

## Recognizing Corrections' Best

Each year the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections accepts, from its more than 15,000 employees, nominations for several departmental awards.

Beginning in December facilities have several months to gather the nominations and submit employees for consideration as recipients of the DOC's Outstanding Performance Award (OPA), Medal of Valor, Mentor of the Year Award and the Thomas A. Fulcomer Award.

Since the early 1980s the DOC has presented the OPA Awards, and the other awards were added to the ceremony over the course of the last 20 years. The awards ceremony is held during the first full week in May, which always coincides with "Corrections Employee Week in Pennsylvania."

This year, due to budget issues, DOC officials cancelled the ceremony because the only money being spent during the budget impasse was on "mission critical" items, of which an employee ceremony is not.

Even though a ceremony couldn't be held, DOC Secretary John Wetzel directed that the nomination and award process continue. As he travels throughout the state, he will recognize each award recipient locally.

This issue of "Newsfront" will highlight this year's award recipients.

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# Outstanding Performance Award

This award is presented to THREE employees per region (the DOC breaks its system down into eastern, central and western regions) who display consistent, exceptional performance of work, reflect an exceptionally high productivity level or demonstrate initiative and creativity in performing work-related duties. This year's recipients are:

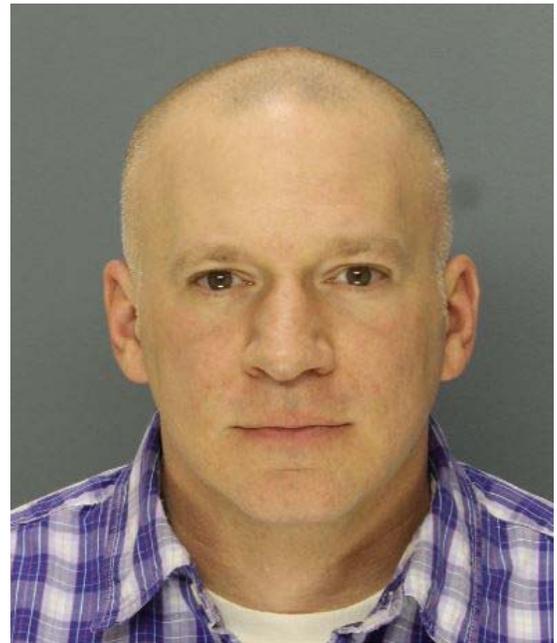
## EASTERN REGION

**Edward Pyzia**, Corrections Counselor 2, SCI Dallas

In March 2016, Edward Pyzia was researching a former resident of SCI Dallas when he came across a picture of a person wanted by Philadelphia City Police whom he recognized. Pyzia contacted the SCI Dallas Security Office, who in turn, contacted the Philadelphia Police and the FBI Field Office in Philadelphia, leading to the arrest of the suspect.

Pyzia began his career with the Department of Corrections in 1999 as a Corrections Officer at SCI Dallas. In October 2009, he became a Corrections Counselor.

Prior to joining the DOC, Pyzia served in the U.S. Army from 1989 to 1995 as an aircraft structural repairer, earning the rank of sergeant. He later worked for Altee Industries as a mechanic.



Pyzia, who attended Campbell University in North Carolina and Luzerne County Community College, is a little league sports coach in his spare time.

**Jaime Sorber**, Intelligence Captain, SCI Mahanoy

### Newsfront

2016 ~ Employee Awards Edition

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Editor

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Jaime Sorber began his career with the Department of Corrections at SCI Frackville in July 1994, where he rose to the rank of sergeant. In February 2007, Sorber received a promotional transfer to SCI Mahanoy as a lieutenant and, in October 2011, he was promoted to the rank of captain.

In August 2012, Sorber was assigned to his current position of intelligence-gathering captain. As such, Sober is tasked with coordinating numerous investigations related to illegal inmate activities. He is also responsible for supervising staff



in the gathering of intelligence related to security threat groups, illegal inmate drug activities and, more recently, all investigations related to the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA).

