

# 2024 Annual Awards



**Kentucky Department of  
Corrections**

# Adult Institution Achievement Awards



## 2024 Adult Institutions Achievement Award



### **Scott Helton - Bell County Forestry Camp Award presented by Interim Warden Josh Hart**

Correctional Sergeant Scott Helton has proven to be a true leader and team player in his time at Bell County Forestry Camp. Helton arrived at BCFC as a correctional officer in October 2021 after transferring from Green River Correctional Complex. He then promoted to sergeant in June 2023 after displaying his ability to perform his job duties at a high level. In his current position, Helton is the yard supervisor and oversees the receiving and discharge department at BCFC. He has succeeded in both roles while also helping other staff members without hesitation with whatever is needed. Helton has shown dedication to DOC by joining the BCFC crisis negotiation team. He is well respected by both staff members and inmates and is rarely seen standing still. His ability to multitask at a high level, process information quickly, and in coordinating officers

make him an invaluable asset to BCFC. For these reasons, Correctional Sergeant Scott Helton is a deserving recipient of the 2024 Bell County Forestry Camp Achievement Award.

### **Sharon Johnson - Blackburn Correctional Complex Award presented by Warden Abigail Caudill**

Sharon Johnson is an administrative specialist senior and has been with the department for 15 years. Johnson's dedication, work performance, and commitment to the department makes her worthy of this award. She is reliable and has consistently contributed to our team's success at BCC. She manages a wide range of administrative tasks, from scheduling, maintaining detailed notes, and streamlining the Warden's office operations. Her professionalism, positive attitude, and remarkable work ethic are truly commendable and have set a high standard for everyone. Sharon goes above and beyond her duties daily, by her willingness to help in any way, take care of any issue, and to take on and learn new responsibilities. She has been an active member of KCCD and been involved in Southern States Correctional Association. Sharon Johnson embodies the qualities we value in our employees and is a deserving recipient of the 2024 Blackburn Correctional Complex Achievement Award.



## 2024 Adult Institutions Achievement Award



### **Abigail Castle - Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex**

*Award presented by Warden Shawn McKenzie*

Correctional Officer Abigail Castle has done an excellent job of finding and stopping contraband from being brought into the institution through her work on the body scanner and x-ray machine. She also is a vital member of the EKCC Visitation team. She has been instrumental in eliminating the introduction of drugs, alcohol, and weapons during visitor's vehicle searches. Castle always maintains a pleasant and professional attitude while doing her job. She is always willing to do the tasks assigned to her as well as help other staff when the need arises. Castle exemplifies what a good correctional officer should be. For all these reasons, Abigail Castle is worthy of a 2024 Eastern

Kentucky Correctional Complex Achievement Award.

### **Phillip Smith – Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex**

*Award presented by Warden Shawn McKenzie*

Corrections Unit Administrator Phillip Smith can be described as exemplary, which means representing the best of its kind. He always performs his job duties with the highest level of professionalism, attitude of service, and outstanding knowledge of DOC policies and procedures. Every day he can always be seen working diligently on making sure all work is completed within his unit. He completes all aspects of his job duties, goes above and beyond of what is expected, and is willing to take on any challenge without hesitation. He is a natural leader and is always willing to help with any situation or any problem that may be present. Smith makes those that work around him better. He may work in programs, but he always ensures safety and security are the number one priority. All around he is an outstanding supervisor and is deserving of the Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex Achievement Award.



## 2024 Adult Institutions Achievement Award



### **Kristin Jones – Green River Correctional Complex *Award presented by Warden Tim Lane***

Correctional Sergeant Jones is a team leader for the GRCC CERT team and serves as the assistant to internal affairs. Jones daily demonstrates leadership and drive and is an asset to the institution in her ability to monitor inmate communications and intervene in the illegal correspondence and actions of inmates. In her short time in internal affairs, she has played an instrumental role in monitoring inmates and visitors during visitation, that has ultimately led to the finding of dangerous contraband being passed from a visitor to an inmate on three separate occasions. These findings were made possible only by her dedication to the safety and security of GRCC. Jones is a dedicated, detail-oriented staff

member, and is a team player. Kristin Jones is an asset to the department and exemplifies the level of dedication and professionalism expected from a DOC employee, making her a deserving recipient of this award.

### **Sherry Piper – Green River Correctional Complex *Award presented by Warden Tim Lane***

Corrections Regional Education Administrator Sherry Piper is has overseen the implementation of many educational programs and innovations that have proven beneficial to the inmate population. Recently, GRCC has experienced high security staff shortages. Sherry and her staff have provided security monitoring in the academic school in addition to their other duties to ensure a safe environment for staff to work and inmates to learn. Recently she worked with the Education Department to implement a pilot program for KET's Fast Forward, a GED preparation course; and establishing college courses in cooperation with Madisonville Community College to provide associate's degrees in arts and sciences. In 2023 when multiple positions were vacant, Sherry could be found teaching classes in support of her remaining Instructor. She works tirelessly to ensure the Academic school is meeting the needs of the inmate population. It is for her 26 years of service and dedication to GRCC and the Kentucky DOC that Sherry Piper is a deserving recipient of this award.



## 2024 Adult Institutions Achievement Award



### **Marc Blandford – Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women**

*Award presented by Warden Vanessa Kennedy*

Correctional Captain Marc Blandford started his career at KCIW in August 2015 as a correctional sergeant coming from LLCC. Blandford has promoted through the ranks, while working all shifts, variations of off days as well as working all posts within the facility to include his current role in the Internal Affairs department. Blandford’s strategic approach and innovative solutions have significantly assisted in improving the operations of the facility. His leadership is characterized by reliability and integrity, including compassion and excellent communication. He consistently demonstrates a commitment to improving staff morale and the functions of the facility. Captain Blandford has an

unwavering commitment to excellence, setting a benchmark for others in the field, and we look forward to his continued contributions to advancing correctional practices. Captain Blandford truly is an asset to KCIW and deserving of the 2024 Achievement Award.

### **Jeff Jolley–Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women**

*Award presented by Warden Vanessa Kennedy*

Facility Maintenance Supervisor I Jeff Jolley is a twelve-year employee with the facility and has a wealth of knowledge as it pertains to its maintenance needs. He oversees various day-to-day maintenance requests as well as projects throughout the prison that involve outside contractors. His professional behavior has set the example for what is expected when outside contractors come into the facility to work. For six months he managed and operated the 86-year-old prison as the only maintenance department employee. This included coming in after hours and staying late to ensure the facility functioned properly. In addition to all that is required of him, he maintains a positive attitude and sets a high standard for professionalism. Jolley is a true team player and a dedicated to the Department of Corrections.

For these reasons that Jeff Jolley is deserving of Employee of the Year.



## 2024 Adult Institutions Achievement Award



### **Jeremy Scott – Kentucky State Penitentiary Award presented by Warden Laura Plappert**

Mechanical Maintenance Supervisor Jeremy Scott started with corrections in 2001 as a correctional officer at Western Kentucky Correctional Complex. In 2004 Scott transferred to Kentucky State Penitentiary as a correctional officer. During this time, Scott promoted to correctional sergeant and joined the Correctional Emergency Response Team and received letters of commendation for responses to a fire and a serious staff assault. In 2011, Scott promoted to Kentucky Correctional Industries as a production coordinator supervisor. In 2022 Scott transferred to the Maintenance Department as carpentry supervisor. In 2023, Jeremy promoted to mechanical maintenance supervisor. He has also served as acting branch manager since 2023 as the

current branch manager was on leave due to health issues. He has managed major maintenance projects as well as preventative maintenance, repair, and accomplishing numerous special projects at the 134-year-old penitentiary. Jeremy Scott's excellent service makes him a deserving recipient of a 2024 Achievement Award.

