

# NEWS RELEASE

## DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

### Commissioner Claire DeMatteis

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**Presented by Deputy Bureau Chief of Prisons Paul G. Shavack, Public Information Officer**

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### **Probation and Parole Maintains Standards of Excellence**

**Dover-** Delaware's Probation and Parole team has received the highest affirmation that its operations meet law enforcement standards of excellence for the fourth consecutive year.

Representatives from the Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) attended the American Correctional Association (ACA) 2019 Conference in Boston, Massachusetts on Saturday, August 3, 2019. During this conference, Probation and Parole was awarded ACA re-accreditation.

ACA is a private, non-profit, trade association and accrediting body for the corrections industry. The organization was founded in 1870 and is one of the preeminent correctional organizations in the United States.

ACA accredits prisons, jails, community residential centers (halfway houses), probation departments, correctional treatment communities, and various other corrections facilities in the U.S. and internationally, using their independently published standards manuals.

The standards created and refined by the American Correctional Association represent fundamental correctional practices that ensure staff and inmate safety and security; enhance staff morale; improve record maintenance and data management capabilities; assist in protecting the agency against litigation; and improve the function of the facility or agency at all levels.

Probation and Parole (P&P) was audited in May 2019 and was found to be compliant with 100% of the mandatory standards and compliant with 100 % of the applicable non-mandatory standards. P&P was initially accredited in 2016. It is the continued diligence of all members of the Division that makes this continued high level of compliance with national best practices possible.

"I could not be more proud of the dedicated men and women of Probation and Parole who are committed to their daily efforts of keeping our communities safe." said Terra Taylor, Director of Probation and Parole. "Exceeding the stringent standards of accreditation is a clear indication of the dedication and service of our Probation and Parole team."

(Photo attached)

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