In addition to navigating the PREA regulations, Sorber ensures the safety and security of SCI Mahanoy through his training programs, intelligence gathering and leadership skills. From August to November 2015, Sorber also served as acting deputy superintendent of facility management at SCI Chester.

Outside of the department, Sorber has proven his bravery and leadership abilities through his dedicated 20 years of service in the U.S. Army National Guard. He was deployed as a sergeant on two separate occasions to Operation Iraqi Freedom, earning numerous

commendations and medals, including two Bronze Stars.

Sorber's most important role continues to be that of husband and father, where he is actively involved in community athletic programs, both as coach and board member. He attended criminal justice and engineering programs at Luzerne County Community College.

### **Jason Lanning**, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Retreat

Jason Lanning, SCI Retreat Corrections Officer 1, is described by his supervisors as "exceptionally reliable, dependable and trustworthy...with an ever-present smile, dynamic personality and sense of humor."

Lanning is an asset to any team, supervisors said, especially one undergoing a transition in philosophy and policy changes in the care and treatment of offenders with special needs.

Lanning was instrumental in the new philosophy and programming of the Secure Residential Treatment Unit and Diversionary Treatment Unit. With a positive attitude and genuine interest in helping others, Lanning believed in the proposed changes from policy to practice and helped convince his colleagues to embrace the new ideas.



Working in a specialized unit is a challenging, unpredictable and sometimes dangerous endeavor. Lanning proudly admits that he loves his job and is invested enough to make suggestions for improvement, whether its inventory control

or inmates in crisis. Lanning also demonstrates strong interpersonal skills, is well-accepted by others under difficult circumstances and is quick to gain recognition and rapport with the offender population.

Lanning began his corrections career in 2000 at SCI Muncy and transferred to SCI Retreat in 2005 where he worked in the Secure Residential Treatment Unit and Restrictive Housing Unit. He has been a volunteer member of the Corrections Emergency Response Team since 2001.

A graduate of Berwick Area High School where he played football, Lanning has continued his love of sports by coaching in both the football and basketball Berwick youth leagues.

## CENTRAL REGION

**David Deibler-Gorman**, Corrections Counselor Supervisor, SCI Muncy

At SCI Muncy, David Deibler-Gorman, corrections counselor supervisor, is described as someone who “consistently looks for ways in which he can contribute.”

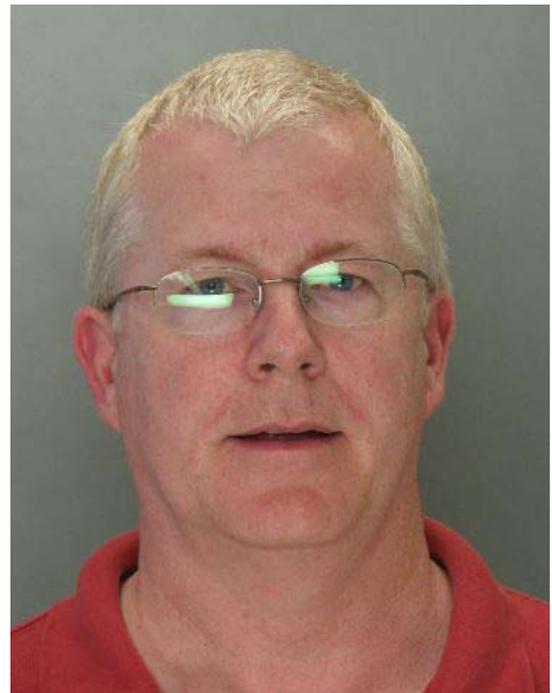
He is actively involved in planning and managing a variety of services for the offenders at SCI Muncy, including IM-PACT (Inside Muncy - Parents and Children Together), parenting classes, prenatal and postpartum groups, on-going rape counseling services, virtual visitation, the House of Hope domestic violence/trauma treatment program and family visitation bus trips.

