



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Accomplishments

August 2002 – January 2012

Revised: January 25, 2012



	DESCRIPTION	YEAR
1.	Governor Phil Bryant reappointed Christopher B. Epps as Commissioner of the Mississippi Department of Corrections, January 9, 2012.	2012
2.	December 3, 2011, the Association of State Correctional Administrators (ASCA) presented Commissioner Epps with the Michael Francke Award at its annual awards dinner in Denver, Colorado. Honoring Commissioner Christopher Epps as the Nation's Outstanding Corrections Commissioner for 2011, the award is presented annually to recognize an outstanding ASCA member for their vision, achievements and contributions to the field of corrections. The Michael Francke Award is the highest honor bestowed by ASCA.	2011
3.	September 28, 2011, the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit reversed the lower court's ruling in Porter v. Epps. The jury in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi found MDOC Commissioner Chris Epps liable under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for violating Porter's constitutional rights by unlawfully incarcerating him for fifteen months beyond the expiration of his sentence and ordered a \$250,000 award to Porter. Commissioner Epps appealed the decision to the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals which found that Commissioner Epps is entitled to qualified immunity, and thus reversed the ruling of the District Court.	2011
4.	The Mississippi Department of Corrections has reduced the recidivism rate from 30.31% to 27.87% in the last four years. This reduction has created an estimated annual cost avoidance of \$7,145,262 to the Mississippi Department of Corrections.	2011
5.	During Fiscal Year 2011, education programs offered to inmates resulted in 3,770 inmates successfully completing the following programs: General Education Development (GED) – 682, Vocational Trades – 519, Alcohol & Drug – 2,569.	2011
6.	Offenders in the Community Work Centers contributed \$20,125,753 in free labor to local, county, state and non-profit charitable organizations throughout the state during Fiscal Year 2011. Offenders in the Joint County-State Work Programs also contributed \$13,466,440 in free labor to local, county, state and non-profit organizations during Fiscal Year 2011.	2011
7.	MS SAVIN, Mississippi's Statewide Automated Victim Information Notification Service, is a vital tool for information, providing added safety not only for individual victims, but the community as a whole. SAVIN is designed to provide registered victims/survivors real time information on state inmates and offenders housed in participating county jails. Registered users have access to timely information on offenders 24 hours a day by calling the 800# and by accessing the Vinelinks internet website. At the end of FY 2011, 80 counties are participating in SAVIN.	2011
8.	On August 2, 2011, <i>Presley vs. Epps</i> was dismissed with prejudice.	2011

	Background: June 27, 2005, the ACLU filed suit against MDOC on behalf of 1000 prisoners in MSP Unit 32 at Parchman, MS. The suit alleged violations of the Eighth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.	
9.	In April 2011, the American Correctional Association (ACA) recommended re-accreditation of MDOC Headquarters. The MDOC Central Office received a recommended score for accreditation of 100 on the mandatory standards and a recommended score of 100 on the non-mandatory standards, confirming that the agency's operations, administration and management met nationally accepted corrections standards. To be awarded accreditation, the Central Office had to comply with 100% of the mandatory standards and at least 90% of the non-mandatory standards identified by ACA. This is the second time MDOC Headquarters has taken on the challenge of the rigorous ACA accreditation process.	2011
10.	In April 2011, Commissioner Christopher B. Epps was presented Mississippi House Concurrent Resolution 143 commending him for his stellar and dedicated service to the Mississippi Department of Corrections, and for bearing the most notable distinction of being the longest serving commissioner in the agency's history, and upon his national acclaim and respect of his peers, as evidenced by his election as the 102 nd President of the American Correctional Association.	2011
11.	On March 10, 2011, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi permanently dismissed the Gates case with prejudice applicable to state owned, state-operated, and private company contractor facilities housing state inmates. The court order commented on the historical significance of <i>Gates vs. Collier</i> , which has been on the court docket since 1971, and acknowledged Mississippi's strides in the area of inmate treatment and the fact that Mississippi is one of only a few states to earn accreditation from the American Correctional Association for the entire agency	2011
12.	Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) Commissioner Christopher Epps was appointed to serve on the Emergency Response Interoperability Center Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) as a representative of the Mississippi Wireless Communications Commission and the MDOC. The Committee is charged with providing recommendations to the Federal Communication Commission's Emergency Response Interoperability Center (ERIC), an entity established within the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, in the development of a technical framework and requirements for interoperability in order to ensure that the public safety wireless broadband network is interoperable on a nationwide basis.	2011
13.	MDOC launched a six month pilot program to study the use of a house arrest tracking system that uses a combination of Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) and Advanced Forward Link Trilateration (AFLT) technology to track the location of house arrest offenders. The tracking system can be programmed to alert officers of violations of stay away/court orders, regardless of the location and the offender proximity to a judge, prosecutor, witness, etc. Under the GPS pilot program, virtually all movement will be able to be tracked – both at home and throughout the community.	2011
14.	The Division of Victim Services (DVS) began operation in November 2000. Its primary function is to register crime victims regarding notification prior to an inmate's release from incarceration. (Registration is two-fold: one	2011

