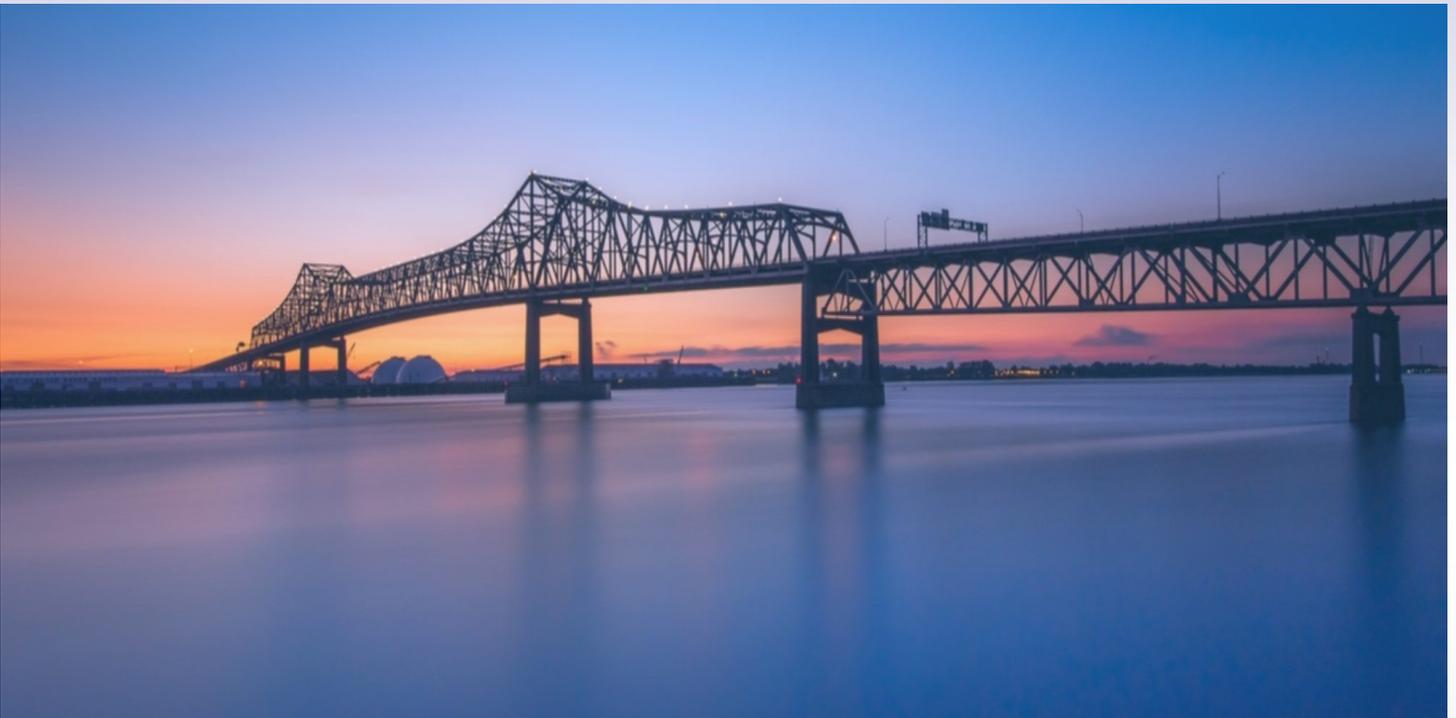


# *The Southern Concourse*

WINTER 2018



## Spotlight on:

- **Summer Conference—Call for Presenters**
  - **MDOC Expands Program to Improve Inmate's Lives**
  - **Hurricane Season Takes its Toll on Georgia**







# Southern States Correctional Association

## SSCA OFFICERS



**Carol Gilcrease, President**  
Louisiana Department of Corrections  
PO Box 204  
Angola, LA 70712  
(225) 655-2299  
carolgilcrease@corrections.state.la.us



**W.P. "Buck" Rogers, Immediate Past President**  
Retired  
2490 Judes Ferry Road  
Powhatan, VA 23139  
(804) 598-2580  
williamprogers@yahoo.com



**Kevin Murphy, President-Elect**  
Arkansas Community Corrections  
105 West Capitol Avenue  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
kevin.murphy@arkansas.gov  
(501) 683-5793



**Jeff Dillman, Secretary**  
Virginia Department of Corrections  
PO Box 26963  
Richmond, VA 23261  
(804) 674-3000  
Jeff.Dillman@vadoc.virginia.gov



**Tom McElhenney, First Vice President**  
Georgia Department of Corrections  
848 Church Street  
Eatonton, GA 31024  
mcelht00@dcor.state.ga.us



**Cookie Crews, Executive Secretary**  
Kentucky Department of Corrections  
P. O. Box 928  
Crestwood, KY 40014  
(502) 241-4787  
SSCAJoin@aol.com



**Abby McIntire, Second Vice President**  
Kentucky Department of Corrections  
3375 Spurr Road  
Lexington, KY40511  
(859)550-3800  
abby.mcintire@ky.gov



**Stuart Holt, Executive Treasurer**  
Retired  
200 Pinnacle Court  
Macon, GA 31216  
(478) 714-6706  
studarthlt0@gmail.com

## SSCA STATE REPRESENTATIVES



### ALABAMA

Mark Bruton (19)  
\*Retired\*  
334-647-7556  
mark.brutonllc@gmail.com.



### LOUISIANA

Tony Simon (18)  
Louisiana Department of Corrections  
10115 Frontage Street  
St. James, LA 70086  
(225) 474-2035  
kjbear@eatel.net



### ARKANSAS

Shelly Lawrence (18)  
Arkansas Department of Corrections  
725 Schoolwood Cove  
Redfield, AR 72132  
(870) 850-8526  
Shelly.lawrence@arkansas.gov



### MISSISSIPPI

Kevin Jackson (18)  
Mississippi Department of Corrections  
633 N. State St.  
Jackson, MS 39202  
(601)359-5701  
kjackson@mdoc.state.ms.us

### FLORIDA

Position vacant

### NORTH CAROLINA

Position vacant



### GEORGIA

Stacy Rivera (19)  
Georgia Department of Corrections  
300 Patrol Road  
Forsyth, GA 31029  
(706) 580-5308  
Stacy.rivera@gdc.ga.gov



### OKLAHOMA

Kent Peck (18)  
Oklahoma Department of Corrections  
3400 Martin Luther King Ave.  
Oklahoma City, OK73111  
(405) 425-2199  
kent.peck@doc.state.ok.us



### KENTUCKY

DeEdra Hart (19)  
Kentucky Department of Corrections  
PO Box 9300  
Central City, KY 42330  
(270) 754-5415  
Deedra.hart@ky.gov

### SOUTH CAROLINA

Position vacant

## SSCA STATE REPRESENTATIVES



### TENNESSEE

Adrienne Pruitt (19)  
Tennessee Department of Corrections  
2nd Floor—Rachel Jackson Building  
320 6th Avenue North  
Nashville, TN 37243  
(615) 253-8056  
Adrienne.Pruitt-Owens@tn.gov



### VIRGINIA

Lois Fegan (18)  
Virginia Department of Corrections  
PO Box 26963  
Richmond, VA 23261  
(804)837-1028  
Lois.Fegan@vadoc.virginia.gov

### TEXAS

Position vacant

### WEST VIRGINIA

Position vacant

The SSCA State Representatives are elected by members of each state to be their spokesperson to the SSCA Executive Board. Please direct any questions or suggestions you may have regarding your chapter to the representative of your state.



