

**TEAM  
KENTUCKY®**

JUSTICE AND  
PUBLIC SAFETY CABINET

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DIVISION OF CORRECTIONS TRAINING  
**ANNUAL REPORT**



## DIVISION MISSION

The Division of Corrections Training (DCT) is tasked with designing, developing, and delivering training programs that meet the needs of the adult institutions, jailers, and the Department of Corrections Central Office.

The DCT develops training curriculum for uniformed and non-uniformed staff across the department of corrections. DCT also conducts annual training for elected/appointed jailers and their staff within the 120 counties of Kentucky.

### *Our Mission—Your Future*

Having initially achieved ACA accreditation in 2011, maintaining accreditation is a source of pride for the DCT and the Department of Corrections. The DCT successfully completed the ACA re-accreditation process in February 2015, January 2018, January 2021, and January 2024.



### Quality Programs

Providing consistent and current information to participants in a safe and effective learning environment.

### Professionalism

Setting a positive example, promoting teamwork, and sharing information through effective communication.

### Responsiveness

Providing diverse programs which meets the needs of participants.

### Respect

Treating participants with fairness, equality, integrity, and value.

### Standards of Practice

Practicing professional established requirements of excellence.

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## EXECUTIVE STAFF

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**Tammy Lou Wright**  
Director



