

APRIL 7, 2009

DIRECTOR'S NEWS UPDATE



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2008 Officers of the Year Announced

I take great pleasure in announcing the 2008 Officers of the Year. Each of these individuals represents all the dedication, hard work and commitment that it takes to be the best in our profession. They serve not only as examples of excellence within their community but also as role models. Please join me in extending appreciation and congratulations to them.

Correctional Officer of the Year

Travis P. Ary, Correctional Security Officer IV at Joseph Harp Correctional Center, is the Agency Correctional Officer of the Year.

Sergeant Ary began his career in 2006. He is an Honor Guard member, a member of the JHCC Correctional Emergency Response Team and serves as a volunteer fire fighter and EMT in his community. He is a motivational leader with a reputation for accessing situations and making sound decisions. Sergeant Ary is a respected leader who embodies the values and beliefs that are synonymous with the Department of Corrections.

Correctional Officer Supervisor of the Year

Michael P. Shelite, Correctional Security Manager I, James Crabtree Correctional Center, is the Agency Correctional Officer Supervisor of the Year.

Lieutenant Shelite began his career in 1989. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice in 2005. He is responsible for daily operations of the Property Room and the Post Office. Lieutenant Shelite supervises the Armory Officer, Tool and Contraband Officer and

the K-9 Officer. In addition, he serves on three separate volunteer fire departments and as a first responder for the Alfalfa County Emergency Medical Services. Lieutenant Shelite has served in the Oklahoma National Guard for several years completing a twelve month tour in Iraq. He is the CERT Commander at JCCC and holds the position of Assistant Commander of the Agency's Honor Guard helping to recruit and train new members. His honesty, experience and open communication has gained him the respect of co-workers and peers.

Probation and Parole Officer of the Year

Crystal L. Angelo, Probation and Parole Officer III, Central District Community Corrections, is the Agency Probation and Parole Officer of the Year.

Officer Angelo began her career with the Department of Corrections in April 2004. Officer Angelo has been actively involved in a national multi-jurisdictional caseload study that is researching the differential effect of caseload size on outcomes related to recidivism for medium and high-risk offenders, as well as the impact of evidence based-practices (EBP) on recidivism outcomes. This study, which will conclude during April 2009, will provide correctional agencies nationwide with much needed data and research analysis. In addition to her involvement with this study, Officer Angelo is also an active member of the district's Affirmative Action Committee, the Planning Committee and the agency's Honor Guard.