	<p>to MDOC Records and one to Parole Board). In addition, the office provides enhanced services including offender status, crisis intervention, information regarding the Crime Victim Compensation Program and Crime Victims' Rights, liaison with law enforcement agencies, field officers, restitution matters, protective orders, harassment by offenders, support and assistance during victim/offender dialogue, meetings with the Parole Board and preparation/escort services during executions.</p> <p>Number of victims registered for services to date with MDOC DVS: 5,188</p>	
15.	<p>Since MDOC implemented a plan in 2009 for reimbursement of medical providers at the Medicaid rate, the MDOC savings on Medicaid eligible inmates is \$6,579,740 through September 2010.</p>	2010
16.	<p>The Mississippi Blues Commission erected the state's 113th MS Blues Trail marker at the Mississippi State Penitentiary on September 28th in commemoration of the blues songs inspired by Parchman.</p>	2010
17.	<p>MDOC, in cooperation with technology solutions partners, Global Tel*Link (GTL) and Tecore Networks, has entered into an arrangement to obstruct illegal cell phone usage by inmates at the Mississippi State Penitentiary. The Tecore Intelligent Network Access Controller (iNAC) Managed Access System is a revolutionary technology that forms a radio frequency umbrella that intercepts cell phone transmissions in a defined area, permits authorized and 911 calls, and prevents unauthorized inmate communications.</p> <p>GTL is providing the iNAC Managed Access System for MDOC at no cost through its contract obligations with the agency for inmate telephone service. MSP is the first commercial deployment of its type in the United States and marks a definitive turning point in the ongoing struggle to prevent illicit use of cell phones in American correctional facilities. Operation of the new technology will be forthcoming at the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in Rankin County and the South Mississippi Correctional Institution in Leakesville.</p>	2010
18.	<p>Commissioner Christopher B. Epps has been elected President of the prestigious American Correctional Association. Commissioner Epps will be the 102nd president of the 140 year-old organization comprised of more than 20,000 correctional administrators and professionals from 60 countries.</p>	2010
19.	<p>In its seventh year, the Christian Ministry program at the Mississippi State Penitentiary has graduated 35 men with bachelor degrees in Christian Ministry. With support from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, this program currently has 78 inmates enrolled in the curriculum. This program gives inmates an opportunity to improve their lives as spiritual leaders and provides the tools needed to successfully re-enter society. It not only benefits the incarcerated graduates, it also benefits the prison population with spiritual ministry.</p>	2010
20.	<p>Commissioner Christopher Epps is currently serving as President for the Southern States Correctional Association.</p>	2010
21.	<p>Offenders in the Community Work Centers contributed \$21,967,612.05 in free labor to local, county, state and non-profit charitable organizations throughout the state during FY 2010.</p>	2010

