



*For immediate release*

### **Former Lt. Governor Ellsperman Honors IDOC Offenders for Their Avian Flu De-Population Work**

On Wednesday, March 2, 2016, Edinburgh Correctional Facility hosted an appreciation banquet at the Conference Center on Camp Atterbury. The banquet was held to show appreciation to 68 offenders and several staff that voluntarily assisted with the eradication of approximately 400,000 fowl infected with a rare strain of the Avian Bird Flu. The outbreak was located in Dubois County in southern Indiana.

Lieutenant Governor, Sue Ellsperman, was the keynote speaker at the event. To show her gratitude for the work they provided to the community, she awarded the offenders a Letter of Recommendation, a Certificate and a 529 Scholarship for Education. Ellsperman mentioned the importance of their efforts and the support it provided to the community and the agricultural well-being of the poultry capital of Indiana. "If not for the quick response by the Department of Correction for containment purposes, the effects could have been devastating." Noted Lt. Governor Ellsperman.

Several guest speakers joined Ellsperman to show their appreciation, including, John Hill, Deputy Chief of Staff, Governor Pence's Office, Bruce Lemmon, Commissioner of Indiana Department of Correction, Courtney P. Carr, The Adjunct General for Indiana, David Kane, Director of Homeland Security, Dr. Bret Marsh, Director of Indiana State Veterinary Medicine/ Department of Animal Health, Paul Brennan, Indiana State Poultry Association and Jillian Battle, Chief Deputy Treasurer/ Chief of Staff General Counsel.

The banquet was organized by Superintendent Frances Osburn who said, "I am honored to have Lieutenant Governor Ellsperman and a panel of such prestigious guest speakers attend this event. I want to thank the staff and offenders who volunteered for this project, all of their hard work and their dedication to the Dubois County Avian Project."

#### **About Edinburgh Correctional Facility:**

The Edinburgh Correctional Facility is located in Edinburgh Indiana on Camp Atterbury and was founded in 1991. Edinburgh is a minimum security facility that houses 320 offenders. They have approximately 35 work crews supporting Camp Atterbury and other community and state agencies. With these partnerships they save the taxpayers of Indiana thousands of dollars every year.

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