

Press Release

State of Maryland
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services



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Cumberland Correctional Training Academy Graduates 5

TOWSON, MD (December 7, 2010) –Five officers graduating Tuesday will go on to work at North Branch Correctional Institution (NBCI) and Western Correctional Institution (WCI), both state-run facilities, as well as the Allegany County Detention Center (ACDC).

This class is the last of the year for the Western Correctional Training Academy. All five graduates earned the distinction of Honor Graduate. Honor graduates earn grade point averages of 95 percent or better, and also have perfect attendance.

Since 1971, Maryland has required all state and local correctional officers to be certified by the state's Correctional Training Commission. Before being chosen as a candidate to be a correctional officer, an individual must meet the Commission's selection standards. Among the items included in this process are physical and mental fitness examinations, drug testing, background screening and oral interviews.

A selected candidate must then undergo training in an intense program. The Commission requires a minimum of 160 hours training – one month – for correctional officers.

Twelve academies throughout the state provide training in a variety of subjects pertaining to corrections, the supervision and treatment of inmates, and also the security, custody, control and discipline of inmates.

Individuals must receive passing scores of at least 75 percent on each academy examination. Those who successfully complete the training are graduated from the academy and are eligible to be certified as a correctional officer by the Correctional Training Commission.

The following are scheduled to graduate Tuesday:

- John Fitch will work as a Correctional Officer I at NBCI
- Robert Holler will work as a Correctional Officer I at WCI
- Philip A. Nelson, will work as a Correctional Officer I at NBCI
- Nathaniel G. Spring will work as a Correctional Officer I at NBCI
- Brison D. Martin will work as a Correctional Officer I at ACDC

The Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services protects the public, its employees and the detainees and offenders under its supervision.