

For Immediate Release
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Offender Reentry Week Highlights Faith-Based Efforts to Assist Those Returning From Prison—See www.csosa.gov for Details

CSOSA Offers 1,000 New Residential Drug Assessment and Treatment Slots for DC

Events Illustrate the Efforts of the (federal) Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency, Mayor Anthony Williams and the Faith Community

Media note: Coverage can be personalized through interviews with successful ex-offenders and their mentors, or ex-offenders who are now religious leaders as they preach during the week.

“Offenders returning to our community from prison need supervision and assistance,” said Paul A. Quander, Jr., Director of the federal office of Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency. “Public safety must always be our top priority, and everyone understands the pragmatism of turning tax burdens into tax payers.”

(Washington, DC)—The federal office of Court Services and Offender Supervision, Mayor Anthony Williams and the faith community of greater Washington announce a series of events designed to solicit support for returning ex-offenders. Crime prevention and the support of children (90 percent of offenders are parents) are primary themes as a variety of agencies come together to better serve the supervision and social needs of ex-offenders and their families.

The (federal) office of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency of the District of Columbia (CSOSA) supervises approximately 15, 000 criminal offenders in the District of Columbia. CSOSA offers comprehensive and public safety oriented supervision services for offenders on probation and those returning from prison. Each year, approximately 2,500 ex-offenders return from federal correctional institutions to the District of Columbia. Created in 1997, CSOSA embraces innovated methods and partnerships to reduce crime and create a safer metropolitan area.

The following events are designed to bring attention to the supervision and support needs of offenders, to note successful existing efforts, and to solicit the partnership resources of the greater Washington DC community. **Anyone interested in contributing time, money or resources to this effort should contact _____.**

**Thursday, January 22, 2004
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Press Conference/Ribbon Cutting/District of Columbia One Stop Reentry Center for Offenders, 609 H St. NE, Washington, DC, 20002. Contact person: Sharon Gang, Mayor's Office, 202-727-9811. The Mayor's office is creating a one-stop facility for all juvenile and adult offenders to provide comprehensive services. In attendance will be: Mayor Anthony Williams, the Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton, CSOSA Director Paul A. Quander Jr., the Rev. Donald Issac, and many others.

Friday, January 23, 2003

12 Noon for the worship service----- 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for the Reentry Dinner

A Muslim worship service at Masjid Muhammad (mosque) 1519 Islamic Way (New Jersey Ave. between "P" and Q" Sts. NW) Washington, DC 20001. Contact person: Imam Bilal Ali Prather (ex-offender), 202-374-0534.

The Muslim community ex-offender reentry dinner, Emery Recreation Center, Georgia Ave. and Madison St., Washington, DC, _____.

**Saturday, January 24, 2004
Noon to 2:00 p.m.**

CSOSA announcement of an additional 1,000 residential drug assessment, rehabilitation and treatment slots for District of Columbia offenders, and the temporary relocation of 21 existing beds to 1301 Clifton St. NW Washington DC 20009 (the location of the media event and open house). Contact CSOSA public affairs staff at 202-220-5616. CSOSA will rebuild an existing facility at Karrick Hall on the grounds of the District of Columbia General Hospital campus to house an additional 86 beds, for a total of 108 residential drug treatment beds engaging in a 28-day treatment program. The community is supporting the temporary relocation of the 21 treatment beds to the Clifton St. location. **Note to TV's: Visuals (drawings and photographs) of the new treatment facility will be available.**

Sunday, January 25, 2003

Morning Church Services Throughout the Metropolitan Area

Religious leaders (some of whom are ex-offenders) will offer services addressing efforts to serve returning offenders. Contact CSOSA public affairs staff for details (202-220-5616).

Thursday, January 29, 2004

7:00 p.m. A citywide celebration of three years of effort addressing the needs of returning offenders. St. Luke's Church, 4925 East Capitol St. SE Washington, DC 20019. Contact CSOSA public affairs staff at 202-220-5616.