Deibler-Gorman also oversees annual programming dedicated to issues such as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month and National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

When the institution did not have a corrections counselor supervisor in the diagnostic and classification center, Deibler-Gorman filled in and reviewed classification reports, while still maintaining his responsibilities in the Parenting Department. Officials said the fact that he did this with such a positive, unselfish attitude demonstrates his willingness to help others.

Since joining the Department of Corrections in 1993, Deibler-Gorman has worked at both SCI Coal Township and SCI Muncy as a drug and alcohol treatment specialist, corrections counselor and corrections counselor supervisor.

Previously, he worked as a juvenile probation officer with Northumberland County, a therapist



with Green Ridge Counseling Center, and a drug and alcohol treatment specialist, providing services to Columbia, Montour, Snyder and Union counties.

A graduate of Oberlin College, Deibler-Gorman earned his master's degree from Penn State, completed coursework at Bucknell University, and earned additional certifications as a licensed professional counselor and a certified alcohol and drug counselor.

In his spare time, he is an active member of the Community Alliance for Respect and Equality (CARE) in Lewisburg; treasurer of St. John's Lutheran Church and volunteers with a local community support group.

**Debra Reitz**, Facility Chaplaincy Program Director, SCI Muncy

Debra Reitz has worked in this capacity since joining the Department of Corrections in October 2001.

In addition to religious services and chaplaincy counseling services that are offered at SCI Muncy, Reitz supervises the largest volunteer/intern program in the state. She is also the leader of the institutional critical incident stress management team.

Most recently, she facilitated a program for the inmates to work with students from the Julliard School of Music, culminating in a program for the general population.

Last summer, she stopped at the scene of a traffic accident, offering comfort and assistance to a 7-year-old child whose mother had been killed in the crash.

She previously served as worked as pastor of the South Renovo Free Methodist Church, as well as a book store owner and secretary. A graduate of Toccoa Falls College, she is a member of the Pennsylvania Prison Chaplains Association and volunteers in various youth and adult church ministry groups, including grief counseling.



**Wade Renninger**, Forestry Assistant Manager, SCI Rockview

Wade Renninger is the only forestry assistant manager in the Department of Corrections.

As such, he is responsible for the 2,500-acre forest reservation at SCI Rockview, which includes the planning and coordination of all forestry projects, such as harvesting, firewood production, storm damage clean-up, as well as tree planting, trail work and boundary line maintenance. He



ensures best practices are used to conserve water quality, minimize soil erosion and monitors the forest for insects and diseases.

Renninger also manages the 580-acre farm program which produces sweet corn, potatoes, soy beans and other items which are used by the facility. The excess is share with neighboring facilities or sold, with annual proceeds of about \$250,000.

In addition, Renninger also manages the 60-acre nursery which includes digging, planting, transplanting and maintenance of trees, shrubs and annual flowers.

Renninger also manages the SCI Rockview Community Work Program which includes processing of new projects, conducting site inspections for security and safety, coordinating the scheduling of site projects and the overall supervision of the corrections' labor

foreman and offenders in the program.

The overall operation of the Forestry Camp is also under Renninger's jurisdiction. In addition to the care, custody and control of the 72 offenders residing at the camp, he is responsible for the oversight of the overall maintenance of the camp, services offered to those assigned to it, as well as staff supervision.

Lastly, Renninger is responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the vehicles and equipment in the program, as well as the safety and operational training for assigned staff and inmates.

A graduate of Penn State University, Renninger began working at SCI Rockview in 2002 as the assistant manager. He was promoted to manager in 2004. In his spare time, he volunteers as an assistant coach for the Nittany Valley Little League.

## WESTERN REGION

**Joan Ledford**, Corrections Officer 2, SCI Cambridge Springs

Joan Ledford is a different kind of corrections employee, according to her supervisors.

She is always smiling and pleasant, treating management, her peers and the offenders, with a high level of respect and dignity.