## 2019 CONFERENCE IN ARKANSAS

Arlington Hotel  
Hot Springs Arkansas  
Mid-Winter is Feb 21-24  
Room Rate \$89.00  
Summer is July 19-24  
Room Rate \$89.00

*The Southern Concourse* is the official publication of the Southern States Correctional Association and is published quarterly (September, November, February and May). Any material submitted for publishing should reach the editor at least 30 days before the month of publication. The editor reserves the right to edit, change or decline any material submitted for publication.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our Mid-Winter Training Conference held in February proved good training, good food and good company are not mutually exclusive. We left with our brains, bellies and hearts full.

Committee meetings continue to discuss, explore and discover ways to make our organization better. It was great to visit different committee meetings and see in action the dedication of our members and the desire to always strive to be better. By incorporating popular technology, developing diverse break-out sessions and going green, we are taking steps towards our future. That's just a fraction of the goals set by our committees.

"Be Prepared and Get It Right" presented by Tammy Grant, Cassie Bourque and Maria Pollage-Toups enlightened us to the interaction between FEMA and Departments of Corrections when a disaster occurs. As we know, DOC is always ready to step in and provide any help needed during emergencies; however, after an event, the mountains of paperwork may put us in another crisis. The presenters shared their experiences with navigating through the bureaucratic paperwork in hopes that other agencies are able to build on what they have learned. Not recreating the wheel is the beauty of learning together.

In south Louisiana, food itself is a lifestyle that we invite everyone to embrace. There is no event where food does not play a prominent role. When asked to attend any activity, the reply is often, "What are we eating?" While we may not remember the event, we always remember if the food was any good. Some memories were made in February around BBQ and boiled crawfish. At first, some SSCA members were squeamish at the sight of crawfish, but after a brief lesson on peeling them, went from novice to veteran crawfish eaters quickly.

Now that y'all have had a taste of Baton Rouge, we will create even more memories in July. Our host committee continues to work tirelessly to make this happen. I look forward to our summer conference where we can again leave with our brains, bellies and hearts full.



# Call For Candidates

## State Representative

The Following States Have Representatives with Terms Expiring or Have Expired in 2018: **Arkansas, Florida, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.**

Each member state shall select one of its regular members to serve as State Representative on the Executive Board. The term of the elected State Representative shall be three years. Candidate applications shall be received by the Nominating Committee, screened for eligibility by established criteria, and provided for vote to be selected by a caucus of the appropriate state's regular members. A regular member is any person employed in or honorably retired from any area of the criminal justice system within the borders of the member's state. Only regular members are eligible to vote, hold office in, or be a representative of the Association.

### **To be eligible for State representative you must have:**

1. At least two (2) years of continuous active regular membership in SSCA
2. Time available to devote to the Association's business
3. A willingness to work towards the expansion of SSCA
4. Demonstrated knowledge of and working involvement in the Association; i.e. serving on committees, participating in the program, pursuing additional members, developing articles for the Southern Concourse.

### **To apply for State Representative you must submit the following to the chairman of the SSCA Nominating Committee:**

1. A cover letter indicating your intent to be considered, an affirmation/explanation that you meet the eligibility criteria, and why you are seeking the post;
  2. A current resume/Vita;
  3. Letters (one each) of support from your agency/department administrator and your immediate supervisor.
-



## SOUTHERN STATES CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION

SUMMER CONFERENCE

JULY 20-25, 2018

### **CALL FOR PRESENTERS**

The Southern States Correctional Association is issuing a Call for Presenters for its Annual Conference to be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana July 20-25, 2018. The goal of the conference is to provide workshops on issues of critical importance in the jail, juvenile justice, corrections, and community corrections fields, and enhance career development for participants.

Conference participants may include jail, juvenile justice, corrections, and community corrections personnel, and others who are interested in the field of corrections. Presentations should relate to one or more of the following:

#### **SUGGESTED TOPICS**

- Community Corrections (Agency operations for those who are on probation or parole supervision)
  - Corrections (Department of Corrections custody issues to include restrictive housing)
  - Environmental Services (Recycling Programs, pollution prevention, wetland restoration, food-waste composting programs, etc.)
  - Human Resources (Workforce issues such as FMLA, supervising and/or working with individuals with various gender identities as well as multi-cultural and multi-generational workforces)
  - Health and Safety (Safety for professionals working in the institutional, field, and office settings to include stress management and vicarious trauma)
  - Juvenile Justice (Issues, programs and policies dealing with individuals under the jurisdiction of juvenile courts and/or confinement)
  - Local Jail Issues (Relating to the operation of parish jails and local detention facilities)
  - Mental Health and Substance Abuse (Working with individuals with mental health or substance abuse issues)
  - Medical (Issues related to the health care of offenders in institutions, jails and community supervision)
  - Reentry (Planning and programming for offenders released from confinement)
  - Technology (Case Management and Data Systems and tools used for monitoring and testing)
  - Victims Issues (Working with victims, trauma, PREA)
-

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Persons interested in submitting a proposal for consideration should provide the following information:

**LENGTH OF WORKSHOP:** 90 minutes for all workshops

**WORKSHOP TITLE:** The title should catch the attention of participants and identify the topic of the workshop. SSCA reserves the right to adjust the title.

**WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION:** No more than 150 words that clearly and accurately describes the workshop

**TRAINING/LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** Describe the measurable skills and knowledge the participant will gain by the end of the workshop, and list at least three learning objectives.

**PRESENTER INFORMATION:** Provide name, title, agency, address, phone, and email for all proposed presenters, and identify the primary contact. Include a brief resume of each presenter.

**Darryl Campbell**

Assistant Warden Louisiana Department of Corrections  
PO Box 174  
St. Gabriel, LA 70776 225-319-4515  
dcampbel@corrections.state.la.us

**Kristen Thomas**

Assistant Warden Louisiana Department of Corrections  
PO Box 174  
St. Gabriel, LA 70776 225-319-4513  
kthomas@corrections.state.la.us

**Sara Carmena**

Louisiana Department of Corrections  
670 Bell Hill Rd  
Homer, LA 71040 318-927-0416  
saracarmena@corrections.state.la.us

Presentation summaries should be submitted by **Friday, April 27, 2018** in order to be considered. Questions regarding submissions should be directed to the following committee co-chairs:



SSCA will contact presenters of the workshops to indicate their selection for the conference. Please note that SSCA requests presenters register for the conference and cannot reimburse any expenses and fees associated with participation in the workshop.

