



NEWS RELEASE

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Commissioner Monroe B. Hudson, Jr.

Presented by Jason P. Miller, Chief of Communications and Community Relations

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DOC announces senior leadership promotions

Dover, DE -- Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) Commissioner Monroe B. Hudson Jr. announced today that DOC Chief of Administrative Services John Sebastian has been appointed Chief of Community Corrections, State Finance Department Human Resources Administrator Christine Dunning has been appointed Chief of Administrative Services, and DOC Correctional Food Services Administrator Wendal Lundy has been promoted to Deputy Chief of Administrative Services. The promotions take effect in early November.

“John Sebastian, Christine Dunning, and Wendal Lundy are highly capable and knowledgeable professionals who have demonstrated the ability to get things done,” **Department of Correction Commissioner Monroe B. Hudson Jr. said.** “Through these three appointments the Department of Correction is fortunate to have a deep bench of highly experienced correctional and law enforcement leaders who have proven that they can motivate others, embrace innovation to meet clear objectives, support their employees, and move the Department toward achieving our public safety and reentry mission.”

Incoming **Bureau of Community Corrections Chief John Sebastian** fills the vacancy created when former Chief of Community Corrections [Terra Taylor was appointed Deputy Commissioner](#) in August 2022. Chief Sebastian joined the Department of Correction in 1991, completing his Academy training as a Probation Officer after earning a Criminal Justice Degree from the University of Delaware. He served in a variety of positions of increasing responsibility in the Bureau of Community Corrections, earning promotions to Senior Probation and Parole Officer in 1995 and Probation and Parole Supervisor in 2001, where he led a team of Officers, developed and implemented policies, and provided staff training. He was named Kent County Operations Administrator for Probation and Parole in 2011, where he helped lead short and long range strategic planning, developed, implemented and evaluated supervision programs, collaborated with community, government and law enforcement partners, and participated in budget preparation. He was promoted to Statewide Probation and Parole Director in 2013, where he maintained

responsibility for Probation and Parole operations and programs in all three counties, provided leadership in preparing and administering the annual budget, and coordinated supervision programs and activities with the court system, Board of Parole, correctional facilities, and law enforcement agencies. He was elevated to Deputy Chief of Community Corrections in 2016, where he assisted in providing leadership across Probation and Parole and Level IV Work Release and Violation of Probation facilities statewide with a focus on facility operations, central offender records, strengthening facility and program standards and policies, and training programs while also serving as the DOC's legislative liaison providing legislative and policy leadership across the Department. Sebastian was appointed Deputy Chief of Administrative Services in 2017, where he led several department-wide programs including an expanded employee recruitment effort and provided oversight and guidance of fiscal management, human resources, central offender records, and legal services. [In January 2022 he was promoted to Chief of Administrative Services.](#)

Incoming **Bureau of Administrative Services Chief Christine Dunning**, who replaces John Sebastian as Chief of Administrative Services, brings 35 years of criminal justice and human resources leadership experience to the Department of Correction. Since April 2022 Dunning has served as statewide Human Resources Administrator for the Delaware Department of Finance, where she is responsible for the entire scope of human resources functions, including talent acquisition, selection and hiring process, diversity and inclusion, compensation, employee relations, labor relations and negotiations, training, policy planning development, project management, payroll, timekeeping and leave. She earned promotion to Human Resources Administration while serving as Human Resources Manager for the Department of Finance since 2018, where she had responsibilities to supervise, direct plan, and evaluate work of employees, establish employee goals and objectives, oversee, and participate in planning, development, and implementation of policies and procedures. Chief Dunning has also served in executive level Human Resources leadership positions in other state and local agencies, as Director of Human Resources for the Family Court of Delaware from 2017 to 2018 and as New Castle County Chief Human Resources Officer from 2014 to 2017. Before joining New Castle County government, Chief Dunning distinguished herself over a 27-year career in the Wilmington Police Department where she served as Patrol Officer, Community Police Officer, Sergeant and Lieutenant in the Uniformed Services Division, Sergeant/Public Information Officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant and Commanding Officer in the Criminal Investigation Division, Training Officer (2001-2005) and Commanding Officer (2011-2013) of the Department's Human Resources Division, and as Chief of Police (2013-2014).

[Deputy Chief of Community Corrections Heidi Collier](#), who had been acting Chief following Taylor's promotion, will remain in the position of Deputy Chief of Community Corrections.

Incoming **Deputy Chief of Administrative Services Wendal Lundy** fills the vacancy created when John Sebastian was promoted to Chief of Administrative Services. Lundy, a 15-year DOC veteran, has served as Correctional Food Service Administrator since 2015 where he manages and administers the Department-wide \$17 million annual food and supply budget and all food services and central supply activities for the Department. In this position he supervises all food and related operations through seven subordinate staff members, develops policies and procedures for all food and logistic operations in accordance with state and federal guidelines, coordinates on disaster related contingency plans and continuity of operations in these program areas, and service as a member of the American Correctional

Association accreditation working group. He previously served as Food Service Quality Control Administrator from 2007 through 2015 where he conducted training to food service personnel and inmate workers, conducted kitchen and warehouse inspections and evaluations, developed and implemented a quality assurance program for his program area, provided technical assistance to supervisory and management personnel, and developed audit tools to monitor and evaluate compliance with applicable laws, regulations, policies, procedures and standards. Lundy joined the DOC from ARAMARK Corporation, where he served as a Patient Services Manager from 2003 – 2007, training and supervising large numbers of food service staff and managing food service budgets and policies a large regional hospital facility. He served in uniform for 20 years in the United State Air Force from 1983 through 2003 where he specialized as a Diet Therapy Specialist. Lundy earned an Associate's Degree in Food & Nutritional Science from the Community College of the Air Force, a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from Wilmington University, and a Masters of Business Administration in Organizational Leadership from Wilmington University.

About the Bureau of Administrative Services

The Bureau of Administrative Services is responsible for recruitment, retention, fiscal management, and offender records functions across the Department of Correction. Within the Bureau the Central Business Office is responsible for payroll processing, accounts payable and receivable, budget preparation, budget development and implementation, contracts, grant management, and fleet management. The Office of Human Resources is responsible for recruitment planning and selection, personnel transactions, benefits, position management, classification and compensation, labor relations, discipline, equal employment opportunity enforcement, and supporting employee training. The Central Offender Records Unit is responsible for sentence calculations and all legal matters of those offenders incarcerated at a Level V and Level IV facility in collaboration with the courts, DOC facilities, and others as well as assisting other agencies in obtaining information for offenders in custody or no longer in custody.

About the Bureau of Community Corrections

The Bureau of Community Corrections oversees probation and parole, pretrial services, the community work release program, electronic monitoring and other supervision programs for more than 10,000 individuals statewide who are housed in Work Release and Violation of Probation facilities and the statewide Community Corrections Treatment Center, or are serving probationary sentences in the community. Its 300 Probation and Parole Officers along with support staff work to reduce crime and support public safety by assessing offender risks and needs and providing responsive supervision through comprehensive evidence-based reentry focused programs that feature substance abuse treatment, mental health services, career counseling, education and training. Bureau staff collaborate on a daily basis with medical and behavioral healthcare professionals, community organizations, service providers, state agencies, employers and the Judiciary to connect men and women under their supervision to systems of support that improve their chances of leading productive lives in our communities. They also play an active role in collaborative crime reduction initiatives, including the Group Violence Intervention project in the City of Wilmington.

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