	Offenders in the Joint County-State Work Programs also contributed \$16,826,300 in free labor to local, county, state and non-profit charitable organizations during FY 2010.	
22.	Educational programs offered to inmates resulted in 4,108 inmates successfully completing General Education Development (476), Vocational Trades (426), and Alcohol & Drug programs (3,206)	2010
23.	On June 8, 2010, the 4 th Annual Commissioner's Golf Classic was held at Patrick Farms Golf Course in Pearl, Mississippi, raising more than \$18,000 for the MDOC Employee Relief Fund.	2010
24.	The Mississippi Department of Corrections has reduced the recidivism rate from 34% to 30% in the last four years.	2009
25.	In December, Mississippi Department of Corrections opened the first ever compassionate care unit at a Mississippi prison. The Christopher B. Epps Compassionate and Palliative Care Unit is in a wing of the prison hospital at Mississippi State Penitentiary in Parchman, and features six palliative beds for inmates who require end-of-life care. The unit will be staffed with 24-hour skilled nursing care and an interdisciplinary team of nurses, chaplains and inmate volunteers.	2009
26.	The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF) selected Commissioner Christopher B. Epps to serve on the foundation's national Board of Directors. CPOF is a national non-profit charitable organization created in 1984. Its primary function is preserve and support surviving families of correctional officers who have lost their lives or suffered catastrophic injury in pursuit of their chosen profession of protecting the public from those remanded to correctional custody and supervision in the nation's prisons and jails.	2009
27.	Mississippi Department of Corrections hosted the 13 th National Workshop on Adult and Juvenile Female Offenders October 10-14, 2009 at the Marriott Hotel in Jackson, Mississippi. The national workshop brought together leaders in the field of adult corrections, social work, law enforcement, juvenile corrections, mental health and education for a comprehensive overview of this rapidly expanding area of corrections.	2009
28.	The Mississippi Department of Corrections successfully secured a two-year \$500,000 federal grant to enhance the agency's current Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN) program by adding multiple enhancements to the existing program. The enhancements currently being worked on will provide even more safety measures and ease of use for the crime victims of Mississippi. These enhancements are anticipated to be in use by late spring of 2011.	2009
29.	Educational programs offered to inmates resulted in 4,156 inmates successfully completing the following programs: General Education Development (GED) – 513, Vocational Trades - 499 and Alcohol & Drug programs – 3,144.	2009
30.	In Fiscal Year 2009, offenders in the Community Work Centers provided 3,177,660 inmate hours valued at minimum wage to equal \$20,634,495 in free labor to city, county, state government and non-profit agencies throughout the state.	2009

31.	On June 23, 2009, the 3 rd Annual Commissioner's Golf Classic was held at Patrick Farms Golf Course in Pearl and raised \$20,455 for the MDOC Employee Relief Fund.	2009
32.	With the collaboration of the Mississippi Department of Corrections MIS Department and Wexford Health Services, the Centricity Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system went live on June 9, 2009, and has been implemented in the three state prisons, 11 county/regional correctional facilities and 17 community work centers. Planning for implementation in the five private prisons is underway and upon completion, will provide the availability of electronic medical records to all facilities. GE is the electronic medical provider. Centricity is a comprehensive electronic medical record that automates patient records and provides clinicians fast access to the complete patient record using the computer. The Centricity EMR has been customized for use by MDOC and interfaces with MDOC's offender management system.	2009
33.	The Mississippi State Penitentiary is home to a new program for offenders and animals, the Parchman Animal Care and Training Program (PACT), operated under the Agricultural Enterprises Department at MSP. The program acquires horses that are deemed untrainable or have been abandoned, trains them and then returns them to the world as working horses. Many of the horses are rescue animals, having been surrendered to animal rescue organizations when owners could not afford them or the horses were not serving the purpose for which they were purchased. On June 3, 2009, the Mississippi Department of Corrections was awarded a \$50,000 grant over 5 years from the Bureau of Land Management to obtain and train wild mustangs from federal lands.	2009
34.	On May 20, 2009, the state's first class of inmates to earn Christian Ministry Bachelor degrees participated in a conventional graduation ceremony at the Mississippi State Penitentiary. Twenty-eight inmates received their Bachelor of Arts degree from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. The program is funded by the Mississippi Baptist Convention who has provided over \$250,000 since the program's inception in 2004. Additional funding of \$185,000 comes from money generated by the Inmate Welfare Fund.	2009
35.	In May 2009, Commissioner Christopher B. Epps was presented Mississippi House Concurrent Resolution 114 commending him for his dedicated and outstanding service to the Department of Corrections and upon being the longest serving Commissioner in the history of the department.	2009
36.	More than 27 years since beginning his career as a correctional officer with the Mississippi Department of Corrections, Commissioner Christopher B. Epps has become the longest serving Commissioner in the agency's history.	2009
37.	In March 2009, a new transition facility was opened in Walnut Grove. The goal of the Walnut Grove Transition Center is to provide opportunities to reduce recidivism by offering job training and placement as well as housing for qualified inmates.	2009
38.	Over the past year, the Mississippi Department of Corrections has successfully increased inmate graduations by 16% in Adult Basic Education, Vocational Trades and Alcohol and Drug programs. There were	2008