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## Call For Candidates

### SSCA Secretary

Each year an individual is selected to serve as Secretary for SSCA. The Secretary is a member of the Executive Board and is responsible for recording the minutes of the Association and Bard meetings. The Secretary must be able to attend all meetings and have the commitment required to perform the duties and responsibility of their position.

Persons interested in applying for these positions should send the required information to: John Webre at [JWebre@corrections.state.la.us](mailto:JWebre@corrections.state.la.us).

Visit [www.sscaweb.org](http://www.sscaweb.org) and click on “Constitution/By Laws/SOP” to read more about SSCA Executive Board positions and duties.

---

# Baton Rouge 2018!



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**2018 Annual Summer Conference**  
**July 20-25, 2018**

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# Every Man a King

*Submitted by Louisiana SSCA Chapter*



Louisiana has always played a unique and colorful role in the nation's political fabric, and one of the most noted of Louisiana's governors was one that is also directly tied to the hotel that is hosting the SSCA 2018 conference. Before our host hotel was known as the Hilton, it was the Heidelberg Hotel, and a suite on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor was continuously occupied by the then governor of Louisiana.

Huey Pierce Long Jr. (August 30, 1893 – September 10, 1935), self-nicknamed The Kingfish, served as the 40<sup>th</sup> Governor of Louisiana from 1928 to 1932 and as a member of the United States Senate from 1932 until his assassination in 1935. One of the unique things he did was to co-write his own song in 1935, "Every Man a King" that he used for self-promotion and in his campaign rallies.

Long began an unprecedented public works program, building roads, bridges, hospitals, and educational institutions. Huey P. Long's reign of legislation brought textbooks, a highway, natural gas heating to New Orleans, and buildings still standing at LSU. Long created a public works program for Louisiana that was unprecedented in the South, with a plethora of roads, bridges, hospitals, schools and state buildings that have endured into the 21st century. He built 111 bridges and started construction on the first bridge over the Mississippi entirely in Louisiana, the Huey P. Long Bridge near New Orleans. He built a new Governor's Mansion and the new Louisiana State Capitol, at the time the tallest building in the South. All of these projects provided thousands of much-needed jobs during the Great Depression, including 22,000—or 10 percent—of the nation's highway workers.

On September 8, 1935, Long was at the State Capitol attempting to oust a long-time opponent. At 9:20 p.m., just after passage of the bill effectively removing the opponent, the rival's son-in-law Carl Weiss, a physician from Baton Rouge, approached Long, and, according to the generally accepted version of events, shot him in the torso with a handgun from four feet away. Long's bodyguards returned fire, killing Weiss instantly. Long died on September 10 at 4:10 a.m.

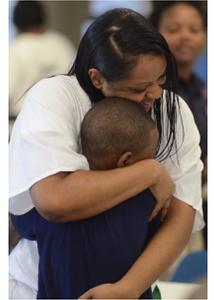
Long's suite was on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the hotel you are staying in, and served as his base of operations while he was governor, and finally US Senator. There is an underground tunnel that connects the Hilton and the Hotel Indigo across the street that was often used by Long to shuttle back and forth for meetings without having to go into public. If you stand at the entrance to the lobby restaurant, you can see the stairs that descend to the tunnel on the left near the hostess station.

So as you walk the halls of this historic hotel, or you happen to find yourself visiting the suite Long once lived in, just be aware of all the history that went on in the corridors and spaces here!



## Incarcerated Moms, Grandmothers Received Special Visits Saturday at Rankin County Prison

*Submitted by the Mississippi Department of Corrections*



Several incarcerated mothers and grandmothers at Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in Rankin County spent the last Saturday of the year in a special way – visiting with their children. The facility held its second Mom’s Day for three hours.

About 50 offenders and 100 children attended the event from 1-4 p.m. The numbers are comparable to the last event held on Sept. 30.

Only inmates who are incarcerated for a year with children up to 18 years of age and who have no infractions can participate. Mothers who remained trouble free after their participation in the first event also can take part in Saturday’s activities.

“This new program is another example of this administration’s focus on rehabilitation,” Commissioner Pelicia E. Hall said. “It is important for mothers to maintain a physical connection with their children so that when they are released, the foundation for support is there. I also appreciate staff for finding ways to provide incentives for inmates who follow the rules.”

The program is being extended to grandmothers because “we have so many offenders serving so many years that they are grandmothers now,” said Warden Dean Epps, whose area is hosting the program.

Some mothers and grandmothers will see their children or grandchildren for the first time in months, if not years.

Inmate Amaryhana Crain and her 8-year-old daughter had an emotional reunion the first Mom’s Day. Crain had not seen her daughter since 2015. “When she first came in, she hugged me,” Crain said. “She cried. It was a good experience.”

Crain’s mother brought her daughter for the special visit. They watched her sing.



Crain watches as a fellow inmate paints her daughter’s face.

“She has grown up a lot,” Crain noted, as she looked at her daughter from across the room. “She’s gotten taller.”

CMCF Superintendent Ron King said there are plans to expand the program in 2018.

“The new program presents a unique opportunity for our female offenders to spend quality time with their children,” King said. “The setting is a much more relaxed environment and allows interaction outside of the standard more structured visitation sessions. We hope that this will continue and even strengthen the relationship between the offenders and their children.”





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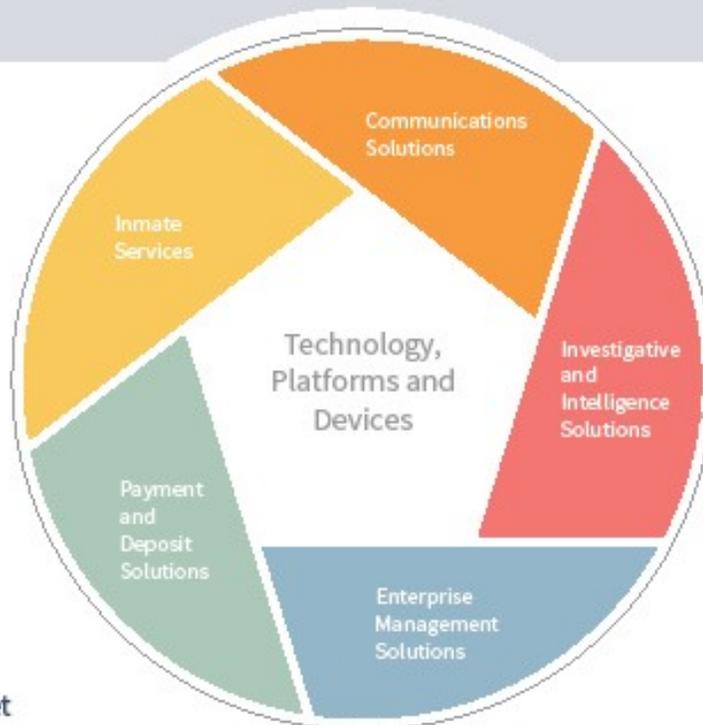
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# SSCA Committee Assignments

## FROM SSCA BY-LAWS

### SECTION XIV: COMMITTEES

Unless otherwise provided for in the Constitution and/or By-Laws, committees and their chairperson, standing or special (ad hoc), shall be appointed by the President as deemed necessary to carry on the business/work of the Association. All committees shall be made up of **regular members in good standing**. The actions of all committees are subject to review and approval by the Executive Board. The Chairperson and members of each committee shall serve until their successors are appointed; however, any Chairperson or member may be replaced at anytime by the President.

