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## DIVISION OF CORRECTION

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Richard A. Lanham, Sr., *Commissioner*  
*of Correction*

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*of Correction*

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The Division of Correction originated in the nineteenth century when the first State prisons, the Maryland Penitentiary and the Maryland House of Correction, were erected. Prior to 1916, the two prisons were autonomous. Each operated under the jurisdiction of either a board of directors or a board of managers appointed by the Governor. In 1916, these institutions were placed under the State Board of Prison Control (Chapter 556, Acts of 1916). The Board of Welfare superseded the State Board of Prison Control in 1922 to administer the prisons (Chapter 29, Acts of 1922). In 1939, the Department of Correction and the Board of Correction replaced the Board of Welfare (Chapter 69, Acts of 1939).

The Superintendent of Prisons became administrator of the Department of Correction in 1953 (Chapter 758, Acts of 1953). The Board of Correction established departmental policies and appointed executive personnel for institutions under the jurisdiction of the Department on recommendations made by the Superintendent of Prisons. In 1962, the Advisory Board of Corrections replaced the Board of Correction, and the Superintendent of Prisons was succeeded by the Commissioner of Correction (Chapter 123, Acts of 1962). The Department of Correction was renamed the Department of Correctional Services in 1968 (Chapter 137, Acts of 1968).

All State correctional responsibilities were assigned to the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services in 1970 (Chapter 401, Acts of 1970). At that time, the Department of Correctional Services was reorganized as the Division of Correction under the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

The Division of Correction plans, establishes, and directs the administration of State correctional facilities. The Division is responsible for the Maryland Reception, Diagnostic, and Classification Center; the Maryland Correctional Pre-Release System; State Use Industries; and eight State prisons:

Maryland Penitentiary (Baltimore)  
Roxbury Correctional Institution—Hagerstown  
Maryland Correctional Institution—Hagerstown  
Maryland Correctional Training Center  
(Hagerstown)  
Maryland House of Correction (Jessup)  
Maryland Correctional Institution—Jessup  
Maryland Correctional Institution for  
Women—Jessup  
Eastern Correctional Institution (Westover)

Western Correctional Institution, a new State prison near Cresaptown in Allegany County, is expected to open in July 1996.

The Commissioner of Correction is appointed by the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services with the approval of the Governor and Senate advice and consent (Code 1957, Art. 27, secs. 667-679).

### CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Citizens' Advisory Committees for correctional institutions report to the Commissioner of Correction and the Governor about concerns of citizens residing in the vicinity of each institution. Currently, Committees serve the regions around Baltimore, Hagerstown, Jessup, and Somerset County. Each Committee has seven members appointed to three-year terms by the Governor (Code 1957, Art. 41, secs. 4-1101 through 4-1103).

### INMATE PROGRAMS

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Inmate Programs oversees seven units: Adjustment Hearings; Case Management; Commitment; Correctional Education; Food Services; Inmate Affairs; and Religious and Volunteer Services.

Under Division jurisdiction, correctional institutions classify inmates to determine how they should be confined and supervised. Once the security level of confinement has been determined, the specific conditions of confinement are evaluated for an inmate and, where appropriate, programs are offered in education, vocational training, employment, substance abuse counseling, and psychological and psychiatric intervention and security.

Prisons provide education, including elementary and secondary school instruction, advanced and specialized study, and vocational and on-the-job training. The instruction in pre-release units prepares inmates to obtain high school equivalency certificates. Prisons and pre-release units also offer programs for inmates to develop or relearn occupational skills. Inmates are assigned to a variety of maintenance tasks, as well as to the diversified State Use Industries Program. These programs provide goods and services needed by certain public agencies. For example, several prisons operate their own laundries which also serve other State facilities.

The Division of Correction administers the *Work Release Program*, established in 1963 (Chapter 285, Acts of 1963). Under the Program, certain prisoners may leave confinement to work at gainful employment in the community. They return to the institution at the end of the work day. In 1968, this privilege was extended for attending school (Chapter 551, Acts of 1968). Under certain conditions, the Commissioner of Correction may authorize special leave for prisoners to seek employment or participate in special community rehabilitation programs. Weekend leaves also may be granted under certain conditions (Code 1957, Art. 27, secs. 700A, 700C).