	4,273 inmates awarded certificates for these three programs: General Education Development (GED) – 615 inmate graduates, Vocational Trades – 456 inmate graduates, Alcohol and Drug – 3,202 inmate graduates.	
39.	On August 11, 2008, at the 138 th Congress of Correction in New Orleans, Louisiana, the American Correctional Association presented its highest honor for commitment to excellence – the EAGLE AWARD – to the Mississippi Department of Corrections. This award is only presented to those states whose entire correctional systems have achieved compliance with hundreds of national standards in the various correctional areas. MDOC is only the 14 th state correctional system in the nation to claim this accomplishment.	2008
40.	In Fiscal Year 2008, offenders in the Community Work Centers provided 3,264,907 inmate hours valued at minimum wage to equal \$19,099,705.95 in free labor to city, county, state government and non-profit agencies throughout the state.	2008
41.	In June 2008, Commissioner Christopher B. Epps was elected Treasurer of the American Correctional Association.	2008
42.	On June 4, 2008, the 2 nd Annual Commissioner's Golf Classic was held at Patrick Farms Golf Course in Pearl and raised \$21,600 for the MDOC Employee Relief Fund.	2008
43.	In February 2008, the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) signed a Memorandum of Agreement to partner with the United States Army's Partnership for Youth Success (PaYS) Program. PaYS is a recruiting initiative to appeal to young people interested in obtaining a quality civilian job after serving in the Army. The Army partners with U.S. corporations and public sector agencies and gives recruits training and a guaranteed job interview with the employer they chose as part of their enrollment in the program. MDOC's partnership with the U.S. Army and support of its Soldiers will enable MDOC to gain employees who have developed professional work habits and who have been held to the highest standards.	2008
44.	The Mississippi Department of Corrections established the practice for offenders incarcerated for two (2) years or more to be provided the opportunity to participate in a Pre-Release Program.	2008
45.	In February 2008, Mississippi Prison Agricultural Enterprises signed a contract with Alcorn State University, North Delta Vegetable Growers' Association and Mississippi Association of Cooperatives. The collaboration will enable Mississippi Prison Agricultural Enterprises to send excess produce to the Marks Vegetable Processing Facility in Marks, Miss. The goal is to increase processing at the facility which will enhance the viability of the plant and encourage more farmers to produce larger quantities of vegetable crops. The facility enables producers to add value to the fresh produce they market through the facility which is open to any producer in the surrounding counties.	2008
46.	The Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) has successfully secured a two year \$1,370,204 federal grant to develop and implement a Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN) network, the result of legislation approved in 2006. SAVIN is an on-line information resource that enables crime victims to obtain offender	2007