#### Host Committee

##### Chair: Tony Simon (LA)

Christy Lafleur (LA)  
Lila Brooks (LA)  
Tanya Bruce (LA)  
Jennifer Mock (LA)  
John Cox (LA)  
Missy Young (LA)  
Hanley Landry (LA)  
Roland Sylvester (LA)  
Theresa Sterling (LA)  
Pete Fremin (LA)  
John Webre (LA)  
Darryl Campbell (LA)  
Elliot Berrios (LA)  
Heath Soileau (LA)  
Lauren Oustalet (LA)  
Stephanie Lamartiniere (LA)  
Renee Delouche (LA)  
Jami Legnon (LA)  
Gary Westcott (LA)  
Pat Murphy (LA)  
Cleatrice McTory (TN)  
Karen Stapleton (VA)  
Bill Stapleton (VA)  
Stacia Wood Lenderman (AR)  
Raymond Naylor (AR)  
Ray Weatherford (AR)

Tonya Smith (TN)  
Amanda Dees (KY)  
Vince Pendergrass (TN)  
Jada Lawrence (AR)  
Marcia Booker (LA)  
Cheryl Dees (LA)  
Traci Gremillion (LA)

#### Research & Grants

##### Chair: Tiffany Compton (AR)

Neill Jones (LA)  
Elliott Berrios (LA)  
Cecilia Tubbs (AL)  
Betsy Hormel (OK)  
Jaquelin Brunson (MS)  
Kathy Jones (MS)  
Jackie Brunson (MS)  
James "Chili" Russo (LA)

#### Line Staff of the Year

##### Chair: Ann Marks (LA)

##### Vice\_Chair: Duane Cambre (LA)

Kevin Trigg (AR)  
Karen Stapleton (VA)  
Lila Brooks (LA)  
Ann Statham (TX)  
Robert Toole (GA)  
Susan Wilhoit-Oliver (KY)  
Candace Whisman (TN)  
Kristen Harrod (KY)  
James T. Banks (AR)  
Tommy James (AR)

#### Catastrophic Weather Fund

##### Chair: Linda Hill (AR)

##### Vice-Chair: Lisa Hall (AR)

Lisa Wassum (VA)  
Duane Cambre (LA)  
Carroll Perdue (VA)  
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Richard Caston (MS)  
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Kimberly Huddleston (KY)

Sharon Johnson (KY)  
Heather Meredith (KY)  
Chastity Hull (AR)

#### Program

##### Chair: Darryl Campbell (LA)

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Bill Stapleton (VA)  
Leslie Willwerth (VA)  
Theresa Sterling (LA)  
Stephanie Lamartiniere (LA)  
Pat Murphy (LA)  
Abby McIntire (KY)  
Kristin Tims (OK)  
Crystal Durfey (OK)  
Chastity Hull (AR)  
Stacy Williams (AR)

#### Vendors

##### Chair: Mitzi Kellum (GA)

##### Co-chair: Jami Legnon (LA)

Heath Soileau (LA)  
Kent Peck (OK)  
Missy Young (LA)  
Neill Jones (LA)  
Amanda McKearin (VA)  
Linda Hill (AR)  
Cleatrice McTory (TN)  
Carrie Williams (AR)  
Paul Kellum (GA)  
Stacia Wood Lenderman (AR)  
Belinda Scott (MS)  
Dell Lumley (MS)  
Betsy Hormel (OK)  
Betty Guffy (OK)  
Chastity Hull (AR)  
Kimberly Huddleston (KY)  
Vince Pendergrass (TN)

#### Nominating

John Webre (LA)  
Lorraine Rea (TN)  
Buck Rogers (VA)  
Cathy Mansell (MS)  
Mike Barnett (KY)

COMMITTEES on next page

**...COMMITTEES from previous page**

**Long Range Planning**

**Chair: Tom McElhenney (GA)**

Lois Fegan (VA)  
Stuart Holt (GA)  
Abby McIntire (KY)  
Mitzi Kellum (GA)  
Kevin Murphy (AR)  
Sheila Sharpe (AR)  
Kathy Jones (MS)  
Cookie Crews (KY)  
Tracey Lawrence (AR)  
Sonia Wallace (AR)  
Candace Whisman (TN)  
Tanya Smith-Edmund (TN)

**David H. Williams**

**Chair: Tom McElhenney (GA)**

Cookie Crews (KY)  
Ed Evans (OK)  
Pete Fremin (LA)  
Mark Bruton (AL)

**Time & Place**

**Chair: Tom McElhenney (GA)**

George Dodson (SC)  
Tony Simon (LA)  
Tiffany Compton (AR)  
Stacia Wood Lenderman (AR)  
Carrie Williams (AR)  
Melinda Dennis (GA)  
Michael Caudill (KY)

**P.C. Shields**

**Chair: Roy Agee (AR)**

Neill Jones (LA)  
Kent Peck (OK)  
David Parker (OK)  
Ray Weatherford (AR)

**Membership**

**Chair: Tom McElhenney (GA)**

**All State reps**

Pete Fremin (LA)  
Cookie Crews (KY) Ad hoc  
John Webre (LA)  
Leslie Willwerth (VA)  
Johnathon Hall (KY)  
Susan Wilhoit-Oliver (KY)  
Adrienne Pruitt-Owens (TN)  
Cindy Dunning (TN)  
Julie Daughtery (TN)  
Joyce Carmichael (TN)  
Melinda Toney (TN)

**Kenneth Law Scholarship**

**Chair: Buck Rogers (VA)**

Christy Lafleur (LA)  
Tiffany Compton (AR)  
Cecilia Tubbs (AL)  
Stan Shepard (GA)

**Constitution & Bylaws**

**Chair: Sonia Wallace (AR)**

Wayne Dunn (KY)  
Cleatrice McTorrey (TN)  
Kevin Jackson (MS)  
Christy Lafleur (LA)  
Stacy Rivera (GA)  
Lorraine Rea (TN)  
Sabrina Lawson (MS)  
Aungelina Williams (MS)  
Joyce Carmichael (TN)  
Cile Crowder (TN)  
Adrienne Pruitt-Owens (TN)

