

PRISON REFORM BOARD BIOS

MAJOR GENERAL BETH AUSTIN, CHAIRPERSON

U.S. Army Retired Major General Beth Austin is an Army veteran with more than 39 years of military service. She received her commission as an Ordnance Officer in 1980 after completing Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Ga. A career logistician, she commanded troops from platoon to brigade levels. Her career included combat deployment in support of Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990, a return to active duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2004 as the 30th Brigade Combat Team Rear Commander, and as the Army Central Command/Third United States Army G4 and dual hatted as the Commanding General Army Material Command – Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in October 2012-October 2014.



Her recent assignment was as the Assistant Deputy Commanding General, Army National Guard, Army Material Command, Redstone Arsenal, in Huntsville, Ala. Austin also served 26 years as part of the NCNG full-time support staff as a Federal Civil Service Technician where she was the Director of Logistics for over seven years.

A Raleigh native, Austin grew up in Fuquay-Varina and graduated from Broughton High School. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Excelsior University and holds a master's in strategic studies from the United States Army War College.

ART BEELER

Art Beeler served for more than 33 years with the Federal Bureau of Prisons, beginning as a student intern in 1975, before his retirement in 2009. He started his career as a correctional officer and moved up to Complex Warden at Butner, NC. In his 22-plus years as warden, he was CEO of a Federal Prison Camp, a Federal Jail, a Federal Transportation Center, two Federal Medical Centers, and two Federal Correctional Institutions (including the largest stand-alone correctional institution in the country).



Since his retirement, Beeler has provided services for the DPS in the construction of health care facilities and, most recently, as the chairman of the Mental Health Task Force. He has also provided criminal justice and legal instruction at several universities including North Carolina Central University, Duke University School of Law, North Carolina Wesleyan College, and the University of Northern Colorado. He has also served as a rule of law consultant for the U.S. State Department in Afghanistan.

His volunteer work in criminal justice includes working with the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council in Granville County, serving on the Board of Directors of RE-ENTRY, Inc., the N.C. Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, and N.C. Commission on Indigent Defense Services. He serves as a member of the Commission of Correctional Certification and the Board of Governors of the American Correctional Association.

Beeler graduated from the College of the Albemarle, East Carolina University and University College of the University of Maryland. He also attended Virginia Commonwealth University.

STANLEY DREWERY

Stanley Drewery of Grifton retired with 30 years of state service with both the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Transportation. He began his career with NCDOT in 1982 before moving to the former Department of Corrections as a correctional officer in 1992. He was promoted to sergeant in 1996, then to lieutenant in 1998. He became an instructor for the Office of Staff Development and Training in 2005 before retiring on January 1, 2012.

Drewery has been active in the State Employee Association of North Carolina (SEANC), where he is currently in his second term as president. He's been a member of SEANC for more than 30 years. He is a veteran and served six years in the Army National Guard.

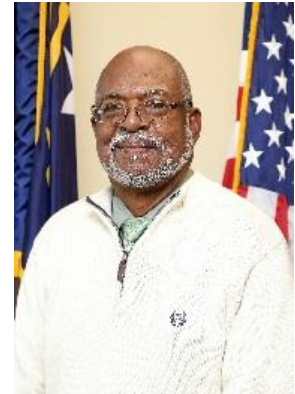


JAMES FRENCH

James French started his career with the North Carolina Department of Correction as a correctional officer at Central Prison in April 1972 after serving three years in the United States Army. He rose through the ranks and was named Central Prison warden in 1994.

Five years later, French was appointed director of the Division of Prisons. He retired in February 2001 with 34 years of service. However, in January 2009, his retirement ended when he was named Deputy Secretary of the Department of Correction overseeing the Division of Prisons, Correction Engineering, Correction Enterprises, Extradition and Combined Records.

In October 2012, French retired from the new Department of Public Safety. Since that time, he has served in a part-time role working with mental health reforms and on safety and security issues.



STEPHANIE HOLLEMBAEK

Stephanie Hollembaek began her career with the Federal Bureau of Prisons as an intern at the Federal Prison Camp located in Duluth, Minn. in 1991 while attending the University of Wisconsin-Superior. Upon completion of her studies in the field of Political Science in January 1992, Hollembaek was hired as a correctional officer.

Hollembaek moved through the ranks and was assigned to positions of increased responsibility including Correctional Treatment Specialist at Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) CI Estill, SC; Assistant Case Management Coordinator, FCI Edgefield, SC; Unit Manager, U.S. Medical Center for Prisoners SMCFP Springfield, Mo.; Executive Assistant, U.S. Penitentiary SP Lewisburg, Pa.; Regional Executive Assistant, Northeast Regional Office; Associate Warden, Federal Correctional Complex Tucson, Tucson, Ariz.; Deputy Assistant Director for Health Services, Central Office, Washington, DC; and Warden, Federal Correctional Complex Butner. She retired after 25 years with the Bureau of Prisons in December 2016.



Hollembaek received numerous awards during her career, including the Regional Directors Award for the North Central Region for outstanding contributions to the Bureau of Prisons (2001), and the Meritorious Service Medal for extraordinary meritorious service to the Bureau of Prisons (2013).

MIKE KILLMER

Mike Killmer brings a wide range of experience relevant to prison industries, custody and overall prison operations. After a 32-year career with the Federal Bureau of Prisons, he retired in July 2016.

During his career, Killmer served at five federal institutions ranging from low security to penitentiaries, as well as Central Office in Washington, DC. Killmer served as a Factory Manager, Program Manager, Superintendent of Industries and Education, and Associate Warden of Programs and Operations.

Killmer grew up in Poughkeepsie, NY and studied business administration while also attending trade schools, obtaining degrees in Business Administration, Electronics, Textiles, and Metallurgy. Killmer is also certified in Correctional Management, Emergency Preparedness, and holds a Green Belt in Lean Six Sigma.



DOROTHY HOLMES LEDFORD

Dorothy Holmes Ledford began her career with the former Department of Correction, Division of Prisons in 1975. She has experience with diagnostic and evaluation centers, security, and classification of management inmates, as well as the implementation of programming initiatives within the Department.

She retired in 2003 but has continued to work for Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice in classification services for Prisons and the NCDPS Office of Special Investigations.

Ledford received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from N.C. State University.



GARY MOHR

Gary Mohr of Chillicothe, Ohio, is director of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. Appointed in January 2011, Mohr has more than 43 years of correctional experience and began his career in 1974 as a teacher's aide at the Marion Correctional Institution.

Mohr, who is the President-elect of the American Correctional Association, has received numerous national awards for his work in corrections. He is also a member of the Vera Institute's Advisory Council of the Safe Alternatives to Segregation.



From 1992-1994, Mohr served as director of the Ohio Governor's Office of Criminal Justice, where he led the investigation into the cause of the 1993 Lucasville riot. Many of his team's recommendations for

preventive measures and improved conditions were adopted by prison systems across the nation. He also chaired the Governor's Task Force on Gun Violence.

In 2002, Director Mohr served as deputy director and superintendent of the Ohio Department of Youth Services. Previously, he was DRC deputy director for administration, as well as a deputy director in the agency's Office of Prisons. In addition, Mohr served as warden at the Ross Correctional Institutional, Chillicothe Correctional Institution, and the Correction Reception Center.