A graduate of Union City High School, Sgt. Ledford joined the Department of Corrections in 1993 as a corrections officer at SCI Cambridge Springs. She served on the Corrections Emergency Response Team for about 10 years and was promoted in 1999.

With her 23 years of experience, and now working in the Control Center, Sgt. Ledford has the ability to assess a problem or situation before deciding on a plan of action and quickly resolving any issues.

In her post, Sgt. Ledford encounters all staff and visitors that enter and exit the facility, greeting everyone with a pleasant demeanor. Described as a team player, Sgt. Ledford promotes a productive, harmonious work environment on a consistent basis. She is an asset and resource for the entire facility.

Her compassion, integrity, encouragement and kindness is not exclusive to helping those who come into SCI Cambridge.

Last Christmas she generously donated items to an orphanage in Europe, humbly stating that she simply wanted to make sure that all the children received gifts to brighten their holidays.



**Shelly Mankey, Unit Manager, SCI Greene**

Shelly Mankey joined the Department of Corrections in 1997 as a drug and alcohol treatment specialist at SCI Pittsburgh.

Since then, she has worked at SCI Fayette and SCI Greene, both as a unit manager and as acting major of unit management. Mankey also served as inmate employment coordinator at both SCI Pittsburgh and SCI Fayette.

Mankey's willingness to accept challenging assignments and her proven ability to succeed at these assignments has earned her supervisors' recognition and confidence in her abilities.

A graduate of Washington and Jefferson College, Mankey worked as a certified drug and alcohol treatment specialist and then as a coordinator for Child & Adolescent Service System Program for Greene County, prior to joining the Department of Corrections.



**Rebecca Witt**, Corrections Counselor/Re-Entry Specialist, SCI Laurel Highlands

Rebecca Witt has a passion for the Transitional Housing Unit (THU) program, which is evident through her continuing efforts to initiate programs, events and arrange speakers. Some of the programs she has initiated include a re-entry resource library, job fairs, parenting groups, public speaking groups, personal responsibility workshops, insurance and budget seminars, current events, stress management and a mentoring program.

Aside from her primary duties as a corrections counselor/re-entry specialist, Witt is an adjunct instructor for train-the-staff trainer and long-term offender programs.



Witt joined the department in July 2008 as a corrections counselor 2/treatment specialist at SCI Laurel Highlands. In January 2014, she was selected to be the re-entry specialist for the THU at SCI Laurel Highlands.

Prior to joining the department, she served as a juvenile probation officer for the Somerset County Probation and Parole Office and as a caseworker/ treatment specialist for the Somerset County Children and Youth Services.

A graduate of Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, she serves as a member of the Criminal Justice Advisory Board in Somerset County, as well as the Somerset County Drug Free Communities Coalition.

**Scott Wickenheiser**, IT Services Manager, DOC Central Office

Scott Wickenheiser is responsible for information technology services for the entire Department of Corrections and the Board of Probation and Parole.

He is described as someone who can resolve conflicts and handle other difficult situations with remarkable patience and admirable tact. Plus, he is always willing to go out of his way to help others.

Wickenheiser formalized a training plan for new staff, implemented an after-hours support program, and initiated



a tracking system for service calls and equipment. He has also worked to upgrade equipment and standardized educational software between facilities.

A Department of Corrections employee since 2010, Wickenheiser is described by supervisors as dependable, efficient and punctual. He is also willing to take on tough projects such as upgrading and standardizing the education laboratories and well as making changes to increase efficiencies.

Wickenheiser began his professional career in 2004 in the U.S. Air Force, where he used technical data to diagnose and solve maintenance problems on aircraft systems, coordinating between air crew, weapons specialists, electricians and others.

From 2007 to 2010, he was the Officer in Charge of Maintenance Debrief, where, among other things, he analyzed data to determine mission effectiveness and trends, as well as conducting training and records management.

He earned his bachelor's degree (with a 3.95 average GPA) from American Military University and remained a member of the Air Force Reserves until 2012.

