

**Jeffrey A. Beard, Ph.D., Secretary  
Pennsylvania Department of Corrections**

Jeffrey A Beard, Ph.D., was originally appointed Secretary of Corrections by Gov. Tom Ridge, effective Dec. 30, 2000, and unanimously confirmed by the State Senate on February 15, 2001, bringing with him a broad background in criminal justice and corrections. He was named Secretary by Governor Edward G. Rendell in January 2003, and was again unanimously confirmed by the State Senate on February 11, 2003.

Dr. Beard began his criminal justice career as a corrections counselor at the State Correctional Institution Rockview in June 1972. While at Rockview, he was promoted to classification and treatment supervisor, deputy superintendent and finally acting superintendent.

Dr. Beard was then named to the position of superintendent at State Correctional Institution Cresson, where he was responsible for preparing the institution to receive its first inmates in February 1987 and for the overall operation of the facility for approximately three years. In November 1989, he was appointed to the superintendent's position at SCI Camp Hill in an acting role following two major riots. Subsequently, he was named superintendent in June 1990 and remained in that position until May 1994 when he accepted the role of acting deputy commissioner for the central region at the department's Central Office. He was permanently assigned to that position in June 1995. Dr. Beard remained in the deputy commissioner role until Dec. 14, 1997, when he was promoted to executive deputy secretary.

During his tenure as Secretary, Dr. Beard oversaw completion of a major security upgrade for all correctional facilities, worked to improve staff safety, and completed ACA accreditation for all facilities. He instituted a mandatory re-entry program for boot camp inmates, implemented the community orientation and reintegration (COR) program for all inmates, and is working on a number of collaborative re-entry projects. He instituted a variety of assessment instruments to ensure the right inmates get in the right programs, made major changes to inmate programming to ensure that programs meet the principles of effective intervention, and increased the mandatory education level from fifth grade to the GED level. He has also supported an active research agenda and implemented the use of evaluation tools to measure program outcome and ensure that programs are functioning correctly. He has worked to diversify the workforce, and see that visitors are treated with respect. He has taken steps to improve the Department's image with the legislature, victims community, prison advocacy groups, the press, and other interested groups by promoting a culture that is timely and responsive to inquiries. Dr. Beard was also instrumental in working with other organizations and the legislature to ensure passage of the State Intermediate Punishment (SIP) bill.

Dr. Beard holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and master's and doctorate's degrees in counseling, all from Penn State. Dr. Beard was honored by his university in 2004 when he received the Alumni Fellow Award, the highest award given to an alumni. In 2005 he received the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the Pennsylvania Prison Wardens Association (PPWA) and the Carl Robinson Award from Middle Atlantic States Correctional Association (MASCA) for his outstanding work in furthering excellence in Corrections. In late 2005 Dr. Beard was selected by his peers at the Association of State Correctional Administrators to receive the National Michael Francke Award, the highest honor given by that organization.

As secretary, Dr. Beard is charged with overseeing the overall management and operation of the Department to ensure the secure, safe, humane incarceration of adult offenders committed by the Commonwealth's judicial system. Within the department are 25 state correctional institutions, 14 community corrections centers, and one motivational boot camp which hold over 42,500 inmates. The 06/07 fiscal year budget is \$1.394 billion.

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