**Kenny Talbott**  
Assistant Director

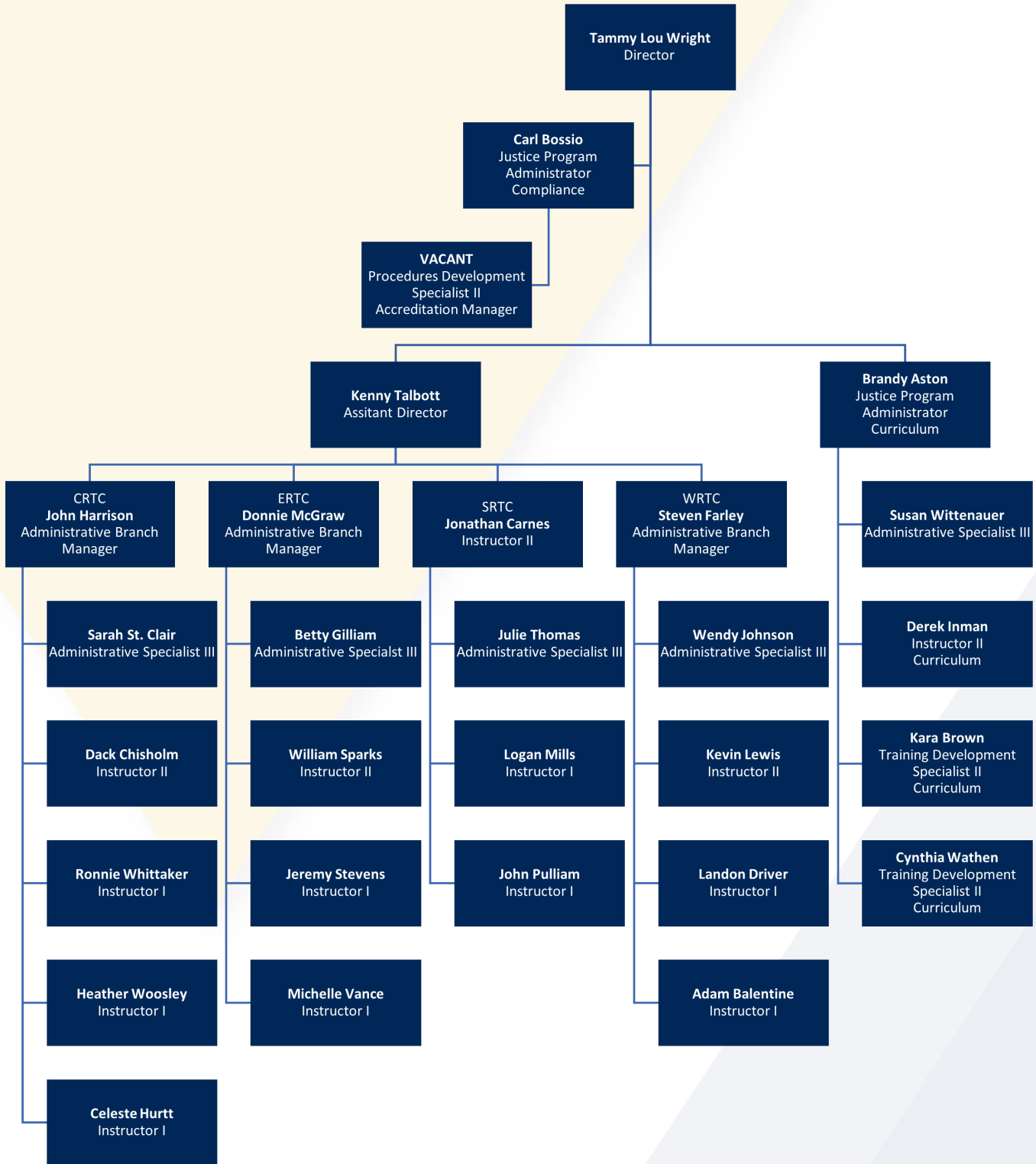


**Brandy Aston**  
Justice Program Administrator  
Curriculum



**Carl Bossio**  
Justice Program Administrator  
Compliance

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





# REGIONAL TRAINING CENTERS

**CURRICULUM  
DEVELOPMENT**



**CENTRAL REGION  
TRAINING CENTER**



**EASTERN REGION  
TRAINING CENTER**



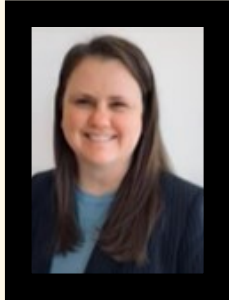
**WESTERN REGION  
TRAINING CENTER**



**SOUTHERN REGION  
TRAINING CENTER**



# CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT BRANCH



**Brandy Aston**  
Justice Program Administrator



**Susan Wittenauer**  
Administrative Specialist III



**Derek Inman**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator II



**Kara Brown**  
Training Development  
Specialist II



**Cynthia Wathen**  
Training Development  
Specialist II

The Curriculum Development Branch is located at our Central Region Training Center (CRTC). CRTC is located between Kentucky State Reformatory (KSR) and Roederer Correctional Complex (RCC) in LaGrange, Kentucky. In addition to the Director and Assistant Director's office, this building also houses a firearms simulator, computer lab, and an employee wellness center.

The Curriculum Development Branch is responsible for management of the curriculum development process, the archiving of all departmental curriculums and the daily administration of the DOC's computer based training (CBT).

Currently, the Curriculum Development Branch is staffed with three full time employees; Justice Program Administrator Brandy Aston, Instructor II Derek Inman, and Administrative Specialist III Susan Wittenauer. There is currently one vacant Instructor I position within the Curriculum Development Branch.

# CENTRAL REGION TRAINING CENTER



**John Harrison**  
Branch Manager



**Sarah St. Clair**  
Administrative Specialist III



**Dack Chisholm**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator II



**Heather Woosley**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator I



**Ronnie Whittaker**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator I



**Celeste Hurtt**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator I

CRTC provides staff instruction to four adult regional correctional institutions: Kentucky State Reformatory, Roederer Correctional Complex, Luther Lockett Correctional Complex, Kentucky Correctional Institutions for Women; 10 Probation and Parole districts: 4, 7, 8, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19, and the elected jailers and their staff within 24 counties.

Throughout 2023, the CRTC actively engaged 1,226 security, program, support, contract, jail, and other miscellaneous staff in training opportunities, totaling 3,021 hours.

 **3021**  
TRAINING HOURS

The center's robust training programs equip staff with the knowledge and skills they need to excel in their roles and contribute meaningfully to the organization's success. A graduation rate of 49.84% was obtained for pre-service academy in 2023.

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# EASTERN REGION TRAINING CENTER



**Donnie McGraw**  
Branch Manager



**Betty Gilliam**  
Administrative Specialist III



**William Sparks**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator II



**Jeremy Stevens**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator I



**Michelle Vance**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator I

ERTC provides staff instruction to three adult correctional institutions; Little Sandy Correctional Complex, Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex, and Southeast State Correctional Complex; four probation and parole districts: 8, 10, 11, and 15; and the elected jailers and their staff within 21 counties.

