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## **DOC Commissioner Selects New Administrators**

### **Commissioner Phelps Appoints New Bureau Chief of Administrative Services and Warden of Howard R. Young Correctional Institution**

Dover, DE – Delaware Department of Correction Commissioner Perry Phelps announced he has selected a new Chief of the Bureau of Administrative Services (BAS) and Warden of the Howard R. Young Correctional Institution (HRYCI) in Wilmington.

Jennifer Biddle, Human Resource Administrator for the DOC, was appointed the Bureau Chief of Administrative Services effective July 23, 2017. The Bureau is responsible for fostering human resource practices that attract, develop and retain a skilled, dependable, and diverse workforce. In addition, the BAS provides financial management and reporting services. The Central Business Office, Human Resources, and Central Offender Records fall under the leadership of Chief Biddle.

Major Kolawole Akinbayo has been named Warden at Howard R. Young Correctional Institution (HRYCI) in Wilmington. Young Correctional Institution is the state's second largest male correctional facility, housing an average of 1,600 individuals. It holds nearly half of the state's detainee population and generates approximately 60 percent of all admissions into the Delaware correctional system. The appointment became effective July 23, 2017.

"Chief Biddle and Warden Akinbayo have extensive knowledge in their fields which will enable them to manage the unique dynamics of their respective responsibilities," said Commissioner Perry Phelps. "I trust in Jennifer and Kolawole's leadership and am confident they will help move the Department in the right direction."

Bureau Chief Biddle has been employed by the State of Delaware since 1999. Prior to being appointed Chief, she was Human Resource Administrator for the DOC. In this position, she managed the operations of Human Resources, participated in contract negotiations, conducted pre-termination hearings, reviewed and created policies and procedures, and made recommendations to the Commissioner. Before joining the DOC, Chief Biddle held positions within the Office of Management and Budget and Department of Transportation. Biddle was a Business Administration major at Wesley College in Dover and has successfully completed several trainings including the Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) Learning Certification as well as the National Institute of Corrections Training for HR Directors.

Akinbayo began his career as a Correctional Officer with the DOC in 2005 and was the first recipient of the "New Officer of the Year" award in 2006. He advanced through the ranks to most recently become Security Superintendent at HRYCI. As the Security Superintendent at HRYCI, Akinbayo oversaw the security, control, and safety programs within the institution. He was responsible for the development and implementation of correctional policies and procedures as well as planning, directing, and coordinating operations, administrative functions, and institutional programs. Warden Akinbayo has an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice from Delaware Technical Community College, two Bachelor's Degrees and a Master's Degree from Wilmington University. He is currently pursuing a second Master's Degree in Management with a concentration in Public Management from Wilmington University with an anticipated graduation date of December 2017.