## Medal of Valor

**Eric Ray**, SCI Pine Grove, Unit Manager

In January, Ray and his family were sharing a holiday meal with his in-laws in Ohio when his daughter, Megan, started choking on a piece of food lodged in her throat and blocking her airway.

Ray admitted that at first, he panicked. But remembering his emergency training, Ray quickly began performing abdominal thrusts on his daughter. After a few tense moments, the food was dislodged and Megan was breathing normally.

With special appreciation to SCI Pine Grove's CPR Instructor Gerald Rydbom, Ray credited his Department of Corrections' first aid training in helping him quickly take control of the situation and help his child.



A graduate of Butler High School and Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Ray served in the U.S. Air Force in Okinawa, Japan.

Since joining the Department of Corrections in 1996, Ray has worked at SCI Houtzdale, SCI Forest and SCI Pine Grove as a corrections officer, counselor, unit manager, classification and program manager.

In his spare time, he is an active volunteer in various community groups, including the Rotary Club, Make a Wish Foundation and the Association for Retarded Citizens.

**Jeffrey Keafer**, SCI Somerset, Corrections Officer 1

On the morning of Feb. 29, Corrections Officer Jeffrey Keafer was on his way to work at SCI Somerset when he spotted a Somerset Borough police officer in distress.

The policeman, Officer Christopher Pile, had pulled over a suspected stolen car. The driver of the vehicle resisted, pulling Officer Pile into the stolen vehicle and was assaulting him when Keafer stopped his vehicle, intervened and helped Pile restrain the suspect.

Later, Somerset Borough Police described Keafer as a “hero,” who most likely saved the officer’s life.

“With the help of this hero I was able to arrest the suspect,” Pile later said. “While the incident to most looks like it happened quickly, to me seemed like a nightmare that wouldn’t end. God sent me this man and gave him wings and strength of his angels.”

Keafer joined the Department of Corrections in December 1994. He previously served eight years in the U.S. Army and was employed as a conservation aide for the Department of Environmental Protection.

A graduate of Conemaugh Township High School, Keafer volunteers with Hosanna Ministries in his spare time, helping to build homes for the less fortunate.



Center Monitors **Christopher Schmidt, Sonya Wentzel, Nathan Bauman, Michael Schrack** and Counselor **Amanda Aungst**, Wernersville Community Corrections Center

Five employees of the Wernersville Community Corrections Center are recognized for their efforts in saving the lives of two residents and continuing to work to help them in their recovery.

The five staffers are: Christopher Schmidt, Sonya Wentzel, Nathan Bauman, Michael Schrack, all community corrections monitors, and Amanda Aungst, a corrections counselor.

Last Christmas Eve, these five employees acted as a team when they found two residents unresponsive at the center.

Thinking quickly, the staffers cleared the area, administered Naloxone to the unresponsive residents and began cardiopulmonary resuscitation, along with using the AED life saving device. They also managed to communicate with state police and emergency personnel.

Aungst, who had been providing services to both residents, continued her efforts to find alternative treatment for them. She also included the residents' families in her efforts to find all opportunities to help their loved ones.



Amanda Aungst



Nathan Bauman



Michael Schrack



Christopher Schmidt



Sonya Wentzel

# Mentor of the Year

**Emilia Rodriguez Moore**, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Albion



Emilia Rodriguez Moore has been helping other people all her life, so mentoring others at work is something that comes naturally to her.

Born in Puerto Rico, the third of six children, she and her family moved to Massachusetts when she was five years old. Five years later, the family moved to Erie, where she still lives today.

In 2002, she married Marc Moore, another Department of Corrections employee, and together they have a combined family of seven children. Members of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Moore volunteers at the church to raise money for Catholic education.

She is a graduate of East High School and the J.H. Thompson Academy where she earned her medical assistant diploma. For 16 years, Moore worked as a phlebotomist/medical assistant at Hamot Hospital.

In June 2009, Moore became a corrections officer at SCI Albion. She joined SCI Albion's Employee Association and Empowerment Committee, as well as the Fire Emergency Response Team. She participates on the safety committee and is a member of the honor guard. Frequently, Mrs. Moore has been called upon to translate for a Spanish-speaking inmate.