### **Shane Spurlock – Kentucky State Penitentiary Award presented by Warden Laura Plappert**

Correctional Lieutenant Shane Spurlock began his career at the Kentucky State Penitentiary in 2006. He received a letter of commendation in 2010 for his positive actions during a serious institutional disturbance. He is a member of the Corrections Emergency Response Team and served as squad leader from 2012-2014. He left corrections in 2014 but came back and hit the ground running upon his return. He quickly moved back up the ranks to correctional lieutenant due to his dependability and dedication. He is excellent at handling issues on the yard with inmates and staff. He is a mentor to new employees and is respected by everyone he works with. He is patient in teaching young staff and is always willing to help. He is a leader and is looked up to by everyone who works with him. It is for these reasons that Shane Spurlock is worthy of a 2024 Kentucky State Penitentiary Achievement Award.



## 2024 Adult Institutions Achievement Award



**Jacob Fulton – Kentucky State Reformatory**  
*Award presented by Warden Anna Valentine*

Corrections Recreation Leader Jacob Fulton began his correctional career at the Kentucky State Reformatory (KSR) as a correctional officer in 2012. In 2019, he promoted to correctional sergeant and then to corrections recreation leader in 2021. Mr. Fulton has facilitated inmate recreation both in the Corrections Psychiatric Treatment Unit and in general population. He takes great pride in his work and enjoys coordinating outside teams and groups coming in to be a part of KSR's overall recreation program. Fulton joined KSR's Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) in 2018 and has risen through its ranks to now be the team's Commander. Further, he is a strong advocate of strengthening the bonds between CNT and the Correctional Emergency Response Team. In addition, Fulton often volunteers for security overtime. For

these many contributions, Jacob Fulton is more than deserving of a 2024 Achievement Award.

**Travis St. Clair – Kentucky State Reformatory**  
*Award presented by Warden Anna Valentine*

Correctional Major Travis St. Clair is available at all hours for his staff and to fulfill the needs of the institution. He always juggles multiple job duties at once, including scheduling overtime, booking hotel rooms, managing restitution for all disciplinaries, urinalysis tracking, roster management and assisting with daily security tasks. Several times a week he is used to provide transportation for inmates returning from the hospital. St. Clair routinely provides counsel to new staff and participates in the Leadership Panels at CRTC. St. Clair encourages employees to reach further and grow with their goals and career. There is never a hesitation from him when assistance is requested. For all the above reasons, Correctional Major Travis St. Clair is fully worthy of the 2024 Achievement Award.





## 2024 Adult Institutions Achievement Award



**Patty Stacy – Lee Adjustment Center**  
*Award presented by Warden Daniel Akers*

Business Manager Patty Stacy began her career in Corrections in October 2007 and over the past 17 years has become one of the best in DOC in this role. Stacy ensures every department head is aware of their annual budget and provides monthly updates to ensure the facility is in line with fiscal goals. She exhibits excellent teamwork by assisting staff with IT issues, ordering processes, community relations and any other way she can. Her leadership abilities continue to grow, and she ensures the facility has what's need each day while-at the same time-exceeding financial goals year over year. For these reasons and more, Patty Stacy is worthy of the 2024 Annual Achievement Award.

**Ashley Wells – Lee Adjustment Center**  
*Award presented by Warden Daniel Akers*

Classification Treatment Officer Ashley Wells began her career in 2020, and since that time has worked tirelessly to develop her skills to better assist not only the inmates on her caseload, but also to be a role model, mentor, and trainer. Through the years, she has taken advantage of opportunities to increase her job knowledge, allowing her to step into other people's roles seamlessly and effectively in their absence. Her leadership abilities continue to grow, and she is well respected by her peers and coworkers alike. For these reasons and more, Ashley is deserving of his honor.



## 2024 Adult Institutions Achievement Award



**Jennifer Wright – Little Sandy Correctional Complex**  
*Award presented by Warden Ivan Krow*

Training Instructor I Jennifer Wright is an asset to Little Sandy Correctional Complex and is someone you can depend on. Wright not only does an outstanding job ensuring all LSCC staff receive their annual training in a timely manner, but also volunteers to assist other departments in time of need. She is always efficient and timely with her work, completing assignments before deadlines. Currently, she is not only serving as an institutional training instructor but is also helping to cover a human resources vacancy, performing well at that role as well. Wright also works to keep contraband out of LSCC as the whole-body imaging administrator and operator trainer. For these many reasons, she is worthy of the 2024 Little Sandy Achievement Award.

**Alvin Gillum – Little Sandy Correctional Complex**  
*Award presented by Warden Ivan Krow*

Training Instructor I Alvin Gillum has been employed with Corrections for twenty years and over his career has been an asset to Little Sandy Correctional Complex. Gillum not only does an outstanding job to ensure all LSCC staff receive their annual training in a timely manner. He is also assigned as LSCC's armorer and does a superb job ensuring the institution follows firearms regulations. Gillum is always someone you can count on to lend a helping hand when needed and always completes task before deadlines arrive. Gillum also served as a CERT member, commander, and regional commander for over fifteen years. Training Instructor Alvin Gillum is deserving of the 2024 Achievement Award.



## 2024 Adult Institutions Achievement Award



### **Sherri Grissinger – Luther Luckett Correctional Complex**

*Award presented by Warden Amy Robey*

Procedures Development Specialist II Sherri Grissinger serves as the accreditation manager at LLCC, where she oversees the completion of the accreditation process. She assists leadership in guiding the organization through the accreditation process, ensuring compliance with corrections standards. Sherri also serves as the litigation coordinator, where she assists legal with litigation matters. She also serves as ADA coordinator, where she implements initiatives that improves accessibility and accommodation for individuals with disabilities. She provides resolution of ADA-related complaints or issues, demonstrating a commitment to inclusivity and

accessibility. Sherri also serves as the Records Retention Manager, where she oversees the organizational efficiency and compliance of LLCC records. Sherri's ability to handle multiple roles and responsibilities is nothing short of impressive. For these reasons, Sherri Grissinger is deserving of a 2024 Achievement Award.

### **Oliver Carnes – Luther Luckett Correctional Complex**

*Award presented by Warden Amy Robey*

Correctional Lieutenant Oliver Carnes began his career at Luther Luckett Correctional Complex (LLCC) as a correctional officer in 2018. In 2020 he promoted to correctional sergeant and assigned to Special Management Unit (SMU). As a Sergeant he attended PREA investigator training, assigned supervisor duties normally performed by lieutenants, leading to Sergeant Carnes becoming a Field Training Officer (FTO). In May of 2022 he was promoted to correctional lieutenant and assigned as the transportation, admission, and discharge (TAD) supervisor. Carnes always demonstrates a positive attitude and has become a shining star to leadership, subordinates, and peers to emulate. Carnes meticulously inventories and distributes countless inmate property packages monthly, while at the same time process transfers into and out of the institution. Recently, he became co-commander of the LLCC crisis negotiation team. For all these reasons, Carnes is a worthy recipient of the 2024 Achievement Award.



