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Department of Correction Graduates its 221st Academy

Dover, DE — In a ceremony this afternoon, The Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) graduated and assigned 31 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 #221 consisted of 25 Correctional Officers, two Correctional Counselors, two Department of Education (DOE) Teachers, and two Work Program Coordinators. The ceremony featured remarks by DOC Deputy Commissioner Alan Grinstead, training staff, Chaplain Gus Christo, and inspirational words from class speaker Correctional Officer Joseph Kraft. It also included the presentation of the Outstanding Cadet award to Correctional Officer Joseph Kraft.

During today's ceremony we were proud to have in attendance four Correctional Officers from the Carroll County DOC in New Hampshire representing the Cannonball Memorial Run. They, along with hundreds more officers around the country, have traveled across the nation collecting patches from law enforcement agencies who have experienced a recent loss. These patches will be presented to Attorney General Jeff Sessions during a ceremony at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. on Monday, October 2, 2017.

Members of CEIT class #221 completed ten weeks of training, including hands-on and classroom sessions in a multitude of capacities. Areas of concentration included inmate supervision, weapons and chemical munitions, defensive tactics, emergency preparedness, report writing, substance abuse training, CPR/Basic 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.

Deputy Commissioner Alan Grinstead commended the graduates and provided words of encouragement as they begin their law enforcement career. "You are joining the DOC at a pivotal point in our history: choose to lead by example, exhibit professionalism and integrity, and maintain a positive attitude."

The instruction team for CEIT Class #221 consisted of Primary Instructor Randall Meding, Instructor Team Cpl. Dallas Johnson and Cpl. Shahida Santiago, and Drill Instructors Lt. George Mosley and Sgt. Rufus Jones. A photo of today's graduates is attached. Seated in the front row are: DOC Deputy Commissioner Alan Grinstead, Corporal Shahida Santiago, Primary Instructor Randall Meding, Instructor Corporal Dallas Johnson, and Bureau Chief of Prisons Steven Wesley.

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