**Concourse**

**Chair: Cookie Crews (KY)**

Cindy Dunning (TN)  
Lois Fegan (VA)  
Theresa Sterling (LA)  
Donna Tebought (GA)  
Timothy Meadows (WVA)  
Heath Soileau (LA)  
Jennifer Bray (VA)

Melissa Ashcroft Gibbons (AR)

Angela Williams (MS)  
Dixie Criddle (MS)  
Renee Watkins (OK)  
Jim Brown (TN)

Patricia Sanders Ford (MS)

Patrice Adams (MS)  
Amanda Dees (KY)  
Tony Howerton (TN)  
Vanessa Kennedy (KY)  
Kathy Bingham (KY)  
Marcia Booker (LA)  
Beth Segrest (AL)

**Resolutions**

**Chair: Lorraine Rea (TN)**

Lisa Wassum (VA)  
Tanya Bruce (LA)  
Cindy Dunning (TN)  
Pamela Wilson (MS)  
Tracey Lawrence (AR)  
Jo Washington (MS)

**Finance**

**Chair: Kevin Murphy (AR)**

Sara Carmena (LA)  
Cookie Crews (KY)  
Tom McElhenney (GA)  
Tony Simon (LA)  
Dell Lemley (MS)  
Stuart Holt (GA)  
Tanya Bruce (LA)  
Abby McIntire (KY)  
Jeff Dillman (VA)  
Dexter Payne (AR)  
Dell Lumley (MS)  
Tammy Sexton (GA)  
Amanda Dees (KY)  
Sonia Wallace (AR)  
Jennifer Mock (LA)

---

## **SOUTHERN CONCOURSE ARTICLES**

In accordance with requirements of the SSCA Constitution and By-Laws, and as directed by the Association's Executive Board, the Concourse Committee is soliciting your articles for publication in the Southern Concourse. Per SOP-108, Duties and Responsibilities: #4, it is the duty of the State Representatives to secure articles and advertisements for the Southern Concourse, however articles may be submitted by any SSCA member. Your participation would be appreciated.

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# SSCA Catastrophic Weather Fund



A silent auction is held at every July SSCA conference to support the Catastrophic Weather Fund, please bring any items you wish to donate to the auction with you to the summer conference, or contact Cookie Crews, Executive Secretary, for shipping information. Also, be reminded that the fund is in place to provide needed assistance to SSCA members who have maintained their SSCA Membership for a minimum of one (1) year, and have sustained a recent loss due to a catastrophic weather event.

A catastrophic weather event is defined as a hurricane, tornado or flood that has been labeled as such by the National Weather Service. Once a catastrophic event has been declared by the National Weather Service, members of SSCA may apply, in writing, to their State Representative for assistance. The State Representative will then forward the request, with an attached explanation of the nature and circumstances of the loss, to the Chairperson of the Catastrophic Weather Fund Committee. The committee will consider requests on a “first come first served basis,” until the fund is depleted. The State Representatives’ names and contact information are found in the Concourse, or on our website at [www.sscaweb.org](http://www.sscaweb.org).

## silent AUCTION



# Welcome

## ***NEW MEMBERS***

### **Arkansas**

Eileen Airlie  
James Banks  
Vineshia Barnes  
Rebecca Baxter  
Cecil Burnett  
L Darrel Dykes  
Chris Glewen  
Charstity Hull  
Brian Holt  
Kenneth Kendrick  
Cameron King  
Carrie Liddell  
Tina Maxwell  
Daniel Potter  
Andrew Ruh  
Mary Ann Swain  
Erick Thomas  
Mark Warner  
Marcovous Williams  
Tammy Zagala

### **Florida**

Celacey Fisher

### **Georgia**

Norwood Alexis  
Tonya Ford Ashley  
Darlene Tatum Bell  
Jessie Bellany  
Brittney Blash

Trevonza Bobbitt  
Norma Jean Birt-Brown  
Casey Calhoun  
Stephen Calle  
Shayla Coachman  
Micah Daniels  
Larry Dale  
Jennifer DeFillippes  
Brandon Donahue  
Alysha Edwards  
Susan Evers  
Taylor Feming  
Lisa Michelle Ford  
Gary Fuller  
Angela Graham  
James Grines  
Danika George  
Tyler Gary  
Cleo Y. Griswoud  
Ariel Hart  
Justin Henry  
Bradley Hicks  
Diane Hassett  
September Hightower  
Ceasler Hudson  
Katrina Inman  
Tiarra Jenkins  
Tarrence Jenkins  
Nakira Johnson  
JaBria Johnson  
Antoinette Jones  
Aria Jones

Knight Joshua  
Robert Ketterson  
Douglas Kim  
Vannessa Linder  
Ada Messer  
Kevin Marrero  
Debbian Middleton  
Ashleigh McGlothlin  
Srephen McQuillen  
Heather Miller  
Traci Mondragon  
Angela Newsome  
Benjie Nobles  
Brenda Pauldo  
James Payne  
Kashia Peterson  
Niya Pickett  
Kenyatta Roberts  
Marie Robinson  
Shequita Sailem  
Coleman Sameer  
Ivan Sharpe  
Robert Shaw  
Stephen Silva  
Kenneth Sirmans  
Matthew Smith  
Malisa Smith  
Loren Sorrick  
Patricia Sweatman  
Natisha Toy  
Renee Trent  
Joshua Thornthon

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Felisha Walton  
Sherikama Williams  
Kelly Wiley  
Valisa Williams  
Perry Wood  
Tyles Woods  
Alan Youngblood

### **Louisiana**

Todd Barrere  
Joe Buttross  
Shelley Edgerton  
Pat Freyou  
Tim Hooper

Jodi Mallett  
John McGovern  
Micheal J. Moore  
Malcolm G. Myer  
Misty Stagg  
Perry Stagg  
Kristen Thomas

### **Michigan**

Beth Buckland

### **Mississippi**

Tanze Burnley

### **South Carolina**

LaToya Able  
Dr. Richard Inscore  
Karen Rivers  
Nena Staley

### **Virginia**

Casey Dailey  
Angela Edmonds  
Marilyn Hill  
Kelsey Kowalski  
Gary Jones  
Mike Seville  
Renee Trent

## **KCCD Members Take Top Law Enforcement Team Award for 2018 Polar Plunge**

**T**he Polar Plunge is an annual event where people take a “Plunge” into the chilly waters of the Ohio River to raise money for the Special Olympics. Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency (KCCD) has a longstanding tradition of supporting this organization and participating in this event. This year, the Louisville Chapter of the Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency set a goal to raise enough money to become the “Top Law Enforcement Team.”



