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For Immediate Release...

Corrections News

July 1, 2009

Dial Chosen as Department July Employee of the Month

LaDon Dial has been selected as the Missouri Department of Corrections Employee of the Month for July 2009. Dial is employed as Probation and Parole Officer II, District 24, Independence, Missouri. Dial is being recognized for going above and beyond her normal working duties.

In a letter to Dial, Missouri Department of Corrections Director George A. Lombardi wrote, "In July 2008 you received notification from the Independence, MO police department that Jonathan, one of your clients, was a suspect in a burglary. His brother, also a client under your supervision, had an extensive history of drug use as well as having used his brother's name and identification in the past year. You called Jonathan to ask him about any arrests and he stated that he had just returned home from work. Being aware of his brother's history of using his name, you suggested that Jonathan contact the Independence Police to clear up the matter. You met him at the police station at 8:30 p.m. and informed the police of your suspicion that the bother was actually the person arrested. This was confirmed by reviewing mug shots and Independence Police corrected their forms and data base to show the correct person arrested. You took the extra steps to correct a situation you knew to be wrong. You could have left the problem up to Jonathan to resolve but you took the initiative to do the right thing, meeting with him at the police station, well beyond your business hours for that day and you demonstrated to Jonathan a positive way to resolve a situation. You have an interstate caseload which can be very challenging at times but you treat your clients with a high level of respect and allow them to maintain dignity while working through the problems they've created for themselves. In addition to going the extra mile with your clients, you are willing to go the extra mile for your co-workers. You have been instrumental in coordinating Pathways to Change regional facilitator meetings and you are willing to share your experiences and what you have found to be best practices in running Pathways groups. You exemplify the attitude needed to make Pathways to Change a success throughout the region! Your ability to accept a diversity of job assignments and perform them at a high level benefits Probation and Parole, District 24, and the Department as a whole."

LaDon Dial has been employed with the Department of Corrections for 11 years and lives in Lees Summit, Missouri.

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