

Press Release

State of Maryland
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services



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Secretary

DPSCS Correctional Officer Among Those Honored at 30th Annual Governor's Crime Prevention Awards

TOWSON, MD (December 10, 2009) --- Maryland's top crime prevention efforts were recognized this week at the annual Governor's Crime Prevention Awards Luncheon. The awards are sponsored by the Maryland Community Crime Prevention Institute (MCCPI), which is an agency under the auspices of the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions (MPCTC) and the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS).

Among the recipients that included law enforcement agencies, private citizens and community groups, military organizations, colleges and universities, and law enforcement officers, was DPSCS' own Correctional Officer II Olasoji Olaniyi from Jessup Correctional Institution.

Officer Olaniyi was nominated by JCI's Warden John Wolfe and Chief of Security Allen Gang for his efforts earlier this year to prevent illegal activity by a staff member within the institution. He reported the staff's inappropriate relationship with an offender to institutional supervision which led to an investigation and subsequent termination of a corrupt officer from Maryland State employment.

Not only did Officer Olaniyi's actions stop an illegal relationship that could have caused further harm to staff or inmates if progressed, but he encouraged other staff members to be vigilant and educated about the dangers of illegal activity and their role and duty to report it. Inappropriate relationships with offenders inside an institution can lead to a host of problems, such as sharing of confidential information, trafficking of contraband and other activities that are the root of violence in a correctional setting. Officer Olaniyi made himself an example in institutional crime prevention for others to follow, who in the past may have felt intimidated in reporting such incidents.

See the MCCPI [Crime Prevention Awards](http://www.mccpi.org/crime-prevention-awards) website for a complete list of winners.



Correctional Officer II Olasoji Olaniyi of Jessup Correctional Institution (center) receives a Governor's Crime Prevention Award from DPSCS Secretary Gary D. Maynard (right) and Acting Director of the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions Raymond Franklin (left).

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