	information via a toll-free number or by visiting the MDOC victim information website.	
47.	The Mississippi Department of Corrections joined with the Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS) to administer a self-improvement program aimed at incarcerated fathers. The Fatherhood Initiative was created to offer classes to some 65% of incarcerated fathers in the Mississippi State Penitentiary pre-release program. The initiative is an effort to help fathers improve their relationships with their children. The program became one of several programs offered to inmates aimed at preparing them to be productive citizens upon reentry into society. MDHS provides the training and materials to certify the MDOC staff as facilitators. The nine week program of the MDOC and MDHS partnership is a concerted focus in making a difference in the lives of Mississippi children.	2007
48.	The 1 st Annual Commissioner's Golf Classic was held at Patrick Farms Golf Course in Pearl and raised \$41,000 for MDOC Katrina victims on the coast.	2007
49.	As of July 11, 2007, \$200,294.74 from the MDOC Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund has been given to MDOC staff affected by the disaster to help them get back on their feet. The money raised by our agency is helping MDOC employees who are still in the process of rebuilding their lives following Katrina. MDOC will now begin new fundraising for the Employee Relief Fund for MDOC employees who have had certain tragedies impact their lives. To aid in the Katrina Relief throughout gulf region, inmate labor was utilized to assist in the removal of debris from roadways and government property and the repair of damaged buildings. Free inmate labor provided over \$16 million in cost avoidance for local governments related to Hurricane Katrina, a savings to Mississippi taxpayers.	2007
50.	In Fiscal Year 2007, offenders in the Community Work Centers provided 3,279,901 inmate hours valued at minimum wage to equal \$16,891,490.15 in free labor to city, county, state government and non-profit agencies throughout the state.	2007
51.	Ninety-five percent of offenders sentenced to MDOC eventually return to our communities when they have completed their prison terms. In the interest of public safety, MDOC is providing offenders the best tools to be successful law-abiding citizens in our communities upon their return. Over the course of 2007, MDOC has increased inmate graduations by 8% in ABE, Vocational Courses and Alcohol and Drug programs. There were 3,773 certificates awarded for these 3 programs: GED 614 inmate graduates, Vocational 524 inmate graduates, and Alcohol and Drug 2,635 inmate graduates. Helping inmates learn the skills needed to provide for themselves outside of our facilities will eventually benefit all taxpayers.	2007
52.	Yazoo County CWC inmates helped refurbish the Humphreys County Memorial Hospital in Belzoni. They cleaned, waxed, buffed, painted and moved furniture at the 28 bed hospital. The whole concept of the community work center program is to provide a gradual reintroduction of inmates back into society and this is an example of how the program is beneficial not only to the public, but the inmates too.	2007
53.	Mississippi State Penitentiary (MSP) held its first graduation ceremony for participants of the MSP Extension Center Faith Based Initiative Program.	2007

	Of the 35 inmate students who began the program in 2004, 17 received Associate of Christian Ministry degrees. MDOC first began the faith based program at MSP in September, 2004, as a collaborative effort with the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. The MDOC program is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to offer Associate and Bachelor of Christian Ministry degrees.	
54.	In FY 2006, offenders in the CWCs provided 3,078,014 inmate hours, valued at minimum wage to equal \$15,851,772.10, in free labor, to city, county, state government and non-profit agencies throughout the state.	2006
55.	MDOC provided state inmates to counties that have a Joint State County Work Program which allows the inmates to work in the community. During FY2006 these inmates provided \$10,196.52 in free labor.	2006
56.	During FY 2006, 246 full-time positions were eliminated based on legislative mandates. During FY 2005, 189 positions were eliminated based on legislative mandates (181 full-time and 8 part-time). During FY 2004, 208 positions were eliminated based on legislative mandates (204 full-time and 4 part-time). During FY 2003, 135 positions were eliminated based on legislative mandates (50 full-time and 85 part-time).	2006
57.	MDOC provided effective treatment programs for offenders throughout FY2006; 568 state inmates successfully completed GED and Adult Basic Education/Literacy programs, and 354 offenders successfully completed vocational training programs.	2006
58.	MDOC and Habitat for Humanity/Metro Jackson joined as partners in March and April 2006 to tackle a worthy challenge, building homes for 18 Katrina evacuee families who wish to stay in the Jackson area. Fifty (50) non-violent offenders assisted with the building of the new Habitat homes. Additionally, offenders are assisting with the recovery efforts on the Gulf Coast.	2006
59.	MDOC joined nationally touted Pegasus Research Foundation in an unprecedented collaboration with Mississippi law enforcement to integrate criminal information databases providing law enforcement officers with real time automated information about offenders under MDOC supervision or incarceration. Users will have access to records and photographs of more than 21,000 MDOC inmates as well as over 30,000 offenders who are serving under community supervision.	2006
60.	The Mississippi Department of Corrections, in partnership with the Mississippi Sheriffs' Association and the National Institute of Corrections, hosted the state's first <i>Objective Jail Classification Training Workshop</i> . Approximately fifty-three (53) Mississippi sheriffs, chiefs of police and jail administrators attended the three day workshop which included comprehensive training in identifying risk factors and special needs of offenders for classification purposes.	2006
61.	For the fifth consecutive year, the MDOC successfully reduced the average daily cost to house inmates in state operated facilities. Based on the PEER	2005

