



## Press Release

**For Immediate Distribution**  
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Office of Media & Public Relations  
Phone: (404) 508-7147

### **Sumter Youth Development Campus to Hold Graduation**

**Americus, Georgia** – One student at the Sumter Youth Development Campus (YDC) will receive his high school diplomas, 11 will receive their graduate equivalency degrees (GEDs), and two students will receive technical certificates from South Georgia Technical College at a graduation ceremony at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 29, 2010 at the facility.

The Sumter graduation will be the second to last graduation of the 2009-2010 school year. The final graduation will be held at the Eastman YDC on July 30. During this school year DJJ youth have earned 43 high school diplomas and 84 GEDs. Thirty-two youths have completed the course requirements for a technical certificate of credit. This school year, DJJ has also held graduations at the Macon and Augusta YDCs, and the Bob Richards Regional Youth Detention Center (RYDC) in Rome.

The commencement speaker will be Rev. Frederick D. Sherrod, III.

“This school year has seen a record number of DJJ youth receive a high school diploma,” said Juvenile Justice Commissioner Garland R. Hunt Esq. “While holding youth accountable for their delinquent behavior, DJJ is firmly committed to providing these youth with skills that will provide opportunities for them once they return to our communities.”

The Sumter YDC, which has 150 beds, has full educational services and is staffed with certified teachers who provide youth with the opportunity to earn their high school or GED diploma. An agreement with the South Georgia Technical College provides a variety of vocational classes. College credits can be earned in basic auto mechanics and detailing, construction, and Microsoft Word. These credits can transfer to local colleges.

DJJ is Georgia’s 181st school district and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

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