## 2024 Adult Institutions Achievement Award



### **Phillip Andrews – Northpoint Training Center** *Award presented by Deputy Warden Daniel Napier*

Phillip Andrews started his career at Northpoint Training Center as a Correctional Officer in February of 2015. During his time at NTC, he has held several positions, starting out as a yard relief officer. He then worked various posts until moving to the visitation room in October 2015, where he was awarded an Outstanding Performance Award in 2016. After this, he became the tool room officer in 2017, and moved to maintenance in 2018. He then took the electronic technician position in 2022, which led to his promotion to maintenance operations supervisor in August 2023. Andrews is always willing to assist any staff member that asks, displays initiative, and requires little to no supervision.

It is for all these reasons that Phillip Andrews is deserving of a 2024 Achievement Award.

### **Erin Thurman – Northpoint Training Center** *Award presented by Deputy Warden Daniel Napier*

Correctional Sergeant Erin Thurman has consistently demonstrated exceptional job performance, an innovative approach to their responsibilities, a strong commitment to personal growth, effective leadership skills, and unwavering integrity. Erin Thurman has consistently exceeded expectations in their role, contributing significantly to the safety, security, and rehabilitation goals of our department. As a leader, Erin Thurman inspires their colleagues through their exemplary work ethic and collaborative approach. She fosters a positive work environment where teamwork and mutual respect are valued. Her ability to make sound decisions under pressure and maintain a high standard of ethical conduct has earned them the respect and admiration of their peers and supervisors alike. Erin Thurman exemplifies the qualities of an outstanding DOC employee: dedication, innovation, continuous learning, leadership, and integrity. These qualities make Erin Thurman worthy of a 2024 Achievement Award.



## 2024 Adult Institutions Achievement Award



### **Goldie Wiser – Roederer Correctional Complex Award presented by Warden Ravonne Sims**

Correctional Sergeant Goldie Wiser is a dedicated employee serving Roederer Correctional Complex. During her tenure she has served in the positions of administrative specialist, purchasing officer, classification and treatment officer and correctional officer. Wiser is an excellent leader, committed to serving the institution, its staff, and its inmates. Her diverse employment background gives her a wide variety of knowledge and skills to her work. Wiser accepts assignments without complaint and performs her tasks with extraordinary professionalism. She is a dedicated employee whose work is in keeping of the highest standards of the DOC and of Roederer Correctional Complex. For all these reasons she is deserving of the 2024

Achievement Award.

### **Patti Ray – Roederer Correctional Complex Award presented by Warden Ravonne Sims**

Patti Ray began her career in corrections in August 2009 as a correctional officer at the Kentucky Correctional Institute for Women. She promoted to the Kentucky State Reformatory in 2012 as the Administrative Secretary for the Deputy Warden for Security, and in 2013, and in 2014 she promoted to Roederer Correctional Complex to manage the Warden's Office. Her daily duties are never the same, yet she demonstrates a flexible demeanor to field calls from the public, stakeholders, she directs staff, makes notifications, gathers data, maintains files, and keeps the office running smoothly. Patti can create calm during times of chaos; a much-needed quality when working in the warden's office. She has mastered the art of keeping the warden's schedule organized and keeps the warden on task without being intrusive. For all these reasons, Patti is deserving of the 2024 Achievement Award.



## 2024 Adult Institutions Achievement Award



### **Tracy Henegar – Southeast State Correctional Complex**

*Award presented by Interim Warden David Bradley*

Unit Administrator I Tracy Henegar, goes above and beyond in all capacities. She does an excellent job in the housing units. She is currently assigned to legal services, grievances, and is ADA coordinator at Southeast State. Henegar is always the first to jump in and help in any area and is the true definition of a team player. She comes to work every day with a positive attitude and a smile on her face and works hard to ensure that inmate needs are met. She does a really good job at resolving issues within the inmate population that may otherwise escalate into larger issues. She is the true definition of what a unit administrator should be and is worthy of a 2024 Southeast State Correctional Complex

Achievement Award.

### **Austin Willoughby – Southeast State Correctional Complex**

*Award presented by Interim Warden David Bradley*

Correctional Sergeant Austin Willoughby always goes above and beyond in his daily job duties Southeast State. Willoughby is often assigned to the central control area and does an outstanding job in ensuring the officers assigned to that area cover every security aspect of that post. He is very meticulous in his work. He ensures that all logs and inventories are properly maintained. He has no issue in questioning anyone or anything that he feels may pose a threat to the institution. He is very detail-oriented and is almost always the first to notice and correct discrepancies. Willoughby is always our go-to during audit preparations for the central control area. For all these reasons, Austin Willoughby is a deserving recipient of a 2024 Achievement Award.



## 2024 Adult Institutions Achievement Award



### **Michael Nottom – Western Kentucky Correctional Complex**

*Award presented by Warden Bobbi Jo Butts*

Correctional Sergeant Michael Nottom is the assigned tool control officer at Western Kentucky Correctional Complex. Nottom wears many hats inside the institution and his efforts, even when unseen, make the overall operations at WKCC safer and more organized. Nottom does an excellent job organizing, cataloging, shadow boarding, and inventorying the extensive list of tools used at WKCC. His tireless work at his duties ensured that WKCC passed its most recent ACA audit with a near-perfect score. On top of his assigned duties, Sergeant Nottom maintains, repairs, and issues all the radios at WKCC. He never complains when he is asked to help his fellow staff with shift-related needs and takes on special

security projects from his supervisors with no complaints. Nottom's work make the staff and institution better and more secure every day. It is for these reasons that he is deserving of a 2024 Achievement Award.

### **Mikel Paynter – Western Kentucky Correctional Complex**

*Award presented by Warden Bobbi Jo Butts*

Safety Coordinator Mikel Paynter successfully performs his job duties to include internal safety inspections, safety investigations, and scheduling/coordinating inspections with outside agencies. Paynter is assistant commander of the CERT and a firearm instructor. He is a team player that does not hesitate to assist other departments, as was demonstrated last year when he stepped up and acted as a training adjunct. He assisted WKCC's single institutional training coordinator in providing the 2023 annual training and 2023 firearms to staff in a timely manner. He did this by working on security off shifts to provide the training, so the security staff did not have to change schedules. Because of these extensive efforts, Mikel Paynter is deserving of the 2024 achievement award.



# Probation and Parole Achievement Awards





## 2024 Probation and Parole Achievement Award



### **Jeffrey Blewett – District 1 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Steve Balentine**

Probation and Parole Officer Jeffrey Blewett began his career with probation and parole in 2016. He currently supervises the low caseload covering six counties within District 1. Blewett is an integral part of our District 1 team as well as probation and parole. Blewett also serves as the lead firearms instructor for District 1 and is a member of the Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT). As a member of this team, he assists in training at the Probation and Parole Basic Academy as well as the CNT Basic Academy. He is a professional and is well-respected by his peers and supervisors. Blewett is always willing to assist his fellow officers and to volunteer for tasks when needed and exemplifies what a Probation and Parole officer should be. Jeffrey Blewett is a deserving

recipient of the 2024 District 1 Achievement Award.

