

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Board of County Commissioners

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Okaloosa Department of Corrections Awarded Florida Corrections Accreditation, 3rd Excelsior Status

Okaloosa County, Florida - The Okaloosa County Department of Corrections was recently awarded Florida Corrections Accreditation, 3rd Excelsior Status. This significant achievement recognizes the agency's commitment to professionalism, accountability, and the highest standards of correctional operations.

Florida Corrections Accreditation is a rigorous, voluntary process administered by the [Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission \(FCAC\)](#) and requires agencies to demonstrate compliance with hundreds of established standards covering all aspects of correctional administration, including inmate safety and welfare, staff training, security procedures, facility operations, and legal compliance.

"This accreditation reflects the dedication and hard work of our corrections team," said Okaloosa County Board Chairman Paul Mixon. "Meeting these standards confirms that the Okaloosa County Department of Corrections operates in accordance with best practices designed to protect staff, inmates, and the community we serve."

The process also involves extensive self-assessment, detailed policy and procedure reviews, on-site inspections, and independent evaluations by trained assessors. This achievement affirms that the Department not only meets required standards but is committed to continuous improvement and excellence in correctional services.

Beyond recognition, Florida Corrections Accreditation provides tangible benefits to the community. It provides enhanced operational efficiency, reduced risk and liability, improved staff training and morale, and greater transparency and accountability in government operations. Accreditation also underscores the Department's commitment to constitutional, ethical, and humane correctional practices while supporting public trust and confidence in the criminal justice system.

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