

Public Employee Recognition Week Awards Program (2006)

The week of May 1 - 7, 2006 was Public Employee Recognition Week (PERW) across the United States. Various GDC locations sponsored a number of events to show their appreciation for hard work and dedication. Events included picnics, blood drives, scavenger hunts and various other contests. This was a time for the managers and supervisors to show their appreciation to their employees.

Governor Sonny Perdue presented awards in eight categories at a ceremony on Wednesday, May 3, 2006, at the Georgia World Congress Center, honoring state employees who made outstanding contributions. Awards were presented in the following seven categories: **Community Service; Customer Service; Heroism; Humanitarian; Innovations/Suggestions, Leadership and Safety.**

The Georgia Department of Corrections is honored to have 6 GDC State Level Nominees, in various categories, that competed at the state level.



Marcus Carter

Marcus Carter of Metro State Prison was a GDC **State Level Nominee** in the category of **Community Service**. Mr. Carter is very active in the community by serving on various boards and committees. He is a Director on Greystone Power Foundation's Operation Roundup, Board of Directors. He serves as a ruling Elder in Southwest Christian Fellowship in Atlanta, GA. He co-directs Young Life Urban Ministries youth camp in Weaverville, NC. He is also a member of several community and national organizations as well.



Randy Yarber

Randy Yarber of Walker State Prison was a GDC **State Level Nominee** in the category of **Customer Service**. Mr. Yarber is the Firefighter Captain and has set a countywide standard for vehicle appearance. His Unit is the only one in the area certified to handle hazardous material response calls. In addition to saving numerous lives and millions of dollars in property damage, he and his crew have reduced the ISO rating in Walker County saving the county citizens on fire protection insurance. Chief Yarber's department has received countless citations from local Fire / Rescue services for efforts above and beyond the call of duty in Community Fire Support Services.



Kevin Trimiar

Kevin Trimiar of Arrendale State Prison was a GDC **State Level Nominee** in the category of **Heroism**. Mr. Trimiar witnessed an accident in which an SUV was struck by another vehicle causing the SUV to flip 3-4 times before coming to rest upside down. He immediately ran to the scene and freed a woman from the SUV, initially thinking that she only had a hand injury. However, due to head trauma, the woman went into a seizure. He stayed with her, comforting her until the ambulance arrived. At the time of the accident, Mr. Trimiar didn't realize it, but the injured woman was also a co-worker.



Arthur Woodson

Arthur Woodson of Men's State Prison was a GDC **State Level Nominee** in the category of **Humanitarian**. Mr. Woodson and his wife became foster parents for 22 children over a 3-year period, in addition to having four children of their own. Mr. Woodson's motivation for becoming a foster parent stems from having to care for himself as a child due to his mother's illness.

The Care & Treatment Diagnostic Staff of Baldwin State Prison was a GDC **State Level Nominee** in the category of **Innovations/Suggestions**. Their task is to make significant reductions in the jail backlog and thereby reduce the amount of money spent for jail subsidizes. During the 2005 calendar year, the team exceeded its performance measures of the proceeding year without the addition of new staff realizing the savings of \$10,500.00. This team consisted of **Susan Bray, Cathy Carroll, Greg Curry, Amy Fortner, Linda Heath, Belinda Hurley, Julie Huskey, Dudley Johnson, Linda Knowles, Vonceil Lester, Rebecca Resseque and Dee Tighe**.



Alexis Chase

Alexis E. L. Chase, Warden of Men's State Prison was a GDC **State Level Nominee** in the category of **Leadership**. Ms. Chase routinely recognizes her staff/team's performance, promotions and special achievements with a special reward. She personally sends get well and sympathy cards to all staff and their families in times of illness or death. Ms. Chase instituted a Mentoring Program for her Security Staff motivating retention and a higher level of job responsibility. Warden Chase has also been proactive with programming for inmates who are deaf, hearing impaired, and blind. She has instituted numerous network services at no cost to the Georgia Department of Corrections to aid in their development/transition into mainstream society. In addition, Ms Chase exemplified the importance of education by spending her lunch breaks reading to the Midway Elementary School Kindergarten class.

The following GDC employees were nominated in the category of **Community Service**:
Marcus Carter, Brenda A. Caviness and Secanda R. Jewell

The following GDC employees were nominated in the category of **Customer Service**:
CERT Team - ASMP, Susan Cooper, Kathie Jackson, David P. Mitchell, Dianne Register, Paige Seagraves, Workforce Development Team and Randy Yarber.

The following GDC employees were nominated in the category of **Heroism**:
John C. Clanton, James Hammock, Carlos Bruce Moody and Kevin Trimiar.

The following GDC employees were nominated in the category of **Humanitarian**:
Marta Bradford, Lester Brown, Probation Team One - Hurricane Katrina and Arthur Woodson.

The following GDC employees were nominated in the category of **Innovations/Suggestions**:
Care and Treatment Diagnostic Staff of Baldwin State Prison.

The following GDC employees were nominated in the category of **Leadership**:
Alexis Chase, Roberta Freeman, Sherri Gassaway, J. Daryl Hart, Mark Morris, Cynthia Pearson, Chris Smith and Patricia Williams.

The following GDC employee was nominated in the category of **Safety**:
Carolyn Gilbert.

The following GDC employees were nominated in the category of **Team**:
Autry State Prison CERT Team, Carrollton Specialized Probation Team, Focus Group - Probation Operations - Atlanta, GDC Statewide Specialized Probation Supervision Committee, Constance Rouse and Ware State Prison Security & Medical Staff.

Congratulations go out to all the Winners and Nominees!