



Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail

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VPRJ WELCOMES SECRETARY OF PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY ROBERT MOSIER FOR NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS' WEEK

Williamsburg, Virginia – The Superintendent of the Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail (VPRJ) Colonel Roy Witham welcomed Virginia's Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security Robert Mosier, and Assistant Secretary of Public Safety Sonny Daniels to VPRJ today to celebrate the beginning of National Correctional Officers' and Employees' Week and National Nurses' Week. Secretary Mosier and Assistant Secretary Daniels joined several VPRJ officers, nurses, and civilian staff for lunch, participated in the pinning of officers receiving promotions, and received a tour of the facility, meeting with staff and inmates alike. This is VPRJ's first visit from Secretary Mosier since his appointment to the cabinet level position by Governor Glenn Youngkin.

"We are grateful to Secretary Mosier and Assistant Secretary Daniels for taking the time to visit with members of Team VPRJ and take part in recognizing the important work our officers, nurses, and civilian staff do every day in service of their community," said Colonel Roy Witham. "The COVID-19 Pandemic presented new challenges for an already stressful and difficult career. The men and women employed with VPRJ are professionals in the field of Corrections and I am proud to have their work and dedication acknowledged by the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security and his team."

"It is an honor to be here with the hard-working men and women of the Virginia Regional Peninsula Jail on the first day of National Correctional Officers' Week," said Secretary Robert Mosier. "Governor Youngkin and I thank them for their service."

National Correctional Officers' Week was created by President Ronald Reagan via the signing of Proclamation 5187 on May 5th, 1984. In 1996, in an effort to include all correctional employees, the United States Congress officially changed the name to National Correctional Officers' and Employees' Week. Additionally, on March 25th, 1982, President Reagan signed Proclamation 4913, which established May 6th of every year as a 'National Recognition Day for Nurses'. In 1993, the American Nurses Association extended the recognition to last a full week, ending on May 12th, Florence Nightingale's birthday, thus creating National Nurses' Week.