

L. Gale Buckner, Commissioner

Emily Gest, Director
Office of Communications



DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

3408 Covington Highway ▪ Decatur, Georgia ▪ 30032-1513
Telephone: (404) 508-7147 ▪ Fax: (404) 508-7341

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NOVEMBER 29, 2011

CONTACT: Emily Gest
DJJ Communications
(404) 508-7147 landline
(404) 858-4226 cell
emilygest@djj.state.ga.us

DJJ Commissioner L. Gale Buckner Appoints Acting Director of Secure Campuses
– Macon RYDC Director promoted to oversee all of DJJ's long-term facilities –

(Decatur, GA) — Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice Commissioner L. Gale Buckner announced today that Ronnie Richardson has been selected as the acting director of secure campuses. In his new position, Richardson will oversee the operations of DJJ's six long-term Youth Development Campuses (YDCs) located throughout the state. Previously, Richardson was the director of the Macon Regional Youth Detention Center (RYDC).

Since joining DJJ in 1990 as a juvenile correctional officer, Richardson has served in many capacities, including as a juvenile detention counselor, substance abuse program director, assistant director of the Macon YDC and as director of the now closed Bill Ireland YDC in Milledgeville.

DJJ Commissioner L. Gale Buckner said, "Mr. Richardson's many years of experience in DJJ's secure facilities make him an ideal choice for this key position as we work to find innovative ways to rehabilitate the youth in our care"

"I am honored to have been chosen for as the acting director of secure campuses," Richardson said. "I look forward to working with Commissioner Buckner and other key staff to ensure that our Youth Development Campuses are safe environments for youth to pursue their education and rehabilitation goals."

Richardson, who lives in Milledgeville, earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Georgia College, a master's degree in organizational management from the University of Phoenix and a master's degree in criminal justice from Capella University.

District Director Melissa Aaron will serve as acting director of the Macon RYDC.

###