



## **Founders Day Celebration Set for SCDC Intensive Supervision Program**

**May 15, 2014 (Columbia, S.C.)-** The South Carolina Department of Corrections' Division of Young Offender Parole and Reentry Services (YOPRS) will celebrate Founder's Day saluting the accomplishments of its Intensive Supervision Services on Friday, May 23, 2014 from 9:30am-12:00pm at the Department's Training Academy located at 4444 Broad River Road in Columbia.

"Intensive Supervision, created by Judge Byars, is very effective in reducing recidivism of youthful offenders and this is an opportunity to recognize the public servants who make it a success," said Director Bryan P. Stirling.

The Department of Corrections implemented a new parole service, called Intensive Supervision, under the leadership of retired Director Judge William Byars, in July of 2011. Intensive Supervision provides an officer (ISO) for each Youthful Offender entering the SCDC system, while incarcerated and when they are on parole in the community. Today Intensive Supervision Services are fully implemented, and there has been a substantial reduction in the number of young adults returning to prison in South Carolina

"Our vision was to reduce the recidivism rate for our population at highest risk, preventing a lifetime of crime at an early age and stopping the cycle of generational crime," said Judge Byars.

Guest speakers include Irmo Elementary School educator Tony Webb and Hank Chardos, founder of Home Works of America, Inc. They will share inspirational stories about the value of meaningful community service for youthful offenders. Dignitaries from around the state will also attend to show support.

Importantly, a number of awards will be presented during the event recognizing community partners and service providers. Outstanding Intensive Supervision Officers from around the state will be honored and those Youthful Offenders that have successfully completed their reentry from prison to their community will also be recognized.