### **Robert Bruch – District 2 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Jonathan Vincent**

Probation and Parole Officer Robert Bruch supervises a caseload of parolees and Interstate Compact cases in Hopkins Co. He also serves as a field training officer, firearms instructor, and the security threat group coordinator for District 2. He is always willing to help his fellow officers with daily tasks, arrests, and paperwork. He is extremely helpful to clients that come into the office, and genuinely cares about their success. As a field training officer, he works closely with new officers to insure they are properly trained. He shares experience gained from years in probation and parole with both his clients and fellow officers. For these reasons and countless more, Officer Robert Bruch is deserving of the 2024 District 2 Achievement Award.



## 2024 Probation and Parole Achievement Award



### **Katie Harmon – District 3 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Heather Meredith**

Katie Harmon is a probation and parole investigator responsible for pre-sentence investigation reports in Adair, Casey, and Cumberland Counties. Harmon adapted to the change without hesitation. Her attention to detail, efficiency and determination is apparent in each report. Her organization skills and ability to multi-task have been a tremendous attribute not only to the counties she is assigned but to all of District 3. Over the past year she has assisted the other district offices when PSI writers have been unavailable, she also takes the initiative to seek out and assist when needed without being asked. Katie's dedication and commitment to the Division of Probation and Parole and

District 3 is exemplified daily in her professionalism and performance. These are just some of the many reasons why Katie Harmon is worthy of the 2024 District 3 Achievement Award.

### **Samantha Stone – District 4 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Heather Foster**

Samantha Stone has diverse responsibilities as a PSI writer, supervision officer, field training officer, fentanyl collector, public information officer, and morale committee member. Her recent initiative in developing a comprehensive pre/post-sentence training manual is a testament to her commitment to enhancing office efficiency and operational clarity. Her meticulous approach, evidenced by a remarkable 99% average audit score, highlights her unwavering attention to detail and consistent delivery of exceptional work. Moreover, Samantha's proactive dissemination of a PSI presentation to multiple districts in Jefferson County has fostered better communication and understanding of

operations, emphasizing her leadership and strategic foresight. Her contributions set a standard for excellence worthy of recognition at the highest level. In summary, Samantha Stone exemplifies the qualities of a leader and innovator within Probation and Parole, making her the most deserving of the 2024 Achievement Award.



## 2024 Probation and Parole Achievement Award



### **Stephanie Beckwith – District 5 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor William Herald**

Stephanie Beckwith manages the mental health court caseload, is conscientious of her duties, and executes her responsibilities with the highest level of professionalism. She takes the time to help her offenders when they need some extra guidance, she is firm, kind, and consistent. Her calm demeanor, experience, and willingness to go above and beyond has made her an ideal officer for this population. It is said she says to her clients and even to co-workers, “I hope you made time to be proud of yourself today.” This has been inspirational to many she meets. She is a valued member of Hardin County mental health, drug, and veteran’s court programs, where her input and insight are well received. She is also responsible for completing pre-sentence investigation

reports for Meade County court and serves as primary officer covering Hardin County Rocket Docket. For these reasons, she is worthy of the 2024 Achievement Award.

### **Jennifer Barrett – District 6 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Charece Brown**

Assistant District Supervisor Jennifer Barrett has excelled beyond all words and is an asset. At the time, there were a few vacancies in that office and new employees, therefore making her transition into her new role very challenging. She dove into her new position headfirst; she had ideas on how to make covering the vacant caseloads easier for all and she also made sure the new staff had a smooth transition into their FTO training, their day-to-day on the job training, and adapting to having a new supervisor. Barrett has shown exemplary leadership, she has supreme passion for her position and for our staff. She is very knowledgeable, detail-oriented, and is a great example of a strong leader. We are delighted to announce Assistant District Supervisor Jennifer Barrett as the District 6 2024 Achievement Award Recipient.



## 2024 Probation and Parole Achievement Award



### **Larry Bredwell – District 7 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Taliyah Jefferson**

In just over a year, Probation and Parole Officer Larry Bredwell has become a firearms instructor, CPR instructor, and crisis negotiator. He consistently volunteers for duties in District 7, completes home visits for multiple vacant caseloads, assists with arrests, and helps with transports. He also developed a checklist that ensures transfer consistency within the district. Larry supervises a caseload in Kenton County and is fully committed to our mission: To protect the citizens of the Commonwealth and provide a safe, secure, and humane environment for staff and offenders, while offering offenders opportunities to acquire skills that facilitate non-criminal behavior. With his military

background, experience with the Cabinet of Health and Family Services, and extensive knowledge gained in probation and parole, Larry is an invaluable resource and dedicated corrections professional. It is for all these reasons that Larry Bredwell is a deserving recipient of a 2024 Achievement Award.

### **Shawn Smith – District 8 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Mitchell King**

Probation and Parole Officer Shawn Smith began his career with the Department of Corrections in April 2005 as a Probation & Parole Officer in the District 8, Irvine Field Office covering the Lee and Owsley County caseload. In August 2008, he transferred to District 8 Richmond Office and covered a Clark County caseload. He has also covered Liberty Place Recovery Center for Women and Bluegrass Career Development Center located in Richmond. Throughout Smith's career he has covered circuit court and wrote PSIs. Additionally, Smith was an original DNA trainer for the probation and parole. Smith is always willing to help his fellow co-workers and answers the call when needed by his supervisors. For all the reasons listed above District 8 is very proud to name Shawn Smith as our 2024 Achievement Award Winner.



## 2024 Probation and Parole Achievement Award



### **Samantha Smith – District 9 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Josh King**

In only four years, Probation and Parole Officer Samantha Smith has proven herself to be a corrections professional. Currently serving as one of District 9's sex offender officers, Smith consistently excels in her role providing supervision to a challenging caseload. She routinely coordinates multi-agency efforts aimed at ensuring sex offender compliance and has established herself as a valuable resource to her colleagues within the Department of Corrections as well as external partnering agencies. Additionally, Smith serves as one of District 9's field training officers where she plays an instrumental role in developing the talents of newly hired officers. Last but certainly not least, Smith volunteers to

coordinate intra-office functions that serve to build and strengthen team cohesion within District 9. For all the above, Samantha Smith has earned the privilege of being selected as the Achievement Award recipient for District 9.

### **Michael Fawbush – District 10 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Barry Cochrane**

Probation and Parole Officer Michael Fawbush began his career with the Department of Corrections on November 16, 2019, as a Probation & Parole Officer in the Manchester Office. While in Manchester, he supervised a regular caseload and was the Class D Officer for the Clay, Jackson, and Leslie County Detention Centers. This position required a tremendous amount of organization to coordinate releases from 3 separate jails on release days, which Fawbush was able to handle with no issues. In 2024, he transferred to the London Probation & Parole Office where he took over the supervision of sex offenders. He is also the field training officer, CPR instructor, security threat group



coordinator, and firearms instructor for District 10. Fawbush is very organized, and he is very meticulous in the way he supervises the sex offender caseload. He has earned the trust of his co-workers and supervisory staff. For these reasons, Officer Michael Fawbush is a very worthy recipient of the 2024 District 10 Achievement Award.

