

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



PRESS RELEASE

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D.C. JAIL AWARDED FULL ACCREDITATION BY THE AMERICAN CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION

Washington, D.C.— D.C. Department of Corrections' (DCDOC) Director Tom Faust announced today that the American Correctional Association's (ACA) National Commission on Standards and Accreditation recently awarded full accreditation to the Central Detention Facility (D.C. Jail), located in S.E. Washington, D.C. The ACA serves all disciplines within the corrections profession and establishes national standards for the safe and effective operation of state, county, federal and private facilities. The D.C. Jail's accreditation is an especially noteworthy milestone in that nationally only 7% of more than 3,000 local jail facilities meet the stringent standards set by the ACA for accreditation.

According to Director Faust, “the first and most critical component of the accreditation process took place in October of 2015 and involved the ACA conducting a comprehensive top to bottom audit of the facility and its supporting functions including administration and management, institutional operations and services, inmate programs, and physical infrastructure. We were found compliant with 100% of the 60 mandatory standards and 98.2% of the 287 non-mandatory requirements, an achievement that demonstrates our steadfast commitment to establishing DCDOC as a benchmark corrections agency. These results placed us over 8 percentage points above the requirement to achieve full accreditation.”

Safety and security are paramount to the mission of correctional facilities across the country along with dedication and commitment to meeting the diverse needs of offenders in their custody. Director Faust further states that “accreditation by the ACA not only validates the work we do on a daily basis to ensure the secure and humane confinement

of the incarcerated, but also the responsibility we have as a public safety agency to safeguard our diverse neighborhoods and communities.”

During Fiscal Year 2015, 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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