## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

**Secretary Gary Westcott** 

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## Rayburn Correctional Center to Host First Fall Arts & Crafts Show

Free entry, parking and opportunity to purchase unique inmate-produced goods

BATON ROUGE, La. – The Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections is pleased to announce that B.B. Rayburn Correctional Center (RCC) will hold its first-ever Fall Arts & Crafts Show. The public is encouraged to attend this outdoor event that will happen Saturday, Nov. 1 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the RCC grounds at 27268 Highway 21 in Angie, Louisiana. The event offers free entry and parking, and interested citizens should make plans to arrive early.

More than 50 men who are incarcerated at RCC will showcase their hobby craft goods that range from hand-carved items, hand-made wooden toys, and jewelry boxes to custom indoor and outdoor furniture. These handcrafted items will be on display for the public to purchase. The Rayburn Horticulture Society will also have a selection of plant varieties for sale. The correctional facility will also be raising funds for the local food bank by selling jambalaya plates and cookies. The acceptable forms of payment include cash and credit cards.

"My team and I are excited about making this first-time arts and craft show possible because it provides an opportunity for those in our custody to showcase their craftsmanship skills," said Travis Day, warden, Rayburn Correctional Center. "This event also gives the public a chance to purchase unique hobby crafts to cherish for themselves or give as gifts."

Eligibility to participate in the hobby craft program and event are reserved for inmates who exhibit positive behavior. The high-quality goods and wares showcases their sophisticated woodworking and carpentry skills, and creative artistic pursuits. Participation in the event also helps them earn incentive income while also learning essential traits to become a productive citizen upon release. The sale of these items often help to support their family, or lessen the burden of family support, or they can use the earned income to either purchase or replenish arts and crafts supplies. Proceeds go towards the inmate's account and helps them prepare to reenter the community, which works to lower recidivism.

As a security measure, the public is reminded that drugs, alcohol or weapons are not permitted on the premises.

For more information about the arts and craft show or to obtain a media pass, please contact Warden Day at travis.day2@la.gov. Learn more about RCC, <a href="mailto:here">here</a>.