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***For Immediate Release...******Corrections News*****August 30, 2010****Townes Chosen as Department August Employee of the Month**

Tina Townes has been selected as the Missouri Department of Corrections Employee of the Month for August 2010. Townes is employed as Probation and Parole Unit Supervisor at Probation and Parole District EP in Saint Louis, Missouri. Townes is being recognized for going above and beyond his normal working duties.

In a letter to Townes, Missouri Department of Corrections Director George A. Lombardi wrote, "Shortly after you took over the Initial Assessment Unit, you noted a need to provide clients and officers with more information regarding area resources. You began making contact with area resources in an effort to streamline referrals.

You initiated the process of organizing a Resource Fair to be held at the office. You were able to recruit a wide variety of resources that would benefit clients regarding education, substance abuse, employment, transportation, health and personal identification. On March 9, 2010, a Resource Fair was held at Districts EC and EP and by mid-morning the office was overflowing into the parking lot. Officers greeted clients at the door, assisted them with filling out applications and provided assistance with requested information. The atmosphere was one of excitement with clients engaging each other, resource providers, the police department and officers throughout the building. A number of partnering agencies were present for the fair including: Census Bureau, Provident Counseling, Metro Transit, Employment Connections, St. Louis City Health Department, Library, Police Department, and many more. Approximately 300 clients attended the Resource Fair, which at their request will become an annual event. As a result of the Resource Fair it was reported that 34 clients received free testing from the Health Department, over 100 participated in the healthy relationship presentation, numerous clients followed up for health related services, approximately 71 received birth certificates and/or identification cards, over 100 applied for grant services through St. Vincent DePaul, the library provided more library cards in a three hour span than they had in a month and also provided information regarding many library services, and much more!

You spent approximately six months recruiting and coordinating the Resource Fair which was a huge success. Your efforts greatly assisted our clients towards accomplishing their goals and achieving success! Your ability to accept a diversity of job assignments and perform them at high level benefits Probation and Parole, District EP, and the department as a whole."

Townes has been employed with the Department of Corrections for 8 years and resides in Saint Louis, Missouri.

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