



Kentucky Department of Corrections

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Katherine Williams
502-758-5816
Katherine.Williams@ky.gov

Jay Bell Promoted to Program Administrator at Roederer Correctional Complex

FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 13, 2020) – Kentucky Department of Corrections Division of Addiction Services Director Sarah Johnson announced today that Jay Bell has been promoted to program administrator of the substance abuse program at Roederer Correctional Complex. Her position is effective May 16.

“We are excited to have Jay Bell join our team, leading the programming at our largest prison-based substance abuse program,” said Johnson. “She brings significant experience working with individuals within the criminal justice system and strong leadership skills that will serve her well in this position.”

Bell began her career in state government as a social worker with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services in 2000, investigating child and adult abuse often precipitated by substance use. She served as a member of Nelson County’s multi-disciplinary team that was established to combat child abuse. After a promotion to social service clinician in 2003, her efforts were more directly focused on the treatment aspect of social work.

In 2004, Bell changed her career path and became a probation and parole officer in District 5. While in this role, she was afforded an opportunity to take a closer look at the impact of substance use disorder within the criminal justice system. In 2011, Bell was promoted to assistant supervisor in Jefferson County. During this time, she provided oversight to the majority of halfway houses, now known as reentry service centers (RSCs), in the county until this responsibility was later dispersed to other districts throughout the region.

After stepping away from state employment for four years, Bell returned in 2019 as an assistant supervisor with the Division of Probation and Parole’s District 21, a newly created RSC district in the northern region.

A 1999 graduate of Western Kentucky University, Bell has a bachelor’s degree in sociology with a minor in criminology. In 2010, she was the recipient of the DOC Achievement Award for District 5. She completed the Commissioner’s Executive Leadership Program in 2010 and 2011.

Editor’s note: photo attached

###