

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, May 1, 2014

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WREATH LAYING CEREMONY AND HONOR GUARD COMPETITION BEING HELD AT NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL

(Washington D.C.) D.C. Department of Corrections Director Tom Faust announced today that in kicking off National Correctional Employees Week, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Corrections Chiefs Committee is proud to again sponsor the 23rd annual Wreath Laying Ceremony/Honor Guard competition. The ceremony will take place at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial on E Street, between 4th and 5th Streets, N.W.

The event is being held on Saturday, May 3rd from 10 am to 12 noon with participation from local law enforcement and corrections agencies throughout the Washington metropolitan region, including the District of Columbia, Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Frederick, Loudoun, Montgomery, Prince Georges and Charles Counties.

This extraordinary event serves to commemorate the lives of correctional professionals throughout the country who have served gallantly and lost their lives in the line of duty. The program demonstrates the solidarity of those in public safety and includes presentations by local and national public safety dignitaries, an impressive drill team competition, the laying of roses by members of area honor guard units and the releasing of doves as the names of fallen honorees are announced.

This year's keynote speaker, **Assistant U.S. Attorney Karol Mason**, is according to Director Faust, "someone who understands all aspects of the criminal justice system and the impact of our work as public safety professionals". Assistant Attorney General Mason was appointed by President Barack Obama in February of 2013 to oversee the U.S. Department of Justice/Office of Justice Programs (OJP), which encompasses tribal criminal justice programs, juvenile justice programs, and crime victims' services, as well as OJP projects involving research, statistics and evaluation.

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