
what's up doc?



by Dr. Mary Livers

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Hello, Everyone:

Well, I actually got up and got out a little this week. I made a couple of trips to the office to check in and attend a meeting or two, and I even got to go to the Capitol for meetings both Thursday and Friday. I'd be fibbing if I told you it's easy to get around (it's not) and that the pain of the broken bones is gone (far from it). But it's still better than staying in bed all day when everyone else is going about the daily business, going to meetings and attending to our affairs at the Capitol. I'm so happy to be able to have some normality in my life, with my activities so severely curtailed. Some of the executive team have come to get me and move me around, and I am very thankful that they have jumped in to assist with no grumbling.

As you know, central office had a 100 percent successful audit for ACA re-accreditation, and I could not be more pleased. Preparing for the auditors' visit is never easy. The entire central office staff, led by **Angela Arabie** and the CQIS staff, pulled out the stops to get all the files in order, policies prepared and the building itself looking spiffy.

This weekend is the annual Hurricane Preparedness Tax Holiday - we can stock up on all the items needed to weather a storm and the aftermath, free of the four percent state sales tax (local tax is still paid). The hurricane season begins June 1 – next Friday. I know OJJ staff well enough to know that you will all do whatever you have to do be prepared for emergencies such as hurricanes. Go to the Department of Revenue website for more information and a full listing of the eligible items at www.revenue.louisiana.gov/hurricaneprep

All of you know that Monday is a holiday - National Memorial Day. Although those of us who work in the facilities will be on duty as always, the rest of us will have the day off. We'll travel, barbecue and visit with family and friends, and kick off the summer season. But, as many of you know, Memorial Day is an important holiday to me, because it is set aside as a day of remembrance to honor the service of veterans and those who died in our nation's service. It all started back in May 1868, when people placed flowers on the graves at Arlington National Cemetery. Many towns and cities used to have Memorial Day parades and events to honor the fallen and veterans, but that appears to be a thing of the past in most communities. Congress reminded us of the true meaning of Memorial Day with a resolution in 2000, the "[National Moment of Remembrance](#)" asking Americans to stop at 3 p.m. local time, "to voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to Taps." Please take a moment to tell the veterans (and current members of the Armed Forces) in your life that you appreciate their service and sacrifice. We would not be able to enjoy the freedoms we take for granted if not for the sacrifices of our veterans.

There is an attachment to this week's WUD with the names of all the OJJ staff we could identify, who are veterans of the Armed Forces. Our thanks to each of you for doing your part to defend our nation and keep us all free. I know we have probably missed some, and to those folks, let us know whenever you can, so in the future we can recognize all of our OJJ veterans and thank each of you for your service.

And, a special thanks to the fighting men of the 487th Air Expeditionary Wing, 8th Air Force, and WWII veteran George Livers! Thanks, Dad, for your sacrifice for us and for our country. (Yes, my parents read our weekly messages and keep up with all our goings-on.)

Wishing you all a wonderful long weekend. My thanks to each and every member of the OJJ family for all that you every day to meet the mission. Whether or not you have served in the Armed Forces, you still serve the public in an important role.

Sincerely,

“Doc” *Dr. Mary Livers*

Mary L. Livers, MSW, PH.D, Deputy Secretary

Office of Juvenile Justice • PO Box 66458 • Baton Rouge, LA 70896 • e: Whatsupdoc?OJJ@la.gov • www.ojd.louisiana.gov



OJJ Veterans

Alexandria

John Baker
Justin Simons
Vernell Jewell

Baton Rouge

PPS Rickey Cannon
PPO Katina Broden
PPO Larry Aaron
PPS Wendy Sarner

Bridge City

Richard Hart (Army)
Henry Bauer (Army)
Cedric Reed (Marines)
Kernell Green (Army)
Vegas Curry (Navy)
Sterling White (Navy)
Donald Joseph (Marine) (retired 5/16/12)
Sam McKay (Army)
Betty Jean Williams (Air Force) SSD #1
Jackie Hackett (Army)

Central Office

Glenda Daiges
Louis Hyatt (Air Force)

Hammond

PPO Johnathan Varnado (Army 2001-05)

Jetson

Belinda Thomas
Gloria Banks
Bart Volentine
Fredrick Bratton
Dewitt Basen
Gregory David Slemons

(Jetson continued)

Alton Coleman
Quienetha Williams
Malachi Gee III
Takeisha Dixion
Alonzo Jones
Fouad Harb
Kelly Johnson
Johnny Sago

Lafayette

Cassandra Gardiner
Jeffrey Edwards
Benjamin Guidry

Lake Charles

Transport Officer Ken Connell (Air Force 1970-74)
PPO Fred Fontenot (National Guard 1989-99)

Monroe

PPS Linda Williams
PPO Cheryl Keyes
PPO Mark Miller
Transport Officer Credell Scott

Natchitoches

PPS Simon Sarpy (Army)
PPO Brenda Sarpy (Army)
PPO Ieisha Beasley (Army)

New Orleans

PPO Austin Johnson
PPO Daria Melder
PPO Stanley Schofield
PPO Milton Crosby

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Shreveport

PPS Rick Ladner
PPO John Whitlock
PPO Nitasha Gibson
PPO Jason Brown
PPO Sandy Ersoff
PPO Ciera Murphy
PPO Alan Grover, Jr.
PPO Charles Davis
PPO Cornealious McSwain
Transport Officer Kelly Meinrod

Swanson

Milton Allen
Leon Anthony
Donald Armstrong
Jennifer Bass
Carol Bonner
Paul Brown
Jeremy Bullock
Kwanda Caldwell
Kimberly Carodine
Emma Ciccotti
Raymond Clary
Victor Cooper
Harry Ferguson
J.C. Finley
Michael Fontana
Frank Galloway
Herbert Gipson
Scott Haley
Reginald Hammock
Willie Hill
Julia Jackson
Kevin Jackson
Dalyse Janiszczak
Vandy Jenkins
Ronald Johnson
Dale Jones
Andrew Jordon

(Swanson continued)

Audwin Madison
Irwin McCall
Larry McNeal
Stephanie Miller
Robert Nabors
John Preston
Larry Prater
Donald Price
Robert Reed
William Reed
Eashell Salsberry
Germaine Simon
Shonetesa Smith
Michael Vehonsky
John Wade
OShawny Washington
Janet Watson
Adonis Whitby
Lynell Williams
Mitchell Williams
Roy Williams
Wesley Williams
Dorian Wilson
James Woods

Tallulah

Jena McCatry
Robert Johnson
Truett Glass
Huey George
Thibodaux
James Percle
Tracy Theriot
Herman Matherne

Thibodaux

James Percle
Tracy Theriot
Herman Matherne

Mary L. Livers, MSW, PH.D, Deputy Secretary