Moore has taken on the responsibility of the Mentoring Program at SCI Albion. Prison officials describe her as an integral part of helping new employees, especially female staffers, adjust to the facility.

# Thomas A. Fulcomer Award

**Edward Bohna**, Corrections School Principal, SCI Fayette

Edward Bohna epitomizes the spirit of the Thomas A. Fulcomer Award.

A natural teacher and dedicated leader, Bohna consistently maintains a positive attitude and remains motivated to make sure all tasks are completed with a high-degree of professionalism and level of excellence.

Bohna involves his staff in a team approach with a common-sense style of problem-solving. Both his staff and the offenders at SCI Fayette recognized through his daily interactions and optimism that Bohna genuinely cares and frequently puts their needs before his own.

In addition to being a husband and father of two children – a daughter, who is a college junior studying to be a nurse, and a son, a high school senior who just earned his Eagle Scout award – Bohna is a volunteer fireman, soccer coach and scout master.

He served in the U.S. Army Reserves, earning the rank of captain. Bohna also speaks at schools in his community about life inside a correctional institution.

Recently, one of the players on the soccer team he coaches, and a friend of his son, committed suicide.

Bohna spent hours assisting his team, the child's family and the community, compassionately trying to help all of them in their attempt to heal and cope with this tragedy. He also shared his feelings at the Suicide Prevention Committee meeting at SCI Fayette, bringing a new perspective to those in attendance.

A graduate of Brownsville High School, Bohna earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from California University of Pennsylvania, as well as his teaching certification.

He worked as a public school teacher for three years, before joining the educational staff of the Fayette County Jail. From there, he joined the SCI Greene's staff in 1994, serving as an instructor for nine years. He transferred to SCI Fayette in 2003 as an instructor, and then was named school principal in 2005.



# Nominees

## Outstanding Performance Awards

### **Eastern Region**

Wanda Manson-Johnson, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Chester  
Alica Ross, Acting Corrections Health Care Administrator, SCI Chester  
Darrell Smith, Corrections Officer II, SCI Chester  
Cheryl Walker, Clerk Typist 2, SCI Chester  
Michael Shadle, Facility Maintenance Manager 1, SCI Coal Township  
Susan Dent, Prison Rape elimination Act (PREA) Administrative Officer, SCI Dallas  
Lynn George, Clerk Typist 3, SCI Dallas  
Tiffanie Kaye, Corrections Counselor 2, SCI Dallas  
Brad Scott, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Dallas  
Roy George, Clerical Supervisor 2, SCI Graterford  
Alice Cole, Vocational Teacher, SCI Mahanoy  
Louis Greco, Corrections Storekeeper Supervisor, SCI Mahanoy  
Imam Adel - Hamid Hnesh, Muslim Chaplain, SCI Mahanoy  
Jeanne MacKnight, Corrections Classification and Program Manager, SCI Mahanoy  
Tony Phan, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Retreat  
Gary Teasdale, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Retreat  
Joseph Grillo, Unit Manager, SCI Waymart

