake - Central State Prison; Mary Booth - Risk Reduction Services; Alicia Brown - Offender Administration; Janice Cartwright - McRae Probation Office; Marilyn Colson – Georgia Correctional Industries; Brenda Cooper - Baldwin State Prison; Cheryl Daniel - Dublin Probation Office; Lynn Davis - LaGrange Transitional Center; Deborah Dekle - Thomasville Probation Office; Mayme Dennis - Washington State Prison; Vicki Dent - Scott State Prison; Cheryl Frazier - Compliance and Audits; Deborah Green - Risk Reduction Services; Ray Hampton - Douglas Probation Office; Ted Hilley - Whitworth Pre-Release Center; John Keenan - Planning and Analysis; Robert Lamotte – Training; Kathleen Nelson - Risk Reduction Services; Sandra Patterson - LaFayette Probation Office; Laverne Richardson - Lee State Prison; Edd Sanders - West Central Pre-Release Center; Rhonda Shutters - Americus Probation Office; Selena Snell - Dodge State Prison; Margie Spear - Men's State Prison; Mike Taylor - Douglas Probation Office; Rhonda Tillman- Risk Reduction Services.



Celeste Jones
HQ Employee of the Year

The **Headquarters Employee of the Year** honors went to **Celeste Jones** of **Offender Administration**. Ms. Jones was selected from a group of 7 nominees for this award. Nominees included Alma Bedward – Special Operations; Helen Bowman – Offender Administration; Derek Chance – Probation Operations; Brad Patterson – Central Personnel Office; Charles Smith – Purchasing; George Smith – Compliance and Audits.



Richard Cobb
Employee of the Year

The **Employee of the Year** honors went to **Richard Cobb** of **Wilkes Pre-Release Center**. Mr. Cobb was selected from a group of 26 nominees for this award. Nominees included Kenneth Barnes – Macon Transitional Center; Alma Bedward - Special Operations; Archer Bell – Augusta State Medical Prison; Sheila Bracewell - Arrendale State Prison; Maria Bradford – Augusta State Medical Prison; Stephen Davis - Health Services; Sharon Drake - Arrendale State Prison; Dale Flynn - Morrow Probation Office; Isaac Gilliard - Columbus Probation Office; Gregory Goodson - Metro State Prison; Rubye Hall - Dodge State Prison; Harold Henderson - Men's State Prison; Celeste Jones - Offender Administration; Kathleen Kennedy - Arrendale State Prison; Regina Long - Arrendale State Prison; Fateemah Muneer - Phillips State Prison; Joshua Parker - Rome Probation Office; Brad Patterson - Central Personnel Office; Laverne Richardson - Lee State Prison; Stacy Rivera - Macon Probation Office; Lynn Sapp - Women's Probation Detention Center; Teresa Shirley - Arrendale State Prison; Raynard Smith - West Central Pre-Release Center; Virginia Strickland - Bainbridge Probation Office; Martha Yearwood - Arrendale State Prison.



Shannon Chastain
Cynthia Floyd Award

The **Cynthia Floyd Award** honors went to **Shannon Chastain** of the **Canton Probation Office**.



Van Duncan
Bobby Franklin Award

The **Bobby Franklin Award** honors went to **Van Duncan** of **Burruss Correctional Training Center**. Mr. Duncan was selected from a group of 8 nominees for this award. Nominees included Rusty Chapman – Cuthbert Probation Office; Essie Collins – Pulaski State Prison; Eric Handley – Macon State Prison; Frederick Johnson – Pulaski State Prison; Glenn Pittman – Dodge State Prison; Stacy Rivera – Macon Probation Office; Scott Taylor – Cuthbert Probation Office.



Lawton Wright
James Henderson Award

The **James Henderson Award** honors went to **Lawton Wright** of **Baldwin State Prison**. Mr. Wright was selected from a group of 3 nominees for this award. Nominees included William Swafford – Inmate Construction; Daniel Williams – LaFayette Probation Office.



Avery T. Salter, Jr.
Legacy Award

The **Legacy Award** honors went to **Judge Avery T. Salter, Jr., former GDC Board Member**. This award was awarded posthumously; accepting on Judge Salter's behalf was his wife, Jennie.



Archer Bell
Individual Fitness Award

The **Individual Fitness Award** honors went to **Archer Bell** of **Augusta State Medical Prison**. Mr. Bell was selected from a group of 3 nominees for this award. Nominees included Michael Danis – Lawrenceville Probation Office; Sidney Landor – Phillips State Prison.



Phillips State Prison
Facility/Circuit Fitness Award

The **Facility/Circuit Fitness Award** honors went to **Phillips Fit Club** of **Phillips State Prison**.



**Phillips State Prison
Facility of the Year**

The **Facility of the Year Award** honors went to **Phillips State Prison**.



**West Central Pre-Release Center
Center of the Year**

The **Center of the Year Award** honors went to **West Central Pre-Release Center**.



**Macon Judicial Circuit
Probation Circuit of the Year**

The **Probation Circuit of the Year Award** honors went to **Macon Judicial Circuit**.



**Clayton County Prison
County Facility of the Year**

The **County Facility of the Year Award** honors went to **Clayton County Prison**.

CONGRATULATIONS to those who received awards and also to those who were nominated!