On Saturday February 24, the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics Kentucky was scheduled to be held in Louisville, Ky; however, the weather did not cooperate. A “No-Splash Bash” was held to celebrate all of the people that came together to raise money for this worthy cause. The KCCD Team from the Louisville Chapter had 18 members participate in the fundraising, which resulted in a \$2,365 donation to the Special Olympics! The team was excited to receive the Top Law Enforcement Team Award at the No Splash Bash.

Article submitted by Amanda Dees and Vanessa Kennedy.

# MDOC Expands Program to Improve Inmates' Lives

*Submitted by the Mississippi Department of Corrections*

With the help of volunteers and mental health staffers, the Mississippi Department of Corrections has expanded a program to both male and female inmates to help them understand the behavior that led them to prison, how to cope while in prison and how to stay out of prison.

The program, commonly referred to as the 1A Men's or the 1A Women's Program at Central Mississippi Correctional Facility (CMCF) in Pearl, combines faith-based values with mental health and is available for inmates with life sentences and those within a year of release. The women's program has been ongoing since 2009, while the men's portion started in January. With recent graduations, 70 inmates have completed the program this year.

"The program is another example of our goal to provide meaningful rehabilitation," Commissioner Pelicia E. Hall said. "For the offenders who have life sentences, they can

still help society through this program by becoming positive influences on offenders who are released and giving those offenders a better chance at success."

Joe S. Jones, 44, among the recent graduates of the 1A Men's Program, said the program has made a difference in his life and those around him.

"This program is a light in our dark place," said Jones, of Canton, who is serving two drug sentences - possession of cocaine in Leake County and sale of cocaine in Madison County.

"This means a lot to me. I pray that God will continue to bless this program and MDOC will allow it to continue to make a difference in men's lives," Jones said. "I have seen guys step up and take responsibility."

Eric Hicks, 32, who graduated the program on Aug. 30 while in prison for burglary and grand larceny in Itawamba County, said he appreciated the instructors. "This program



changed my life, and I hope to someday change someone else's life for the better."

Dr. Sandy Adams, director of Mental Health at CMCF, said plans are underway to expand the program from three days per week on a 12-week cycle to a four-day-a-week five month program. The goal is to help offenders "learn how to identify their destructive patterns of behavior and to give them the tools and skills to make the necessary changes to lead to a successful and productive life," Adams said.

Classes include Addictive Personality, Boundaries, Anger Management, and Jobs for Life. "The purpose of this program is to grow emotionally, spiritually, and intellectually," Adams said.

Ginger Estes, 55, who recently completed the 1A Women’s Program, said attending the program has helped her with anger management. “Anger is what got me here, and programs like this have helped me so much to understand my anger and to handle it better,” said Estes, who is in prison for possession of cocaine with intent to distribute in Prentiss County.

Inmates must be free of rules violations for three months before and during the program. They sign a contract promising to follow the program’s rules.

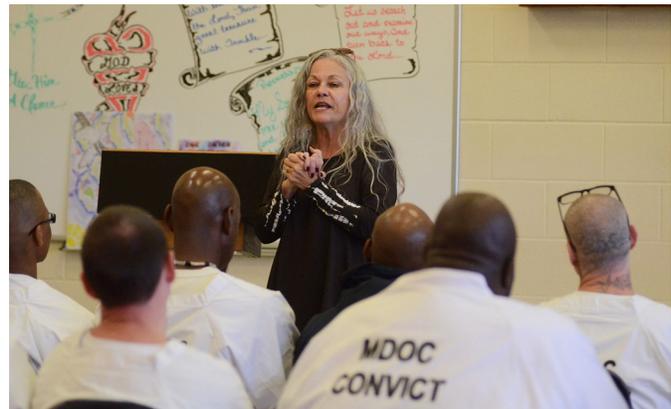
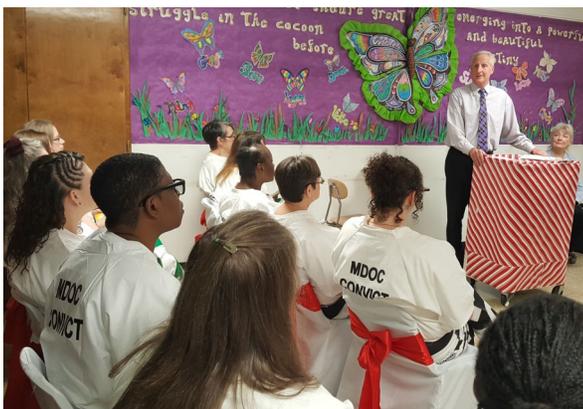
“Comments by staff and other offenders about the noticeable behavioral changes in the housing area outside of the program point to their attempt at making positive

behavioral changes that affirm individual successes and hopefully, lifelong,” Adams said, referring to the male offenders who complete the program.

The graduations for the 1A Men’s and 1A Women’s Program are among several in recent weeks recognizing offenders’ completion of programs.

*Other ceremonies include:*

- The University of Mississippi Prison-to-College Pipeline Program’s Fall Graduation on Dec. 6 at the Mississippi State Penitentiary (MSP). Seven offenders completed the “Education and The Environment from Black Fiction to Creative Nonfiction,” a 15-week class conducted by Dr. Patrick Alexander and Dr. Ann Fisher-Wirth.
- Thinking for a Change Graduation of the Hinds County Probation/Parole Office & Hinds County Restitution Center on Dec. 6 at the Sparkman Auditorium at the Mississippi Agriculture & Forestry Museum. Forty-one (41) offenders graduated.
- Thinking for a Change Graduation for the Noxubee County Transitional Program on Dec. 7 at the Noxubee County Community Work Center. Twenty-four (24) offenders graduated.
- The Alcohol and Drug Program at Parchman today. Twenty-five (25) offenders completed the program.



# Hurricane Season Takes its Toll on Georgia

By Justin Clay, Georgia Department of Corrections

Roadways blocked by fallen, splintered trees. Roofs of homes caved under the enormous weight of crushed branches. Power, electricity, the modern way of life...gone for an indefinite time. This was the reality that countless Georgia citizens faced in the devastating wake of Hurricane Irma.

Governor Nathan Deal issued a mandatory evacuation for coastal counties beginning on Sept. 6, 2017 in preparation for the hurricane. For GDC, however, preparation for Irma began upon its origin off the West Coast of Africa.

“Even with uncertainty of Irma becoming a hurricane,” said Operations Manager and Georgia Emergency Management Agency Liaison, Gary Bell, “we were already preparing, pre-staging as if it was going to be a hurricane, preparing documents, who’s going where, based on their mobility status; they had prepared everything well in advance.”



Bell mentioned that the storm had been monitored weeks prior and that as the storm progressed, it strengthened rapidly “unlike any of the storms” GDC has encountered before.

Fire Services and GDC’s Life Safety Program alongside of Facility Operations, were placed on call early as Sunday, Sept. 3. “All of our 19 state crews were put on standby,” said GDC Fire Services and Life Safety Manager Shawn Wombles. “Crews were told to prepare for at least a seven-day deployment due to the predicted storm size and potential for damage.”