### **Central Region**

Paula Beck, Food Service Instructor, SCI Benner  
Gracanne Dreibelbis-Drapcho, Psychological Services Specialist, SCI Benner Township  
Laura Hughes, PREA Administrative Officer, SCI Benner Township  
Bernard Karabinos, Corrections Officer 3, SCI Benner Township  
Rob Kyle, Information Technology Generalist 1, SCI Benner Township  
Shawn Wiggins, Corrections Activities Manager, SCI Benner Township  
Lenore Astore, RHIT Director, Medical Records, SCI Camp Hill  
Phillip Baker, Corrections Counselor 2, SCI Camp Hill  
Mark Becker, Corrections Officer 3, SCI Camp Hill  
Jennifer Bott, Human Resources Analyst 1, SCI Camp Hill  
James Brumbaugh, ABET/VAE/ICC, SCI Camp Hill  
Michael Enck, Food Service Manager 1, SCI Camp Hill  
Joe Francis, Corrections Officer 3, SCI Camp Hill  
Carol Halterman, Labor Foreman, Tailor Shop, SCI Camp Hill  
Beth Herb, Corrections Health Care Administrator, SCI Camp Hill  
Carolann Molovich, Clerical Supervisor 2, SCI Camp Hill  
Michael Triest, Food Service Instructor, SCI Camp Hill  
Heidi Troutman, Psychological Services Specialist, SCI Camp Hill  
Doreen Dick, Budget Analyst 2, SCI Houtzdale  
Jeremy Jones, Corrections Officer 3, SCI Houtzdale  
Timothy Little, Unit Manager, SCI Houtzdale  
Lindsay McCaulley, Psychological Services Specialist, SCI Houtzdale  
Susan McQuillen, CEVC, SCI Houtzdale  
Wanda Neidrick, Clerk Typist 2, SCI Houtzdale  
Craig Petulla, Unit Manager, SCI Houtzdale  
Karen Twigg, Human Resource Analyst 2, SCI Houtzdale  
Brian Harris, Security Captain, SCI Huntingdon  
Crystal Loy, Corrections Counselor, SCI Huntingdon  
Diane Bryan, Corrections Employment Vocational Coordinator, SCI Muncy

Cathy Pickett, Corrections Guidance Counselor, SCI Muncy  
Rachel Shoeman, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Muncy  
Stephen Tolomay, Unit Manager, SCI Muncy  
Lindsay Willard, Psychological Services Specialist, SCI Muncy  
Michael Crownover, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Pine Grove  
Tammy Delosh, Corrections Counselor 2, SCI Pine Grove  
John Evanichko, Food Service Supervisor, SCI Pine Grove  
Terry Seger, Facility Maintenance Manager 2, SCI Pine Grove  
William Walsh, Correction2 Officer 2, SCI Pine Grove  
Brooke Moore, Clerk Typist 3, Quehanna Boot Camp  
William Gladfelter, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Smithfield

### **Western Region**

Mary Beth Anderson, Psychological Services Specialist, SCI Albion  
Carla Giddings, Medical Records Assistant, SCI Albion  
Kevin Lantz, Unit Manager, SCI Albion  
Thomas Mook, Facility Maintenance Manager 1, SCI Cambridge Springs  
Gerald Roth, Corrections Officer 3, SCI Albion  
Kimberly Duda, Commissary Clerk, SCI Cambridge Springs  
Greg Stephenson, Optical Assistant Vocational Instructor, SCI Cambridge Springs  
Steve Benko, Drug and Alcohol Treatment Specialist Supervisor, SCI Fayette  
Darren Casper, Acting Food Service Manager 2, SCI Fayette  
Jeffrey Firestone, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Fayette  
Frank Salvay, Corrections Officer 4, SCI Fayette  
Stephen Durco, Security/ Intelligence Captain, SCI Greene  
Alan Morris, Corrections Officer 3, SCI Greene  
Victor Santoyo, Corrections Officer 3, SCI Greene  
Michael Smith, Activities Manager 2, SCI Greene  
Karen Sokol, Corrections Classification and Program Manager, SCI Greene  
Leslie Wynn, Budget Analyst 2, SCI Greene  
Jason Anderson, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Laurel Highlands  
Valerie Hale, Records Supervisor, SCI Laurel Highlands  
Jeff Pritts, IT Generalist 1, SCI Laurel Highlands  
Paul Aurandt, Unit Manager, SCI Pittsburgh  
Michael Melczak, Licensed Psychologist, SCI Pittsburgh  
Mark Brothers, Corrections Officer 3, SCI Somerset  
Yletta Clark, Drug and Alcohol Treatment Specialist, SCI Somerset  
Dawn Davis, Librarian, SCI Somerset  
Eric Huber, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Somerset  
Brian Hyde, Corrections Health Care Administrator, SCI Somerset

