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South Carolina Department of Corrections Closes Campbell Pre-Release Center

April 3, 2014 (Columbia, S.C.) - The South Carolina Department of Corrections (SCDC) will close Campbell Pre-Release Center, a Level-1A minimum security facility that houses inmates who have served the majority of their sentence and have the opportunity to be reintegrated into the community through work release programs.

“Closing Campbell Pre-Release will consolidate pre-release programs and services and allow us to reinvest in security at SCDC by adding contraband officers at the Broad River complex and filling vacancies in other institutions,” said South Carolina Department of Corrections Director, Bryan Stirling.

Campbell Pre-Release Center opened in 1975 and housed 246 inmates, a staff of 35 uniformed officers and a non-uniformed support staff of 10. Inmates are moving to available beds in a Level-1A institution at the Broad River Complex where they will be able to continue their work release programs and prepare to re-enter society. The move will also allow the agency to redistribute security personnel and strengthen the officer to inmate ratio.

The inmate count at Campbell Pre-Release has declined significantly due to a reduction in recidivism rates, sentencing reform and successful programs and services within SCDC institutions. The work release program will transfer to Manning Correctional Institution and the labor crew details will be maintained at Walden Correctional Institution, both located in Columbia.

Recidivism rates have declined steadily based on a 3-year national standard. The percentage of releases who returned to SCDC for 2010 is 27.5 percent, down from 2009 at 29.4 percent and 2008 at 30.6 percent.

The closing of Campbell Pre-Release is not expected to have any effect on the agency’s ability to provide work or pre-release programming for inmates or the ability to maintain the department’s labor crew commitments.

For more information or to schedule an interview with the South Carolina Department of Corrections please contact Stephanie Givens, communications director at givens.stephanie@doc.sc.gov or at (803) 896-1490.