



For immediate release

Departing IDOC Commissioner Receives Distinguished Service Medal

Indianapolis, IN (February 8, 2011) – On Wednesday, January 19, 2011, former Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) Commissioner Edwin G. Buss was presented with the Indiana Distinguished Service Medal “for his loyal and lengthy service to the United States of American and the state of Indiana.”

The award was presented to Commissioner Buss at the IDOC’s Leadership Symposium in Brown County, Indiana by Indiana National Guard Adjutant General Martin Umbarger.

Major General Umbarger remarked, “Commissioner Buss is the finest example of a public servant serving the citizens of Indiana. His tireless efforts to improve the efficiency of the Indiana Department of Correction have resulted in a safer Indiana in which to live, a model of professionalism which evokes favorable comments and exceeds taxpayer expectations of operation.”

The Distinguished Service Medal is the highest civilian honor the United States military can bestow and is issued for exceptionally meritorious service to the government of the United States.



Indiana National Guard Adjutant General Martin Umbarger presents IDOC Commissioner Edwin Buss with the Indiana Distinguished Service Medal.

Umbarger also thanked Buss for the Department's longstanding partnership with the Indiana National Guard, "Commissioner Buss has been extremely supportive of the Indiana National Guard. A military veteran himself, he understands the demands placed on our Citizen-Soldiers. And no state agency has been more accommodating and understanding of our Guardsmen than the Indiana Department of General Corrections. Commissioner Buss has established a model program at Camp Atterbury and Muscatatuck Urban Training Center, where both organizations mutually benefit from the inmate work program he helped implement."

Last year, the IDOC joined multiple state and federal agencies in assisting the Indiana National Guard acquire land for expansion of the Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center. The land exchange deal between the Indiana National Guard, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Indiana Department of Correction transferred 1,250 acres of DNR land north of Camp Atterbury to the Indiana National Guard. In return, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources received more than 2,000 acres surrounding the Putnamville Correctional Facility in Putnam County, Indiana.

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