### **Central Office/Training Academy**

Steve Burk, Corrections Evaluation Supervisor, Central Office  
Norman Klinikowski, Facility Manager Consultant Supervisor, Central Office  
Anthony Mancuso, Architectural Designer 2, Central Office  
Robert Marsh, Psychology Director, Central Office  
Lisa Swartzell, Human Resource Analyst 4, Central Office

### **Bureau of Community Corrections**

Jerome Koerner, Corrections Counselor 2/SIP Coordinator  
Cathy Roetter, AO, Region 3 Office  
Danile Coulehan, Corrections Counselor 2

# Corrections Employee Week

For the 30th consecutive year,  
the first full week in  
May was named  
"Corrections Employee Week in Pennsylvania."



**PROCLAMATION**  
**CORRECTIONS EMPLOYEE WEEK**  
May 1-7, 2016

*WHEREAS*, Pennsylvania's correctional system is the oldest in the nation, existing from the establishment of Philadelphia's Walnut Street Jail in 1775 and the Eastern Penitentiary in 1819; and

*WHEREAS*, the "Pennsylvania System," as it became known, was the leading influence in the development of penology throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the forerunner of modern corrections; and

*WHEREAS*, the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections faces new and difficult challenges every day, with 25 state correctional institutions, one institutional boot camp, a training academy, 13 community corrections centers and 43 contract facilities, 43 county prisons and jails and 15 federal facilities and offices, one correctional facilities house approximately 100,000 inmates; and

*WHEREAS*, the secure operation and management of these facilities on a daily basis rests in the hands of more than 25,000 trained, skilled and dedicated corrections professionals. They are administrators, corrections officers, counselors, treatment specialists, educators, clerical support staff, business administrators and purchasing agents, personnel and labor relations specialists, clergy, medical professionals, food service specialists, computer technicians, planners and research analysts and skilled craftspeople upon whose skills, efficiency and professionalism the functions of the Pennsylvania correctional system depend; and

*WHEREAS*, all corrections employees are committed to a common goal: the secure, safe and humane operation of our Commonwealth's correctional facilities whose employees work to reduce future crime through the delivery of programs to change offenders' criminal behavior.

*THEREFORE*, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim May 1-7, 2016, as **CORRECTIONS EMPLOYEE WEEK**. I encourage all Pennsylvanians to recognize the vital role these dedicated professionals play in ensuring the effective operation of our correctional system in the interest of public safety.



*GIVEN* under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, on this fifth day of April in the Year of our Lord two thousand and sixteen, and of the Commonwealth the two hundred and forty-sixth.

*Tom Wolf*  
TOM WOLF  
Governor

### **Medal of Valor Nominees**

Karen Baur, Licensed Practical Nurse, SCI Albion  
Leban Davis, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Albion  
Donald Grinnell, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Albion  
Norman Haas, Corrections Officer 2, SCI Albion  
Kelly Kantola, Registered Nurse, SCI Albion  
Jason O'Hara, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Albion  
Robert Wyant, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Albion  
Matthew DeForce, Licensed Practical Nurse, SCI Albion  
Mark Banka, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Albion  
William Holzer, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Cambridge Springs  
John Oliver, Corrections Officer 3, SCI Cambridge Springs  
Marsha Phillips, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Cambridge Springs  
Sherman England, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Laurel Highlands  
Michelle Rice, CAN, SCI Laurel Highlands  
Adam Fraser, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Houtzdale

### **Mentor of the Year Nominees**

Sandy Boring, Licensed Practical Nurse, SCI Laurel Highlands  
Matthew Brubaker, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Pine Grove

### **Thomas A. Fulcomer Award Nominees**

Pernell Bowersox, Corrections Officer 1, SCI Pine Grove  
Charles Hooker, Activity Manager 2, SCI Camp Hill  
Dave Sayers, Acting Corrections Officer 4, SCI Albion  
William Walters, Major of Unit Management, SCI Huntingdon