In 2023, the ERTC invested in the professional development of 596 employees, including security, program and support, and contract and jail staff, by providing them with a total of 2,094 hours of training.

The training programs equipped staff with the knowledge and skills necessary to excel in their roles and contribute to the organization's success. The center also conducted 9 institutional pre-service academy classes with a graduation rate of 95.56%.



**428 Security Staff**



**90**

**Program Staff**



**78**

**Contract/Jail/Other**

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# SOUTHERN REGION TRAINING CENTER



**Jonathan Carnes**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator II



**Julie Thomas**  
Administrative Specialist III



**Logan Mills**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator I



**John Pulliam**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator I

SRTC provides staff instruction to three adult correctional institutions: Northpoint Training Center, Bell County Forestry Camp, and Blackburn Correctional Complex; nine probation and parole districts: 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, and 20; and the elected jailers and their staff within 39 counties.

In 2023, the SRTC made a significant investment in its employees' professional development, providing 2,216 hours of training to 427 staff members. This comprehensive training encompassed various roles, including security, program, support, contract, jail personnel, and other vital positions.

This commitment to employee development is further reflected in SRTC's impressive 97.91% graduation rate for its pre-service academy, demonstrating success in preparing future generations of professionals.

**97.91%**

**GRADUATION**

# WESTERN REGION TRAINING CENTER



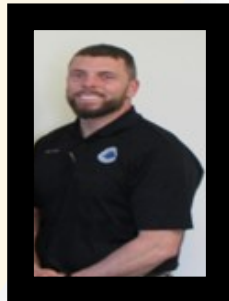
**Steve Farley**  
Branch Manager



**Wendy Johnson**  
Administrative Specialist III



**Kevin Lewis**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator II



**Landon Driver**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator I



**Adam Balentine**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator I

WRTC provides staff instruction to three adult correctional institutions: Western Kentucky Correctional Complex, Kentucky State Penitentiary, and Green River Correctional Complex; five probation and parole districts: 1, 2, 3, 5, and 13; and the elected jailers and their staff within 36 counties.

WRTC provided 2,154 hours of training for 714 staff across security, programs, support, contract, jail, and other areas of 2023. These training programs equip staff with the knowledge and skills needed to excel in their roles and contribute to the organization's success.

**714** STUDENTS

Additionally, the center boasts a notable 84.62% graduation rate for its pre-service academy, highlighting its commitment to fostering future talent.

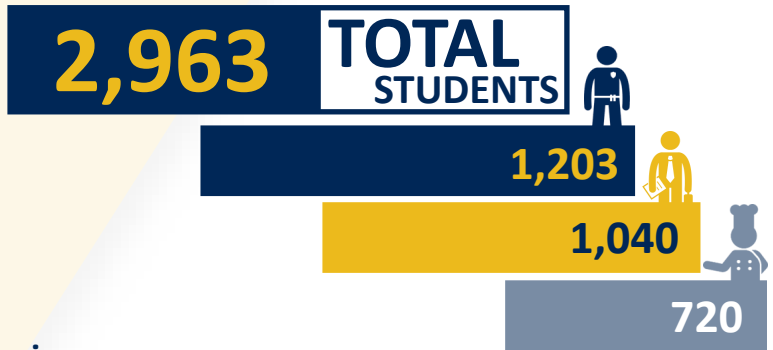
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DIVISION OF CORRECTIONS TRAINING

# YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2023, the Division of Corrections Training saw close to 3,000 students across our 4 regional training centers. This includes 1,203 security staff, 1,040 program staff, and 720 contract and jail staff. Our staff presented over 9,485 hours of training including institutional pre-service academies, firearms, firearm instructor, basic life support and CPR, supervisor workshops, train the trainer courses, taser, less lethal weapons, and deputy jailer in-service. Institutional pre-service academy finished 2023 with an 81.98% graduation rate.