Due to pre-staging and strategic allocation of disaster-relief resources, however, GDC withstood the worst. “Pre-staging set

us up for success,” continued Bell. “We encouraged facilities to review their emergency plans and prepare for the projected storm coming.”

The pre-staging involved trimming trees liable to be problematic, preparing water buffalos—large tankers that hold water—cleaning them then storing them with bottled water for internal need. Furthermore, pre-staging involved deploying transportation vehicles and affirming that evacuation staff have not been previously working. “We needed to make sure they were rested and ready to go,” said Bell. “So, that when the decision to evacuate is made, they’re ready to roll.”

Bell stated that GDC’s success with weathering Irma was largely due to checking generators and assuring their functionality. “I think that was very critical to the success during this event,” confirmed Bell, “because once they lost normal power, every facility that had a back-up generators turned on.”



Even smaller facilities, which did not have generators readily available had contracts for generators, according to Bell and the process of having them delivered happened quickly. “All our main state prisons and facilities had back-up generators,” said Bell, “and they all kicked on successfully; we didn’t have any facilities completely without power.”

According to Bell, the evacuation of 1,701 State Prison offenders and 252 Transitional Center offenders went smoothly overall. “That was a huge amount and a huge undertaking,” he said, “full credit goes to the transportation leadership on ground and staff at Coastal State Prison, Coastal Transitional Center and Special Operations.”

Bell explained that once the Commissioner made the decision to evacuate, Facility Operations began evacuating the

offenders with disabilities first, then offenders with mental health concerns, followed by state and Transitional Center offenders. The offenders’ placement had been predetermined and identified by individual facility emergency plans.

One of the takeaways from Hurricane Matthew was the importance of prestaging mattresses. When offenders are transferred to other facilities, by means of state emergency, they are usually housed in gyms and supplying enough mattresses becomes an issue. “We had over a thousand mattresses prestaged,” confirmed Bell, “along with 50,000 to 100,000 flex cuffs prepared.”

Although prestaging set GDC up for success, storms as powerful as Hurricane Irma can be unpredictable. According to Wombles, due to the impact of numerous downed trees and power

lines left in Irma’s wake, each station responded to calls taking care of the nearby communities. One team was sent to Ben Hill County, one team to Johnson County and four teams were dispatched to DeKalb County.

“These crews assisted with cutting downed trees out of the roadways to allow citizens to safely travel out of their neighborhoods,” said Wombles. “For the first time Ware State Prison Fire Team was assigned to Georgia Search and Rescue (GSAR) Task Force 8 for potential deployment to Glynn County.”

Hurricane Irma’s wrath from the Caribbean, up through Florida to Georgia, while lessening in strength, was relentless. “The storm caused devastation in all the islands that was in its path,” Wombles went on. “Fortunately for Georgia, the storm weakened tremendously before en-





tering Georgia; yes, we saw downed trees and power lines, structure damage and flooding in parts of Georgia, however, it could have been a lot worse had the storm remained as strong as predicted.”

Wombles continued to say that it was the first time in his career, which all 159 Georgia counties were Governor Declared Emergency prior to a disaster occurring. “This helps agencies and local governments recover at least some of their costs associated with the storm,” he said, “which allowed for better communication and plenty of preparation time for all agencies.”

Fire Services’ support for Hurricane Irma disaster relief was completed on Thursday, Sept. 21, however, there is more to be done. “The Administrative part of the process will begin as soon as we receive the information request from Budget,” said Wombles, “who will start the reimbursement part of the disaster.”

According to Bell, the road to recovery will be a long one, as many counties are still in the process of accessing Irma’s true impact. With a sound resolve and strategic preparation, GDC remained strong. “One thing I really wanted to key in on this time,” Bell said, “was to get out as much information as possible to the staff—because the more prepared the staff, the more prepared they will be to carry out the mission of the Georgia Department of Corrections.”

To make a donation and a difference in the lives of those affected most by Irma, visit American Red Cross or The Humane Society. For social updates, check out #IrmaCleanUp on Twitter.



#### **Justin Clay Biography**

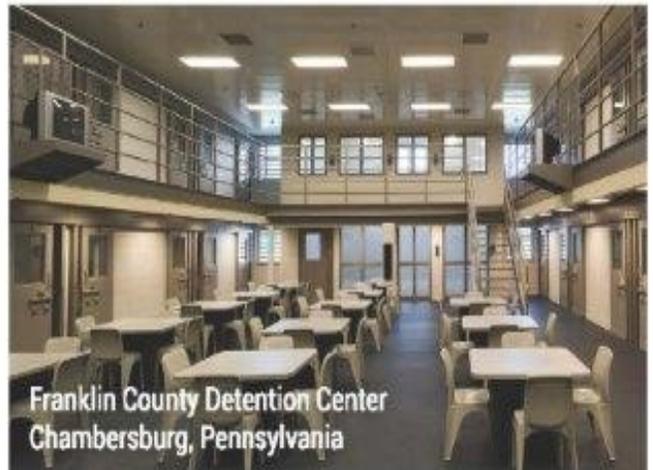
Justin Clay began his career with the Georgia Department of Corrections on April 17, 2017 as a Visual Arts and Graphics Specialist with the Office of Public Affairs. Prior, Clay was a graphic design intern for Fleishman Hillard, an international public relations and marketing firm and a professional graphic design intern for Walt Disney World Resort® internal communications under their Public Affairs Division. Additionally, Clay has a background in journalism being editor in chief and a graphics assistant for the official newspaper of the University of Georgia, *The Red and Black*. Clay earned a Bachelor’s degree in Fine Arts with a concentration in graphic design at the University of Georgia, graduating *cum laude*.

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## SOUTHERN STATES CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION LINE STAFF OF THE YEAR AWARD

The purpose of the SSCA Line Staff Award is to recognize four individuals from within the membership who exemplify career professionalism. Through this award SSCA clearly appreciates and recognizes the important role these staff play in the success of the correctional process and the service these individuals provide.

NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Print name as it should appear on the award)*

<b>Award Category</b> <i>(Check only one)</i>	Probation/Parole ___	Correctional Officer ___	Corrections Support ___
	Officer ___	Juvenile Residential ___	Service Person ___
	Youth Worker ___	Worker ___	Humanitarian ___

Job title: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please Print)*

Nominator's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please limit your typewritten comments to two pages. Comments must include: Why should this individual be selected? Comments should address professionalism, job knowledge, performance, personal characteristics, leadership, innovation/creativity and accomplishments.

### **CRITERIA**

#### **Candidate:**

1. Must be employed on a full-time paid basis as a non-supervisory Probation/Parole Officer, Correctional Officer or Corrections Support Service Person (or an equivalent job function). The exception is any full-time employee is eligible for the Humanitarian of the Year. Part-time, consultants, and interns are excluded from consideration, as are self nominations. Nominee will be considered in one category only.
2. Employing agency may be Federal, State, County, City or Private Sector entity.
3. Candidate must be employed in one of the 14 SSCA member states.
4. Membership in SSCA is not a prerequisite for consideration.