	report released on December 13, 2005, the average operating cost per day for inmates in state operated facilities for FY 2005 was \$36.42, representing a 14% decrease since FY 2000 and a 1% decrease since FY 2004.	
62.	MDOC teamed with the Department of Environmental Quality in March 2003, and implemented a Computer Repair Program called "Project Recycle." The class trained 18 female inmates for 16 to 18 weeks in repairing computer equipment. This was a valuable tool for our inmates and gave them the opportunity to obtain a learned skill they will be able to use once released back into society. The most recent donations were to Jackson State University in January 2005 and twenty-six county/state offices and educational programs for a distribution total of 684.	2005
63.	The Mississippi National Guard and Reserve made a Five Star Statement of Support presentation to the Mississippi Department of Corrections Commissioner Christopher Epps. MDOC was the first state agency in Mississippi to receive this honor. MDOC Commissioner Christopher Epps had previously signed a Statement of Support for the Guard and Reserve. MDOC has over 100 employees who are members of the military. The department had to complete a 5-step program to gain the recognition including expressing support to fellow employees as they are called to duty in defending our nation, reviewing and revising employer's policy and procedures to comply with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, training all managers and first line supervisors in the act and the employer's policy, and demonstrating that the organization is exceeding "above and beyond" what is required by the act.	2005
64.	The United States District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi terminated a previous injunction against the Mississippi Department of Corrections when it found that MDOC met the relief sought and remained in compliance with the standards set by the National Institutes of Health guidelines and the Prison Litigation Reform Act. This 1999 decree ordered the MDOC to give three drug therapies for HIV-positive inmates as set forth by the National Institutes of Health.	2005
65.	Mississippi Prison Industry Corporation (MPIC) and MDOC partnered to establish a Transition Placement Center Program to assist qualified offenders that do not have a prison release residence in Mississippi. The capacity is forty offenders who live at the Transition Placement Center for a maximum of six months; seven days a week - 24 hours a day. This program has the potential to provide services to 100 ex-offenders each year that would otherwise remain incarcerated. By annually diverting 100 offenders to the program, MDOC will realize an estimated cost avoidance of approximately 1.3 million dollars per year.	2005
66.	On May 18, 2005, the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) launched a new campaign geared at deterring young people from criminal activity. The campaign, "Be Smart, Choose Freedom" is a series of public service announcements that will air on television stations around the state. In the agency's efforts to help improve the quality of life for Mississippi families, MDOC presented the series to discourage those at risk from becoming criminal offenders.	2005
67.	The National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) awarded accreditation to the South Mississippi Correctional Institution in May 2005,	2005