 **9485**  
TRAINING HOURS



In September, the Eastern Region Training Center hosted visiting committee members from the American Correctional Association. Committee members reviewed documentation, monitored procedures, and interviewed staff and students against 106 national standards. The committee found the division in 100% compliance with all mandatory and non-mandatory expected practices. The division received re-accreditation in January 2024.



2023 also saw a number personnel changes and promotions. In June, Kenny Talbott was welcomed to the division fulfilling the role of assistant director. Derek Inman was promoted to correctional training instructor/coordinator II in the curriculum development branch. In September, Carl Bossio was brought into the division as a justice program administrator to serve as compliance manager for the division. The CRTC, SRTC, and ERTC filled vacant positions with the hiring of Ronnie Whittaker, Michelle Vance, and John Pulliam as instructors. And finally, the curriculum branch was expanded with the hiring of Cynthia Wathen and Kara Brown as training development specialists.

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# YEAR IN REVIEW • COMMISSIONER'S AWARD

In January 2023, Governor Andy Beshear announced steps to address challenges within the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). DOC's Training Division was tasked with assisting DJJ with training on less-lethal defense equipment in four regional juvenile centers. The staff selected to present this instruction were Training Instructors Kevin Lewis, Derek Inman, Jeremy Stevens, and Heather Woosley. Training staff did a fantastic job delivering content. They kept DJJ staff engaged and were able to answer any questions asked of them. Juvenile Justice staff said the training team was immensely knowledgeable and gave them hope to continue their essential work with Kentucky's juveniles. Three weeks after the conclusion of instruction, juveniles at facilities in Warren and Adair counties orchestrated violent attacks on staff. At both locations staff were assaulted, but they were able subdue the assailants and regain control of the facilities by using OC spray. The Justice and Public Safety Cabinet credits the swift resolution of the incidents to the training provided by our DOC instructors. The instructors performed the task of teaching DJJ employees to the high standard expected of the DOC Training Division. Their innovative approach to take stringent, policy-driven training and to deliver it in a manner relevant to an agency with different security needs has already made a difference and will continue to do so in the future. For these reasons, Kevin Lewis, Derek Inman, Jeremy Stevens, and Heather Woosley are all deserving recipients of 2023 Commissioner's Awards.



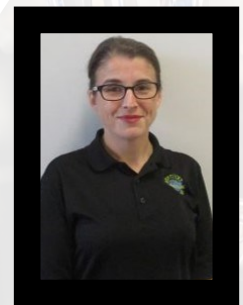
**Kevin Lewis**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator II



**Jeremy Stevens**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator I



**Derek Inman**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator II



**Heather Woosley**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator I



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## YEAR IN REVIEW • HERO AWARDS

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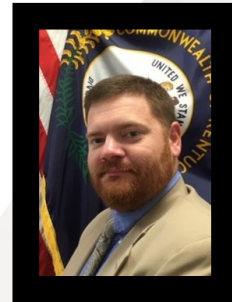
On September 13, 2022, at the Eastern Region Training Center, Training Division Branch Manager Jason Joseph and Training Instructor Jeremy Stevens were conducting live firearms training. At about 1 p.m., one of the students accidentally discharged his service weapon into his upper right leg. Stevens immediately called for a cease-fire and alerted Joseph of what had occurred. Joseph notified the institution of the emergency and directed a student to get Training Instructor Will Sparks, who was conducting classes elsewhere in the facility. Stevens grabbed the stricken officer by his shoulders and reassured him that he would be okay as they eased him down onto the ground. They applied a tourniquet and compression bandages so well that when institutional medical staff arrived, they found the officer's vitals good and that he had suffered minimal blood loss. ACA auditors said the staff at ERTC responded to the incident perfectly, stating: "The way this was handled is a perfect example of how these events should be addressed." Their quick, calm action, and deliberate care of the wound minimized the damage caused by the injury. It is for these reasons that Jason Joseph, Jeremy Stevens, and William Sparks are deserving recipients of 2023 Hero Awards.



**Jason Joseph**  
Branch Manager  
Policy & Accreditation



**Jeremy Stevens**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator I



**William Sparks**  
Corrections Training  
Instructor/Coordinator II