## 2024 Probation and Parole Achievement Award



### **Kevin Watts – District 11 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor John Vanhoose**

Probation and Parole Officer Kevin Watts began his career with the Division of Probation and Parole in 2007, as an officer in District 15. Later in 2013 he transferred to District 11 Prestonsburg Office, and it immediately felt his impact. Watts exhibits tremendous work ethic and a positive attitude every day. Watts can be counted on as a leader in the office and in the community. Watts volunteers to cover vacant caseloads, cover court in other officer's absences and cover transports and releases when needed. For these reasons and many more, Kevin Watts is a most deserving recipient of the 2024 Probation and Parole District 11 Achievement award.

### **Stacy Jansen – District 12 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Don Keene**

In early 2024, newly promoted Probation and Parole Assistant Supervisor Stacy Jansen faced critical staffing levels in the Carrollton Office; in an office with nine total staff there was over a 50% vacancy rate. While still learning her new role she coordinated with her two officers in Carrollton and with other assistant supervisors in the district to cover the five vacant caseloads in her office. She worked tirelessly running record checks, report days and coordinating a schedule with other staff throughout the district. Under Jansen's leadership and guidance, the Carrollton Office was able to maintain operations while providing quality supervision for the clients. Stacy Jansen's dedication to excellence makes her a deserving recipient of a 2024 Achievement Award.



## 2024 Probation and Parole Achievement Award



### **James Masterson – District 13 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Chip McIntyre**

Probation and Parole Officer James Masterson supervises a regular caseload, as well as Dismas House-Owensboro. For the past 4-years James has also served as back-up Class D and HIP officer in Owensboro and has done an excellent job in that role when called upon. Masterson is also in charge of vehicle maintenance for the Owensboro office, and he does an outstanding job with that additional duty. Already a mentor to new staff, James is scheduled to attend the next FTO training and will be a huge asset to that program once completed. His dependability and willingness to volunteer for extra duties even with the shortest notice has established him as a go-to-employee always willing to go above and

beyond to complete the division's mission. James Masterson is a true asset to the Kentucky Department of Corrections and is a very deserving recipient of a 2024 Achievement Award.

### **Chris Baker – District 14 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Steve Heddleston**

Since joining the Division of Probation & Parole in February of 2016, Probation & Parole Officer Chris Baker has demonstrated a willingness to try and better the lives of all those around him. If a fellow Corrections employee needs assistance, he is among the first to lend a helping hand by serving parole revocation notices, drug testing clients, or assisting with home visits. He currently teaches the supervision orientation class in the Lancaster probation office and is a member of the Department's Crisis Negotiation Team. During turnover within the Division of Reentry, Baker approached supervision staff and offered to teach MRT classes as he is a certified instructor. Baker also takes on Class D duties for the Jessamine County Detention Center. It is for these reasons Officer Chris Baker is a worthy recipient of the 2024 District 14 Achievement Award.



## 2024 Probation and Parole Achievement Award



**Tyler Phillips – District 15 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Susan Thompson**

Probation and Parole Officer Tyler Phillips is currently assigned to supervise a caseload in Greenup County and serves as a liaison with the local court, jail, and local law enforcement in the area. He is prompt, courteous and professional with those he encounters conducting his daily assignments. Phillips has an encouraging attitude and is helpful to both co-workers and clients. He is also a CPR instructor, firearms instructor, armorer and has completed crisis negotiation training. Phillips also helps with unplanned and afterhours transports or completing unexpected releases. He has good problem-solving skills and can work independently or in a team setting with

good results. For all these reasons, Tyler Phillips is fully deserving of a 2024 Probation and Parole Achievement Award.

**James Stanley – District 16 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Timothy Walker**

Probation and Parole Officer James Stanley has supervised several different caseloads including one at a Recovery Kentucky Center. After he gained a firm grasp on supervision, Stanley transitioned to supervising a sex offender caseload, expanding his knowledge in this specialized area of supervision. In his three years at District 16 Stanley has earned the respect of the supervisors and his fellow officers. Stanley is usually one of the first to volunteer when a need arises. Based on his vast institutional and probation and parole experience, Stanley is a “go-to officer” at District 16. He regularly assists newer staff and advises them on handling tough cases/situations. Stanley is also the district safety officer, district vehicle maintenance monitor, PREA investigator, and is a certified fentanyl collector. It is for these reasons that he’s a deserving candidate for a 2024 Achievement Award.





## 2024 Probation and Parole Achievement Award



### **John Perkins – District 17 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Colter Turner**

Probation and Parole Officer John Perkins began his career in District 17 in 2022, and quickly showed promise with his ability to learn quickly. Shortly after beginning his career, Perkins volunteered to be the district's safety officer. Due to his diligence, District 17 has remained in complete compliance with all ACA and safety regulations. Perkins quickly became one of the most trusted and respected officers in the District 17 office with staff members coming to him due to his eagerness to listen and figure out solutions. Due to this, he was selected to be the EEO/DEI Liaison for the district. Initially assigned a regular felony caseload, Perkins quickly recognized the need for an Interstate Compact specific caseload in the district to achieve

consistency among cases. In 2024, Perkins assumed responsibility of all these cases for the district. John Perkins is a deserving recipient of a 2024 Achievement Award.

### **Anthony Denning – District 18 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Amber Ryan**

Probation and Parole Officer Anthony Denning consistently goes above and beyond the normal duties. He routinely covers additional duties – such as vacant report days, court hearings, and other additional duties. Anytime there is a need in the district, Officer Denning is among the first to volunteer. His commitment to excellence shows in the work that he does and his dedication to achieving positive outcomes for his clients. Officer Denning is truly an invaluable part of the District 18 team. He has taken on additional roles such as serving on the Truth in Sentencing team and receiving training on electronic monitoring. He will soon become a welcome addition to the D18 Field Training Officer staff. His knowledge and leadership skills will make him a fantastic resource for new staff. Officer Denning is dedicated to the department's mission. We are proud to name Officer Anthony Denning as the District 18 Achievement Award winner for 2024.



## 2024 Probation and Parole Achievement Award



### **Kristin Wells – District 19 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Mike Mitchell**

Probation and Parole Officer Kristin Wells demonstrates all the qualities of an exceptional officer. She builds quality professional relationships with those she supervises and can quickly earn their trust and respect. Wells has a work ethic that is second to none and is able solve problems efficiently and effectively. She is a phenomenal team player and is well respected by her peers. Wells is responsible for supervising a population of parolees housed at the Burns M. Brady Center in Louisville and has demonstrated the ability to work effectively with community partners, and other divisions within the Department of Corrections to achieve mutual objectives. We are very thankful to have Kristin Wells on our team and feel that she is most

deserving of this year's Achievement Award.

### **Gary Ferrill – District 20 Probation and Parole Award presented by District Supervisor Keith Hedgespeth**

Probation and Parole Officer Gary Ferrill is a huge asset to our department, covering a regular felony caseload in Russell County and supervising sex offenders for Wayne and Clinton Counties. Ferrill is a Field Training Officer for the Monticello office and the Class D Officer for the Russell County Detention Center. Ferrill has received recognition for his commitment to excellence and leadership skills from individuals outside of our department. Because he has earned the respect of the 57th Judicial Circuit Court judges, he was asked to help create the new graduated sanctions for Russell and Wayne County Circuit Court. His attention to detail is one of his most valuable assets. His co-workers, supervisors, and judicial staff appreciate that very much. Due to the many outstanding qualities listed above, District 20 is proud to name Gary Ferrill as it's 2024 Achievement Award winner.



