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Department of Correction Graduates its 218th Academy

Dover, DE —The Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) graduated and assigned 19 employees from its Correctional Employee Initial Training (CEIT) academy. The graduates took the oath of office and received their assignments in front of family, friends, and DOC officials. CEIT class #218 consisted of 17 Correctional Officers, one Correctional Counselor, and one Food Service Specialist. The ceremony featured remarks by DOC Commissioner Perry Phelps, training staff, Chaplain Joe Kadtko, and inspirational words from class speaker Troy Lewis. It also included the presentation of the Outstanding Cadet award to Correctional Officer Miles Little.

Members of CEIT class #218 completed nine weeks of training, including hands-on and classroom sessions in a multitude of areas. Areas of concentration included inmate supervision, weapons and chemical munitions, defensive tactics, emergency preparedness, report writing, substance abuse training, CPR/Basic First Aid and Mental Health First Aid, and inter-personal communication. They will now join the ranks of more than 2,500 employees who uphold the Department's mission of protecting the public by supervising nearly 7,000 adult offenders in facilities throughout the state.

Commissioner Perry Phelps commended the graduates and provided words of encouragement as they begin their law enforcement career. "It could be argued these are challenging and controversial times in the DOC. I have no doubt that with the training you received; your individual commitment to service, excellence, and one another, you will be successful," he said. "Your actions demonstrate you have a great deal of character."

The instruction team for CEIT Class #218 consisted of Primary Instructor John Boor, Training Educator Dean Edge, Training Educator Randall Meding, Training Educator Brian Lewis, Training Educator Matthew Hopp, and Corporal Keenan Hutchins. A photo of today's graduates is attached. Seated in the front row are: DOC Commissioner Perry Phelps, Training Educator Dean Edge, Training Educator John Boor, Training Educator Brian Lewis, and Bureau of Prisons Chief Chris Klein.

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