	the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in August 2005, and the Mississippi State Penitentiary in October 2005, for compliance with NCCHC Standards for Health Services in Prisons.	
68.	In Fiscal Year 2005, offenders in the Community Work Centers contributed approximately \$16,037,388 in free labor.	2005
69.	A Behavior Management Program was developed in collaboration with security staff and medical personnel.	2005
70.	In an August 2005 Gates v. Barbour report to the court, MDOC was found to be in overall compliance with the November 23, 2004, Amendatory Court Order to revise housing capacities and provide additional showers, toilets and dayroom furnishings at MSP, CMCF, SMCI and the Delta CF. MDOC was commended for implementing the terms of the Order while at the same time using sound principles of correctional management to actually improve the efficiencies of the MDOC during the first eight months the order had been in full force and effect.	2005
71.	Commissioner Christopher Epps established a special donation project in the fall of 2005, the MDOC Hurricane Relief Fund, to raise money for MDOC employees who were victims of Hurricane Katrina. The initial goal was to raise \$100,000 which was met in December 2005. Thirty-eight (38) agency employees lost their homes and an additional twenty (20) employees lost their personal vehicles to Hurricane Katrina.	2005
72.	MDOC offenders assisted with the recovery efforts on the Gulf Coast. On December 8, 2005, forty-one (41) Community Corrections offenders from the George, Harrison and Jackson County Community Work Centers were assigned the task of cleaning the debris gathered on Interstate 10 from state line to state line. On December 29, 2005, the task was completed. A total of 13,770 miles was logged during the fourteen days; 4,000 man-hours compiled; and 15,000 bags of debris cleaned up along the coast saving the taxpayers of Mississippi more than \$24,000 in man power labor cost.	2005
73.	MDOC implemented the conversion of county jail billing using the Medicaid reimbursement rate pursuant to Senate Bill 3218.	2004
74.	MDOC partnered with Big Brothers/Big Sisters to create the Amachi Program. The goal of the program is to recruit and place children of offenders with volunteer mentors. On August 7, 2004, the total female population at CMCF was 1,441 of which 155 (11%) are participating in the Big Sisters Amachi Program. A total of 342 kids have been referred by the female offenders to receive Amachi Program services.	2004
75.	The Mississippi Department of Corrections' Community Corrections Division joined as an additional player with the Delta Region AIDS Education and Training Center to support the HIV Mississippi Rural Area Network in transitioning offenders released from correctional facilities to health care services.	2004
76.	In Fiscal Year 2004, offenders in Community Work Centers contributed approximately \$15,057,117 in free labor.	2004
77.	On September 30, 2004, MDOC announced cost savings of over \$14 million in the agency's effort to streamline day-to-day operations and aid	2004

	<p>in eliminating Mississippi's now \$800 million budget shortfall. Identified cost containment measures include reduction in staff, elimination of positions, and reorganization. Cost savings include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elimination of 185 positions during June, July, and August 2004 resulting in an annual savings of \$6.4 million; • Savings of \$374,630 associated with reorganization of upper level positions; • Savings of \$7,950,604 associated with resignations and other terminations of non-security staff at the Central Office, Central Mississippi Correctional Facility, Mississippi State Penitentiary and South Mississippi Correctional Institution for the period of July 2004 to September 2004; • Savings of \$1.5 million associated with correctional officer reductions due to closure of Units 10, 12, 22, and 24 at the Mississippi State Penitentiary; • Removal of 81 vehicles from MDOC's fleet; • Elimination of 41 cellular telephones and 186 pagers 	
78.	The MIS Department provided access to the Private and Regional facilities to the Imaging System via the Internet.	2003
79.	MDOC's Fugitive Apprehension Strike Team (FAST) was developed to enhance the effectiveness of inmate escape investigations, resulting in a more timely capture of escapee.	2003
80.	During May and June 2003, an Energy Study was conducted at MSP, SMCI, CMCF and specific CWCs. Implementation of energy retrofits and improvements brought about cost control through improved building operations, maintenance and energy efficient equipment.	2003
81.	In a Gates v. Collier hearing, the court ruled that any MDOC prison facility that obtains ACA accreditation may begin following national standards concerning square feet of living space. The court previously required 50 sq. ft. of living space per inmate; however, the national standards allow for a minimum of 35 sq. ft. of living space in general population areas. This will allow the MDOC to expand the capacity of all state facilities. (Order signed on February 13, 2003)	2003
82.	MDOC implemented the AT&T Inmate Phone System which provides MDOC with a statewide networked investigative and intelligence gathering tool.	2002
83.	MDOC implemented a new objective classification system to ensure offenders are properly classified.	2002
84.	Mississippi Prison Agriculture Enterprises (MPAE) completed construction of a new feed mill operation that is providing fresher feed to livestock at a lower cost while at the same time reducing the cost for corn grown by MPAE.	2002