#### **Nominator:**

1. Nominator must be a current Southern States Correctional Association Member.
2. Must submit a completed and signed nomination form to the Nominee's State Representative.

Completed form must be sent to your state representative and must be received by **April 1, 2018.**

# SOUTHERN STATES CORRECTIONAL ASSOCIATION

## P.C. SHIELDS MEMBER RECOGNITION

### CALL FOR NOMINEES

The P.C. Shields Member Recognition Award was named in honor of SSCA's oldest and most loyal member. The award was established to recognize annually, at the summer training conference, a member who has made significant contributions to the Southern States Correctional Association, furthering its professional purpose, philosophy and recognition as a professional association.

A committee receives nominations and selects the recipient. Any member in good standing may submit a

nomination. Completed applications must be received by April 1, 2018. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

The Award recipient will be recognized at the Annual Awards Banquet in July. In addition, the recipient will receive transportation to the conference, conference registration, hotel room for three nights, and any meals during the conference not covered by the conference registration.

The nomination letter should include the nominee's name, state, and rea-

sons for nominating the individual. Please be as specific as possible with your comments, which should address the contributions your nominee has made to SSCA. Our Association has many members who are worthy of this recognition. Please take the time to nominate a deserving member.



#### Criteria:

1. Nominee must have been an active member in good standing for a minimum of five years.
2. Nominee must not be on the current Executive Board.
3. Nominee must not be a past-president.
4. Nominee must not be a past recipient of the David H. Williams Award.

NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please print name as it should appear on the Award)*

The above member should receive the P.C. Shield Membership Recognition Award for the reasons stated on the attached sheet.

Nominator's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Applications should be sent to:  
Roy Agee  
6803 Oxford Dr.  
Pine Bluff, AR 71602  
roy.agee@arkansas.gov  
(870) 267-6428

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## Kenneth Law Scholarship

### **PURPOSE:**

The SSCA is a 14-state regional organization of correctional practitioners representing the operational and administrative areas of jails, probation, prisons, and parole. It is the intent of this scholarship award to financially assist individuals preparing to or already participating in an accredited college or university program of study.

### **PROCESS:**

Each year individuals will be selected to receive the SSCA Scholarship Award. The process begins at the state level with applicants submitting application packages (form and attachments) to their respective SSCA State Representative no later than **April 1, 2018**. These applications will be screened by a State-level screening committee and one primary and one alternate application will be forwarded to the SSCA Scholarship Award Committee for consideration. The Award Committee will select recipients and award scholarships in an amount and number to be determined by the Executive Board. Applicants will receive written notification of their selection or rejection. Awards will be announced at the annual training conference in **July 2018**.

**AMOUNT:** The Association will designate a maximum of \$5,000 per year for the scholarship program. Additional contributions may increase the amount of funds available each year. The Executive Board will determine the amount and number of scholarships to be awarded each year to individuals who are Regular members of SSCA, their spouse or dependent children and are pursuing either part-time or full-time formal education at the college or graduate school level. The funds will be deposited with an accredited college or university to apply toward the student's tuition and related academic expenses.

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

- (1) Applicant must be a U.S. Citizen
- (2) Applicant must be an active regular or lifetime SSCA member or a spouse or dependent child of a member.
- (3) Applicant must be pursuing a bachelor or graduate degree in a program of study applicable to the field of criminal justice, rehabilitation, social services or a related field.
- (4) Applicant must be entering his/her freshman, sophomore, junior, senior year or graduate school. Freshman or first year graduate students must be officially accepted in the college or university.
- (5) Applicant must complete the application form, provide all required attachments, and submit the entire package to their State Representative prior to **April 1, 2018**. The scholarship will be awarded for the next fall term. Incomplete application packages will not be accepted for consideration.

### **ATTACHMENT TO APPLICATION:**

- (1) Beginning freshman will submit two (2) letters from high school instructors under whom the student has studied, stating why they support the applicant's receipt of the scholarship award.
- (2) Sophomores, juniors, seniors, and entering graduate students must submit two (2) letters of recommendation from professors under whom the applicant has studied, stating why they support the applicant's receipt of the scholarship award.
- (3) Beginning freshman must submit a certified transcript of their high school grades to date.
- (4) Sophomores, juniors, seniors, and entering graduate students must submit a certified transcript of their college courses and grades to date.
- (5) Graduate students already matriculating in a graduate program must submit a certified transcript of graduate courses and grades to date.
- (6) Beginning freshman and entering graduate students must submit a copy of their official letter accepting them into the college/university.
- (7) On a separate sheet(s) of paper provide a written narrative supporting/justifying his/her need for this scholarship.

### **COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS:**

- (1) Recipient will only be eligible to receive this scholarship one time.
  - (2) Scholarship recipients must forward to the appropriate State Representative a copy of their transcript for the time period the recipient has received the award.
  - (3) Failure to satisfactorily complete the semester may result in the recipient being required to repay SSCA the full amount awarded. Satisfactory completion means an overall grade point average of "C" or 2.0 on 4.0 scale for each semester a scholarship was received.
-



# Southern States Correctional Association

## KENNETH LAW SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

### Applicant Information

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last First M.I.*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street Address Apartment/Unit #*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City State ZIP Code*

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security No.: \_\_\_\_\_

College/University Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street Address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City State ZIP Code*

Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Current High School or College: \_\_\_\_\_

### Current Class Status

**High School**

**College**

Junior  Senior  Freshman  Sophomore  Junior  Senior  Graduate

### Class Status for Fall Term

**College**

Freshman  Sophomore  Junior  Senior  Graduate

Are you a citizen of the United States? YES  NO  If no, do you possess a student visa? YES  NO

### Disclaimer and Signature

*I certify that my answers are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.*

*By signing below, I authorize SSCA Executive Board/Scholarship Selection Committee to verify the information contained in this application package.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Advertise in The Southern Concourse

The Southern States Correctional Association is a “family” of professionals from 14 states representing virtually every type of corrections agency – youth and adult services, probation and parole, counselors, teachers, administrators and volunteers. The membership also includes law enforcement officers and others interested in corrections.

*The Southern Concourse is published quarterly by the SSCA and reaches approximately 1,000 members.*

*Subscriptions are included in the \$25.00 annual membership dues.*

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### SSCA Advertising Form

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Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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Crestwood, KY 40014



## CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS

The Resolutions Committee needs YOUR assistance in recognizing deserving members and SSCA supporters. Each committee member has been assigned a SSCA state representative to work with to complete the SSCA information form needed to prepare the Resolutions.

Please e-mail your recommendations to the Resolutions Committee Chairperson

**Lorraine Rea: [Lorraine.Rea@tn.gov](mailto:Lorraine.Rea@tn.gov)**

or to any committee member.



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