# Divisional Achievement Awards



## 2024 Divisional Achievement Award



**Meredith Mobley – Reentry Services**  
*Award presented by Director Kristin Porter*

Meredith Mobley is the Community Reentry Coordinator for Region 8 - P&P District 10. She exhibits outstanding job performance and continually seeks out new ways to hone her skills. Throughout her time in Reentry, whenever someone is in need, she graciously volunteers. Whether serving in her role as assigned duties, assisting a co-worker, filling in to cover staffing vacancies, or going the extra mile for anyone in need, Mobley provides the highest level of quality in all that she does for our population. She has quickly taken to the role of a program facilitator and thrives in that role. She provides valuable feedback and support to her co-workers and chain of command alike. Most notably, she does not complain when given extra tasks or

assignments, but rather takes on additional assignments as a challenge and as an opportunity to further reentry services for our clients. Meredith daily reflects the spirit and attitude of the Kentucky Department of Corrections and it is for these reasons she's deserving of the 2024 Reentry Division Achievement Award.

**Ambie Ingram – Support Services**  
*Award presented by Director Angela Tolley*

Division of Parole Board Support Justice Program Administrator Ambie Ingram's job performance is always exceptional. She is efficient, meticulous, creative, and always brings a fresh perspective to the table. She is known for her strong work ethic by being the first to volunteer, by being available and approachable, always willing, and always able. There are those who meet the standard, then you have the Ambie Ingrams of the world who break the molds and set the bar. Over 24 years, she has experienced multiple organizational changes, policy changes, legislative changes, and changes in practices. She has provided parole board support to at least nine parole board chairs and to over 51 parole board members. These changes never affected her dedication nor her reliability because with Ambie, it is not about who is in charge, it is all about what is best for the DOC. Ambie's expertise, longevity, and camaraderie has been instrumental to this Division's success and worthy of the 2024 Division of Support Services Achievement Award.



## 2024 Divisional Achievement Award



**Alicia Bloyd – Adult Institutions**  
*Award presented by Director Janet Conover*

Justice Program Administrator Alicia Bloyd has held her position in the Division of Adult Institutions since 2018. Bloyd's primary role as the security threat group (STG) administrator for the department is to provide support to the STG coordinators and complete assessments prepared at the facility level. She has also assisted providing STG training to the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). Earlier this year, Alicia participated in taking on-line courses through the National Gang Academy at received certification as a basic gangology specialist. Recently, she was asked to assist DJJ regarding their shift relief factors. She has also assisted other DOC institutions in reviewing their own staffing patterns, making recommendations for

their shifts. She does this without hesitation to provide overall support to the department. For these reasons, Alicia Bloyd is very deserving of the 2024 Adult Institutions Division Award.

**Kristin Johnson – Commissioner's Office**  
*Award presented by Director Beth Moore*

Federal Program Specialist Kristin Johnson's contributions to grant management for the department is continually outstanding. Johnson consistently demonstrates expertise, innovative thinking, and commitment to department and community initiatives each day. Grants require a high level of concentration and Kristin's meticulous attention to detail is crucial to the success of her office. She is known for her professionalism and willingness to offer support to her co-workers. She keeps her team and DOC leadership informed and supported throughout all phases of the grant process. Her hard work and dedication helps the DOC get the grants that expand our services and transform lives. This award is given to Kristin in recognition of her outstanding contributions, leadership, and unwavering commitment. Kristin Johnson is most deserving of the 2024 Commissioner's Office Division Award.



## 2024 Divisional Achievement Award

### **Amanda Williams – Probation and Parole Award presented by Director Erica Hargis**



Amanda Williams serves as the Human Resource Specialist for the Division of Probation and Parole. Amanda is one of those employees that gives 110% every day. She always has a positive attitude and consistently produces a quality work product. Since starting in this position Amanda has been able to help clean up processes and make the P&P human resource processes smoother and faster than ever. She gets daily compliments from district supervisors about how helpful and knowledgeable she is. Amanda processes all actions for almost 800 positions and keeps organized and on top of all the moving parts. She has also been able to continue to lend her talents and time to the DOC

records section as requested. Amanda is always willing to go above and beyond to help the division she serves and other sections. Amanda is a career DOC employee that truly deserves this honor for the dedicated service, can-do attitude, and ability to share her talents with others. It is for these reasons that she is deserving of a 2024 Achievement Award.

# Deputy Commissioner Awards



## 2024 Deputy Commissioner Award



### **Alan Watt – Adult Institutions** *Award presented by Director Janet Conover*

Alan Watt served as the Maintenance Branch Manager at the Roederer Correctional Complex in Lagrange from 2010-2017. From 2017-2021, he transitioned and served in the role of construction superintendent at the department's capitol construction branch. Alan returned to the department in 2023 to oversee total operations of the capitol construction branch.

Watt is currently overseeing 91 projects, including the new 373-bed medical facility in Lexington and the 832-bed expansion at the Little Sandy Correctional Complex. He has directed and completed a statewide in-depth study identifying the departments needs at all facilities in the areas of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing, 455 items in need of repair were found and categorized into immediate 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year strategic plan. Other areas of oversight include various water tower repairs, generator replacements, security fence additions and replacements and utility infrastructure replacements.

Alan Watt has the drive, desire, and passion for doing what is right for the staff, inmates, and citizens of the Commonwealth, his professional and systematic management serves as an example for all to follow. We are honored to have Alan leading this vital aspect of our department and he is more than deserving of the Adult Institutions Deputy Commissioner Award.



## 2024 Deputy Commissioner Award



**Cristela Pérez Scanlon – Support Services**  
*Award presented by Deputy Commissioner Hilarye Dailey*

Working as a Victims' Advocate requires a highly engaged individual who demonstrates compassion, patience, diligence, and a commitment to public service. Cristela Scanlon possesses each one of these qualities and more. Each day she approaches her work with dedication, compassion, and determination in ensuring crime victims have accurate and timely access to VINE and the critical notifications provided by the system. She routinely travels to jails and the jailers' conference to educate and train jailers and their staff on using the VINE system to ensure victims receive the most accurate and up to date information. Cristela is especially passionate about rectifying outages in jails and works directly with Appriss on solving even the shortest outages. Routinely, she reaches out directly to jail staff to walk them through entering alerts and notifications during booking system changes which often cause outages for a short time. Additionally, she is patient and kind when speaking with victims via telephone. Because of Cristela's unwavering commitment, tenacity, and dedication to ensuring crime victims are provided with accurate and timely information, she is deserving of the Deputy Commissioner of Support Services award.

## 2024 Deputy Commissioner Award



**Shauna Markham – Community Services**  
***Award presented by Deputy Commissioner Kim Potter-Blair***

Program Supervisor Shauna Markham joined DOC in 2005 as a classification treatment officer, was promoted in 2011 to a social service clinician and promoted in 2017 to her current position overseeing the outpatient substance abuse program (SAP) at Kentucky State Reformatory (KRS). SAP clients at KRS frequently have complex medical needs in addition to their substance use disorder. A certified drug and alcohol counselor, Shauna makes accommodations to ensure treatment services are provided in a way for clients to fully participate and benefit. One example of her going above and beyond was her work with a client who was legally blind. Not only did the client successfully complete the program, but Shauna took it upon herself to make a SAP completion certificate in braille so the client could read his certificate. She went above and beyond her duties by volunteering to go to Luther Lockett Correctional Complex to complete diagnostic screenings and counseling sessions as needed since there were not any addiction service staff onsite. Shauna acts as a role model for those working with clients who have complex needs. She is an asset to our team and is worthy the 2024 Deputy Commissioner Award.

