

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS  
Secretary Gary Westcott

Date: May 5, 2025

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### Correctional Professionals Week Proclaimed by Louisiana Governor Jeff Landry

BATON ROUGE, La. - Governor Jeff Landry has proclaimed May 4-10, 2025, as Correctional Professionals Week to recognize the essential role and invaluable contributions that correctional officers, probation and parole officers, and correctional employees play in ensuring the custody, safety, and well-being of inmates in Louisiana's prisons and jails.

This designated week is a testament to the 3,094 correctional officers employed by the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections. These staff members display an unwavering dedication of service to others and the collective efforts of each division within the Department, come together to fulfill the mission of public safety across the state each day.

"I firmly believe that one of the most fundamental rights of Louisiana citizens is to live in a safe community, a reality that correctional officers help to create through their daily work," said Gary Westcott, secretary Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections. "We accomplish this through the safe and secure management of our correctional facilities, the use of proven rehabilitative strategies and programs, mechanisms to compensate those harmed by crime, the linking of discharging inmates to community resources, and the provision of effective probation and parole supervision and reintegration services."

The Department's correctional officers collaborate to not only to meet the essential needs of inmates such as food, shelter, and clothing but also to provide vital additional services that support public safety goals. These include access to medical and mental health treatment, religious and self-help programs, educational programs and vocational training, crucial pre-release and reentry services, and much more. The Division of Probation and Parole offers community supervision and enforcement and helps foster rehabilitation and reintegration into society by assisting those under supervision in accessing essential services and programs.

In addition to correctional officers, the Department also employs a diverse workforce of 1,869 staff members in professional careers such as social workers, attorneys, doctors, nurses, chaplains, information technology, procurement, auditors, accountants, human resources and training, plus many others.

For citizens with an interest in making a transformative difference in the lives of others through a career in corrections, they are encouraged to learn more or apply by visiting [www.doc.la.gov/about-the-dpsc/careers-in-corrections](http://www.doc.la.gov/about-the-dpsc/careers-in-corrections). The Department's Facebook page includes the signed [proclamation](#).

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