

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



PRESS RELEASE

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D.C. JAIL SUCCESSFULLY ACHIEVES COMPLIANCE WITH AMERICAN CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION NATIONAL ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

Washington, D.C.— D.C. Department of Corrections' (DOC) Director Thomas Faust announces compliance with operational standards following a comprehensive audit of the D.C. Jail by the American Correctional Association (ACA). The ACA serves all disciplines within the corrections profession and establishes standards for the safe and effective operation of state, county, federal and private facilities.

According to Director Faust, "this milestone is especially noteworthy because it reflects the Department's ongoing commitment to maintaining a safe and secure institution that meets the stringent standards set by the ACA. Their audits encompass all aspects of the facility's operations including administration and management, institutional operations and services, inmate programs, and physical infrastructure. By demonstrating compliance with 100% of the 60 mandatory standards and 96.5% of the 322 non-mandatory requirements, our team of correctional professionals has shown that collectively we will meet our vision to establish DCDOC as a benchmark corrections agency."

The final phase of the accreditation process takes place during the upcoming ACA conference to be held in Houston, Texas. At that time, the DCDOC executive team will participate in a final hearing before the Commission on Standards and Accreditation. It is expected that the Commission will grant full accreditation. According to Jeff Washington, Deputy Executive Director of the ACA, "the D.C. Department of Corrections' commitment to the accreditation process not only reflects compliance with critical professional standards but also dedication to meeting the needs of offenders in their custody."

During Fiscal Year 2012, the Department achieved another critical milestone with reaccreditation of its health care services by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCHHC), the organization tasked with ensuring delivery of quality health care services in jails, prisons and juvenile confinement facilities throughout the country.

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