



June 1, 2016

Team TDOC,

Each day, more than 6,000 correctional professionals come to work for the Tennessee Department of Correction. From Mountain City to Memphis, your work makes Tennessee safer—that's no small feat. As you know, our mission is to operate safe and secure prisons, provide effective community supervision in order to enhance public safety. It is because of your dedication, adaptability, and strength in the midst of trying environments that this Department is living up to the vision of becoming one of the best correctional agencies in the country.

Together, we've overseen many changes over the past five years. In 2012, we created a system of seamless supervision through the acquisition of Community Supervision. The Department of Correction also increased the safety of Probation Parole Officers by providing them with the tools to effectively supervise offenders in the community. This reallocation of resources brought community supervision in line with national best practices and helped to keep our officers and our neighborhoods safer.

The implementation of tier management and controlled movement has made our prisons safer on the inside. An increased focus on rehabilitative programming prepares offenders for release and gives them the tools to increase their chances of successful reentry and a life as productive members of society. Beyond the walls, TDOC was an integral partner in the creation of the Public Safety Act of 2016. Together, these innovative initiatives help to create safer communities.

We've also increased staff training across the state. From regional workshops to new academies at the Tennessee Correction Academy, we've made investing in our people part of our culture. This push toward education continues into the higher education realm through partnerships with local universities.

Groundbreaking initiatives such as these don't simply happen. It takes a hard-working, dedicated team at all levels to take them from idea to implementation. Fortunately, we have been blessed: Governor Haslam has been a constant supporter of our Department and our mission. The knowledge, experience, and support of TDOC leadership have proven invaluable. The tireless professionalism shown each day by the more than 6,000 correctional professionals in this Department has made Tennessee families safer and earned national recognition. I am proud of the work that we've done.

It is with pride that I announce my resignation, effective June 30, 2016. The decision to take the next step in my career was a difficult one. I have enjoyed my time here, the challenges we have faced, and the progress we have made. I thank each and every one of you for the faith you have put in me, this Department, and the great state of Tennessee.

Sincerely

Derrick D. Schofield

DDS:PC