**Probation and Parole  
Supervisor of the Year**

**Director of the Year**

**Warden of the Year**



## 2024 Probation and Parole Supervisor of the Year



### **Trent Vanhose – District 11**

*Award presented by Director Erica Hargis*

It is with great pleasure that I nominate John Trent Vanhose for Probation and Parole Supervisor of the Year Award. With a distinguished career spanning over 17 years, he has consistently demonstrated outstanding leadership, dedication, and a profound commitment to the mission and values of the Department of Corrections. Trent exemplifies exceptional leadership qualities, fostering a supportive and productive work environment. He effectively manages his district, encouraging professional growth and ensuring high morale. His open-door policy and approachability have made him a trusted mentor and advisor to his staff. He consistently motivates and inspires his team to achieve excellence. Trent has a deep understanding of probation and parole practices, brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the role. He stays abreast of latest developments in the field and ensures that our division implements best practices. Trent has an uncanny ability to “think outside the box” and come up with innovative approaches to challenges we face in the district. Trent has set a remarkable standard within our department with assisting officers from across the state and meeting them halfway so sex offenders can be transported to Westcare. He also has fostered an exceptional relationship with all the divisions within the Department of Corrections.

## 2024 Director of the Year



**Shannon Butrum – Compliance Division**  
*Award presented by Deputy Commissioner Kim Potter-Blair*

Shannon Butrum consistently goes the extra mile to support her staff within the division. She is an outstanding leader in the department and leads by example. She is intensely passionate about the division and its mission and goes above and beyond normal expectations to ensure it is top notch. She was instrumental in helping form the division more than 3 years ago and is a key asset in its success. She holds her staff to high standards and expectations and expects them to exceed in their goals. The Compliance Division works jointly with most other divisions within the department and Shannon ensures her staff are professional and knowledgeable in their areas when conducting audits and reviews to better the department. Shannon always asks for input from her managers and staff in the Division to order to improve operations within the Division and the Department. She is also willing to listen to advice from both superiors and subordinates to create an environment of cooperation within the Department and to enhance operations. Shannon shares her knowledge and expertise both inside the Division and outside of it to enhance the Department's role. Shannon is an asset to the Department and to the Compliance Division and for the above reasons she's deserving of the 2024 Director of the Year Award.

## 2024 Warden of the Year



**Amy Robey – Luther Luckett Correctional Complex**  
*Award presented by Director Janet Conover*

Warden Amy Robey first became a warden at Blackburn in 2019 and then came to Luther Luckett in August of 2020. In 2021 the Youthful Offender program started at LLCC and Robey put together and managed a team to assist with the program. On a weekly basis she meets with staff that oversee the program as well with the offenders assigned to the program. Robey has an unwavering dedication and inspires us all. Her commitment to rehabilitation with integrity has not only transformed lives but has set a standard of excellence for others to follow. Her leadership serves as a guiding light, reminding us of the profound impact one person can have in the lives of many. In every institution, there are pivotal figures who embody the values we hold dear: integrity, compassion, and a steadfast commitment to the welfare of those under their charge. Robey has shown exemplary leadership in fostering a safe and rehabilitative environment, ensuring the well-being of both staff and inmates alike. Through her leadership, our institution has flourished as a beacon of hope and transformation. She has implemented innovative programs, fostered a culture of respect and fairness, and demonstrated a profound understanding of the complexities of prisons. For all these reasons Warden Amy Robey is a deserving recipient of the 2024 Warden of the Year.

# Commissioner's Award



## 2024 Commissioner's Award



**Chris Hatton – Western Kentucky Correctional Complex**  
*Award presented by Commissioner Cookie Crews*

Deputy Warden Chris Hatton has been a pillar of Western Kentucky Correctional Complex and the Department of Corrections for 20 years. During her career, she has worn nearly every hat the institution offers, beginning her career as a classification and treatment officer and quickly moved through the program ranks to her current position, where she has served as both the deputy warden of programs and deputy warden of security. She has also been an instructor for various trainings including the Kentucky Offender Management System (KOMS). Throughout her career she has served as adjustment chair, grievance coordinator, program facilitator, and is a certified corrections program auditor as well as many other roles. Her knowledge of corrections and its operations are beyond measurable. She has and continues to serve with everyone's best interests at heart. Throughout her career, she has mentored many leaders including numerous deputy wardens and wardens. Her career is a testament to the values the department seeks for its employees.



## 2024 Commissioner's Award



**Donna McClamroch – Education Division**  
*Award presented by Commissioner Cookie Crews*

Education Division Assistant Director Donna McClamroch is deserving of the Commissioner's Award due to her dedication, hard work, and collaborative positive attitude. She has an expansive view of what needs to be done, going above and beyond to get a task completed and to ensure the needs of staff and the offender population are met. Donna has exemplified teamwork while taking on additional duties to fill the need for an education administrator to run the education center at Luther Lockett Correctional Complex since February of this year. Her caring and kind spirit makes everyone around her feel welcomed and valued. She is an advocate for education and the rehabilitative process, which highlights the mission of the Department of Corrections. Donna is forward thinking and is a wonderful example of a good person and great teammate. It is for all these reasons that Donna McClamroch is a deserving recipient of a 2024 Commissioner's Award.

## 2024 Commissioner's Award



### **Anna Valentine – Kentucky State Reformatory** *Award presented by Commissioner Cookie Crews*

Warden Anna Valentine began her correctional career at the Kentucky State Reformatory (KSR) in 2003 as a correctional officer. Over the past 20 plus years, she has risen through the ranks to become warden of the facility, a position she has held since 2018. Warden Valentine has led KSR – Kentucky’s primary medical and mental health institution – through significant changes, staffing crises, and the COVID pandemic; she served as interim warden at Northpoint Training Center (NTC) for a time while keeping her finger on the pulse of KSR. She has been instrumental in the planning of the new medical and mental health facility being constructed in Lexington, while ensuring KSR still exceeds the high standard expected of all institutions. Warden Valentine is a proven and experienced leader with integrity. She is a 2009 graduate of the Commissioner’s Executive Leadership Program and a proud United States Army veteran. For all her contributions and dedication, Warden Anna Valentine is more than deserving of a 2024 Commissioner’s Award.

## 2024 Commissioner's Award



### **Doug Hughes – District 7 Probation and Parole *Award presented by Commissioner Cookie Crews***

Doug Hughes retired from Probation and Parole in 2010 and was subsequently rehired again in 2013. For the past eleven years, Doug has been writing pre-sentence Investigations for Boone County. His years of knowledge and expertise serves him well as new officers gravitate towards him for advice. Doug volunteers to run the District's NCIC reports and has maintained his certification through KSP for the past several years. Doug is often our "go-to" for many things and never hesitates to help supervisors or staff seeking answers and solutions. His outstanding professional relationship with other members of the justice system have been valuable to our office. Doug does not shy away from quick turn arounds and hard assignments. He is efficient, reliable, and the epitome of a team player. His calm demeanor and positive attitude go a long way in keeping up morale and improving an overall work environment. He is a career employee who time and time again has proven he is an asset to not only this department, but to Probation and Parole and District 7. Doug is very deserving of a 2024 Commissioner's Award.

