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**DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE**

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## Press Release

**For Immediate Distribution**  
Friday, June 4, 2010

Office of Media & Public Relations  
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**Augusta, Georgia-** Two youths received their high school diplomas and 10 received their General Equivalency Degrees (GED) at a ceremony at the Augusta Youth Development Campus (YDC) at 10 AM, Friday, June 4, 2010 in at the Augusta YDC campus.

The commencement speaker was State Senator Hardie Davis. Davis is also a pastor and spent 17 years working as an electrical engineer.

Davis congratulated the youths on their accomplishments and encouraged them to find something they were good at and work diligently toward developing their talent.

“Every single one of you has something to offer,” he said.

The Augusta YDC is DJJ’s facility for youth with special needs. The Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice is Georgia’s 181st school district and has accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. All DJJ teachers are certified. Students in short-term RYDCs and long-term YDCs both receive 330 minutes of instruction each day year round. Students in DJJ schools can achieve a GED, high school diploma or special education diploma. All academic and vocational credits awarded are transferable with the youth upon a return to the community.

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