

For Immediate Release

IDOC Kicks Off Facility Blood Drive Competition

Indianapolis, Indiana (July 1, 2010) – Throughout the month of July staff from the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) will be rolling up their sleeves to help others during the Department's 2nd annual Blood Drive Challenge. In the coming weeks, IDOC facilities across the state will host employee blood drives in a completion to see who can collect the most units.

Last year, IDOC Commissioner Edwin G. Buss recognized that many facilities held blood drives separately throughout the year and challenged the facilities to work together, with a competitive spirit, to donate even more blood.

During the 2009 Blood Drive Challenge, the Department collected almost 800 units of blood. According to the American Red Cross, one unit of blood can be used to save three lives. With that the case, the IDOC staff touched the lives of more than 2,300 Hoosiers last year.

The IDOC has teamed up with the American Red Cross, the Indiana Blood Center, Correctional Medical Services (CMS), ARAMARK, and the Geo Group, Inc. to host the blood drive competition.

IDOC Commissioner Edwin G. Buss commented, "Time and time again IDOC employees do what they can to give back to their communities in a variety of ways. In tough economic times, it is difficult for most people to give what little they have. Donating blood doesn't cost a dime, and it helps to save lives."

For more information on the IDOC blood drive, contact Amy Lanum at (317)234-1693 or alanum@idoc.IN.gov.

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Media Contact:

Douglas S. Garrison
Chief Communications Officer
Phone: (317) 232-5780
dsgarrison@idoc.in.gov