## 2024 Commissioner's Award



**Maryann Strickland – Human Services**  
*Award presented by Commissioner Cookie Crews*

Branch Manager Maryann Strickland has worked for approximately 27 years as a civil servant to the citizens of the Commonwealth. In 2015 she started with DOC as the supervisor of SAP at KSR. In 2017 after a brief retirement, she returned to DOC as a community social service clinician until 2019 when she was promoted to her current position. Maryann is a licensed certified alcohol and drug counselor and provides clinical supervision to staff pursuing their professional license. She is a strong leader and goes above and beyond in her job duties to support the division. Maryann has many strengths but one of her unique strengths is her unwavering positivity. The work we do is demanding and Maryann always sees the silver lining in every obstacle or challenge we face. Her positivity is contagious and helps keep the team motivated. Maryann effectively reframes situations for others to help keep the focus on clients we serve. Her passion for the work she does is evident. She has continuously shown her commitment to DOC's mission and the important work we do. For those reasons, Maryann Strickland is worthy of a 2024 Commissioner's Award.

## 2024 Commissioner's Award



### **Valerie Mattingly – District 12 Probation and Parole *Award presented by Commissioner Cookie Crews***

In the very early morning hours of November 16, 2023, the LaGrange Probation and Parole Office suffered a devastating fire resulting in a total loss of the office. Local dispatch reached out to Probation and Parole Officer Valerie Mattingly to advise about the fire. Officer Mattingly immediately called Assistant District Supervisor Jackie Exley to report the fire and that she was on the way to the office. Once on scene Officer Mattingly became the liaison with the fire department, ATF, and other first responders until senior leadership arrived on scene. Officer Mattingly continued assisting throughout of the next several days to ensure a smooth transition between DOC leadership and other stakeholders. Her hard work and dedication to duty helped bring order to an extraordinarily difficult situation. For her service in a trying time, Valerie Mattingly is a deserving recipient of a 2024 Commissioner's Award.

# Hero Award



## 2024 Hero Award



### **Probation and Parole Officers Aaron Campbell and Jessica Watson – Probation and Parole District 6**

#### *Awards presented by Commissioner Cookie Crews*

On 05/28/2024, a client had failed to contact probation and parole. Officers Aaron Campbell and Jessica Watson traveled to her reported address, which is approximately 10 miles into the county. Upon arrival, Client was outside with a young child. After discussion of why she hadn't made contact, it was discovered that the client has no transportation and didn't have a working phone. She had no way to get to town or to contact our office. After discussing her living situation, client advised that the young child was a 4-year-old, whom had been left there two weeks ago, by a friend of hers. The client stated she was asked to babysit the little girl and that the mother of the child hadn't returned. The client was visibly upset on what to do with the child, she wanted to contact social services, but feared the child would be removed and placed in foster care. While driving back, the officer's discussed the client's situation. While discussing options, they remembered that the Taylor County Schools had begun their summer feeding program. Our Officers realized that the client and the little girl could benefit from that program. The officers retrieved the meals, there was enough meals for five people to last an entire week. When the officers delivered the meals to the client, the little girl was eating a bowl of cereal with water. The client was grateful for the food and their generosity. The quick-thinking shown by officers Aaron Campbell and Jessica Watson are in keeping with the highest standards of the DOC and make them deserving recipients of 2024 Hero Awards.

## 2024 Hero Award



**Shawn Bailey – Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex**  
*Award presented by Commissioner Cookie Crews*

On Sunday July 21, 2024, Records Information Supervisor Shawn Bailey was on his way to church with his family, about 5 miles down the road Mr. Bailey and his wife notice a man at the end of his porch. He had his hands up towards the rafters. His wife thought he was working on his porch, but Mr. Bailey's eyes saw differently. Shawn's experience in corrections knew what he was seeing. Mr. Bailey's first thought was he was tying a bedsheet around himself. They turned around, and sadly this was the case. He had attempted to take his own life by hanging. Shawn told his wife to call 911, no service. They rushed and pulled into the closest house and asked the neighbor to call 911. In between that time the man's brother was working in a nearby garden and noticed and he cut him down.

When Bailey ran to the scene, his brother was naturally in a state of shock. Another person had noticed and was on the phone with dispatch who asked her to perform CPR. She was also in shock. The man was in a flower bed, so Shawn prepped him to begin CPR. Shawn noticed he was breathing but somewhat choking, so no CPR was needed. While questioning his brother, Mr. Bailey found out that his name was Greg, and he is schizophrenic. EMT's where an hour away, so police made the call to do a police escort to the nearest hospital. They last update Shawn received was Greg was at UK hospital on a ventilator. Shawn Bailey's actions that day are in keeping of the best traditions of the DOC, and worthy of a 2024 Hero Award.



# Rookie of the Year Award



## 2024 Rookie of the Year



### **Lucas Trimble – District 16 Probation and Parole *Award presented by Commissioner Cookie Crews***

Administrative Specialist Lucas Trimble started at District 16 in January of 2024 and his excitement was immediately noticeable in his desire to learn the job. He came in and took over the admin caseload which had been vacant for months and managed in a less than a month to have the entire caseload in order. Since then, he has continuously exceeded expectations and improved the admin caseload. He has made an active effort to get as many clients as possible onto the reporting app and works with them to make the transition easy. He also works tirelessly with clients to get restitution receipts so he can notify the courts and get clients off supervision. Also, since he has been hired another administrative specialist left and he has stepped in to help with those duties. He works with other district administrative staff to learn the job better and to be more efficient. He is always willing to step in and help officers with any administrative duty. In the short amount of time, we have had Lucas he has become a vital part of District 16. His dedication to his job makes him a deserving candidate for the 2024 Rookie of the Year Award.

# Lucille Hurt Robuck Commitment to Corrections Award



## 2024 Lucille Hurt Robuck Commitment to Corrections Award



### **Dr. Steven J. Stack – Commonwealth of Kentucky Commissioner of Public Health** *Award presented by Commissioner Cookie Crews*

It is the Department of Corrections' honor and privilege to present the Lucille Hurt Robuck Commitment to Corrections Award to Dr. Steven J. Stack, Commonwealth of Kentucky Commissioner of Public Health. Dr. Stack has shown an extraordinary level of passion and dedication to corrections and has been a never-ending support for the department during one of its most challenging times. The impact of his work is shown each day in the difference made in the lives of our staff and our offender population.

For these reasons and many more, we are proud to honor Dr. Stack with the Lucille Hurt Robuck Commitment to Corrections Award. This award is a testament to his exceptional talent, tireless effort, and the positive ripple effects of his contributions. Dr. Stack is an inspiration to us all. His hard work, innovative spirit, and dedication have made him an invaluable friend of the DOC. We are deeply grateful for his contributions to the health and safety of our staff and our inmates. This dedication makes him a deserving recipient of this honor.

# TEAM KENTUCKY®

---

JUSTICE AND  
PUBLIC SAFETY CABINET