

what's up doc?

by Dr. Mary Livers, PH.D, MSW, Deputy Secretary

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Hello, Everyone:

BRRRRR! It got cold fast. We are experiencing that good ole Louisiana winter weather. Shorts one day, coats and hats the next. Hope you all made it through last night's cold front without any damage. Baton Rouge saw a pretty severe thunderstorm last night, but luckily no tornadoes as the meteorologists were predicting. We may be a little cold here in Louisiana right now, but I am really happy not to be living up in Maryland. Winter Storm Jonas is blanketing the Northeast right now. The forecasters are saying that they are in for lots and lots of snow. Everyone has stocked up on supplies. The closures and flight delays have begun. Let's pray that everyone stays warm and safe up there.

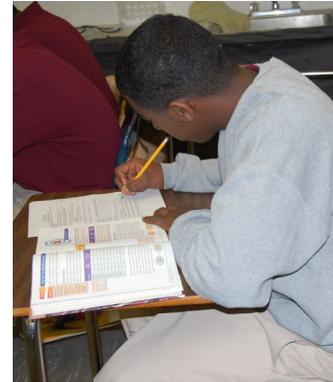
Well, I talked last week about Governor Edwards' inauguration, but I failed to mention that the new legislature also got sworn into office last Monday. Many of the legislators are familiar with the Capitol, but there were a few new faces. I got to spend some time with Senator Regina Barrow this week. Senator Barrow, formerly Representative Barrow, represents Baton Rouge. We sat down to talk about the good work that all of you do, as well as, the progress on a new Jetson facility. It may seem like I spend lots of my time meeting with folks during session, but it is important that they are aware of our mission and the resources that we need at OJJ. And, sometimes, I get the feeling they know best what the families and young people in their communities need.

I will be pretty busy this weekend. New Orleans is hosting the American Correctional Association (ACA) Winter Conference and since I am President right now, I have lots to do. Luckily, I have lots of help. About 3,000 people from across the country will be attending the conference. Coming together to network and learn more about the corrections profession. Since the conference is in our home state, we have quite a few staff and secure care youth presenting on the work that we do. And, we will have groups travelling from the conference to Bridge City to take tours of the campus. I will update you next week in WUD on how it all went. Having the conference in New Orleans also means that I do not have to fly during this winter storm, whew!

I'll close with my sincere thanks to every member of the OJJ team, wherever you serve, for all you do every day to meet the mission.

Sincerely, "Doc"

Dr. Mary Livers



Comments?
Send them to
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