

MEDIA RELEASE

Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia

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Tonight—Tonight—Tonight--Tonight

**Hundreds of Faith-Based Mentors and Offenders From Washington DC
Convene at St. Luke's to Recognize Two Years of Achievement**

**President Bush Uses State of the Union Speech to Urge Faith-Based and
Community Organizations to Support Returning Offenders**

**Offenders and Their Mentors Are Featured Speakers—Closed Circuit
Link Established with Federal Prison**

**Faith-Based Gospel Celebration (many in the choir are former
offenders) Will Perform**

See www.csosa.gov (yellow button) for details on faith-based efforts

“As President Bush noted in his State of the Union speech, offenders returning from incarceration face tremendous challenges,” said Paul A. Quander, Jr., Director of Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency. “Public safety mandates that we closely supervise offenders and offer them increasing and strategic opportunities to positively transform their lives. The President’s support and the actions of the faith-based community help us to accomplish this, and much more.”

WHO: Hundreds of faith-based mentors and the offenders they assist, CSOSA Director Paul A. Quander Jr. and many others. The sponsoring agency is the (federal) Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA).

WHAT: A Washington DC metropolitan area recognition of the approximately 200 mentors and 100 offenders participating in faith-based mentoring efforts.

WHEN: Thursday, January 29, 2004 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

WHERE: St. Luke's Church Center, 4923 East Capitol St. SE, Washington, DC 20019
Parking in front of the building (on the grass for TV trucks), or in the rear.

WHY: The criminological literature is clear; offenders who receive close supervision and services do better than those who do not. Community support for crime prevention is also an essential ingredient in offender supervision. While CSOSA has an established history of providing effective supervision and strict accountability for criminal offenders, we recognize that community and faith-based organizations can be of valuable assistance.

Established in 1997, the (federal) Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA) provides probation and post-incarceration services to approximately 15,000 criminal offenders in DC. CSOSA provides comprehensive, public safety oriented programming and treatment services combining accountability with meaningful opportunity. Each year, approximately 2,000 offenders return from federal correctional institutions to the District of Columbia.

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