

## Our Mission

The Department of Correction shall strive to be a global leader in progressive correctional practices and partnered re-entry initiatives to support responsive evidence-based practices aligned to law-abiding and accountable behaviors. Safety and security shall be a priority component of this responsibility as it pertains to staff, victims, citizens, and offenders.



March 31, 2026

Distributed quarterly  
to 5,500 staff  
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Department of Correction  
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Ned Lamont  
Governor

Angel Quiros  
Commissioner

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## From the Commissioner



As most of you are no doubt aware, after much reflection, I have made the decision to retire.

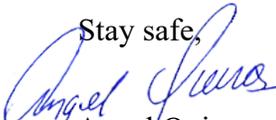
Serving alongside you has been one of the greatest honors of my life. Every day, I have witnessed the professionalism, resilience, and humanity that each of you bring to this work. The mission we carry is not always easy.

I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished together. Through challenges and change, you have remained committed to public safety, to each other, and to the individuals entrusted to our care. That dedication does not go unnoticed, and it will always stay with me.

The decision to retire was not an easy one. It is not that easy to leave a place that has been such a big part of my life for more than 36 years. This department has been more than a workplace — it has been my second family, my second home. I leave with immense respect for the work you do and complete confidence in your continued leadership and professionalism.

There is one thing that I have absolutely no doubts about, the agency will be in very good hands after my retirement. When Governor Lamont chose Deputy Commissioner Sharonda Carlos to serve as the Interim Commissioner, I could not have been more proud and I have every confidence in her ability to lead this agency. She brings to the position a rare combination of passion, determination, faith, and the ability to treat everyone with dignity. She will also have the assistance of Deputy Commissioner William Mulligan and the rest of the Executive Team to help her through the initial transition period and beyond. Words alone cannot express my gratitude to all of you for your commitment and dedication to the often thankless, but very important work we do. I am especially grateful to all those who took on and battled through the unprecedented challenges of the Covid pandemic.

It has truly been a privilege and an honor to serve alongside you.

Stay safe,  
  
Angel Quiros  
Commissioner

## Changes in Leadership

With the retirement of Department of Correction Commissioner Angel Quiros on May 1, 2026, Governor Ned Lamont selected Deputy Commissioner Sharonda Carlos to serve as interim commissioner.

“Deputy Commissioner Carlos has a strong record of direct, hands-on service working within Connecticut’s correctional facilities, including years of experience as a substance abuse counselor providing support to offenders, and as a warden, in addition to her current role as deputy commissioner,” Governor Ned Lamont said.

“She is already well-known by the department’s many staff and correction officers, as well as those in the community who frequently partner with the agency. She has the experience and knowledge that will enable her to hit the ground running in this critical public safety position, and I thank her for accepting this opportunity.”

The retirement of Commissioner Quiros after more than 36 years of service is but one of the changes to the agency’s leadership. No less than three wardens have announced their plans to retire. Warden Christopher Brunelle of the New Haven Correctional Center, and Daniel Dougherty, Warden of the Corrigan Correctional Center have effectively retired. While Warden Jennifer Reis of the Cheshire Correctional Center intends to retire on June 1, 2026. Their dedicated service, commitment, experience and leadership will truly be missed.

Not wanting to have a void in leadership at the facility level, Commissioner Quiros along with the Deputy Commissioner

of Operations and Rehabilitative Services, William Mulligan wasted no time in selecting new wardens for the New Haven and Corrigan facilities.

Congratulations to Marcin Domitrz for his promotion to Warden at the New Haven Correctional Center. Domitrz, who has more than 17 years of service with the department, most recently was a Deputy Warden at the Cheshire Correctional Institution. Prior to that he served in the same capacity at the New Haven Correctional Center – so his promotion is some what of a homecoming.

Congratulations are also in order for Brian Perez, who will be the new warden of the Corrigan Correctional Center. Perez, with more than 18 years of service in the department has been a Deputy Warden at the Corrigan facility for the past several years. Needless to say, he is very familiar with the facility.

With the promotions, vacancies at the Deputy Warden level were created, necessitating Deputy Commissioner Mulligan the following Deputy Warden transfers, which take effect on April 3, 2026:

- Deputy Warden Eric Carbone from Robinson CI to Garner CI.
- Deputy Warden Thomas Kenny from Garner CI to Cheshire CI.
- Deputy Warden Eric McKenzie from New Haven CC to Hartford CC.
- Deputy Warden Kimberly Such from Hartford CC to Robinson CI.

Thank you again to the wardens who have chosen to retire, and congratulations again to those who have been chosen to take their place, helping to guide this department into the future.

A special debt of gratitude to Commissioner Quiros for his more than 3 ½ decades of tireless service to the agency. Your resolute leadership during an unprecedented global pandemic was truly remarkable and we will be



The DoC’s Newest Wardens:  
Marcin Domitrz (L) and Brian Perez.

# Meet the Director

*Christopher Iwanik, the Director of Facilities Management and Engineering*

## **What is your background with the DoC?**

I started with DOC in 2003 and was our class valedictorian. I spent the first nine years at DOC at the Osborn CI Boiler Plant, two years as a HVAC technician and then seven years as a Chief Correctional Stationary Engineer. From there, I was promoted to a PFE1 Plant Facilities Engineer 1 (PFE1) and transferred to the Cheshire District area overseeing the facilities in District 2. During this time, District 3 was incorporated and I had an opportunity to oversee facilities on the Eastern part of the State. From there, I was promoted to a PFE2 overseeing District 1. The position of the Director of Facilities Management and Engineering became open and I was fortunate enough to previously perform this job in a temporary role, then eventually was offered the position and have been in this role since 2022.

## **What did you do prior to joining DoC?**

Upon graduating Vocational High School in the field of HVAC, I enlisted in the Connecticut Army National Guard. I then attended college studying Building Facilities Technology while also working in the HVAC field. I worked my way up to Service Manager and eventually became a Managing Partner in a large mechanical contracting company. I was responsible for all aspects of the business for the branch I was running, from sales, design, project management, construction as well as overall day to day operations. I was doing great, but working close to 80 hours a week. I came to DOC to get a better work/life balance.



**The Director of Facilities Management and Engineering, Chris Iwanik**

## **Briefly explain your current duties/responsibilities?**

As Director, I oversee all aspects of maintenance and engineering for the agency. From the smallest of repairs to the multi-million dollar projects we have going on. Facilities Management & Engineering (FM&E) has a staff of almost 200, and we do everything within our ability to get the job done in-house. All trade contractors and construction projects fall under my umbrella as well. Finally, I currently act as the Senior Sustainability Officer for the Agency and represent us with DEEP.

## **What do you think most people don't realize about your job/role?**

People don't realize how much FM&E is responsible for throughout our agency. We maintain building structure, maintain water, electronic safety & security systems, electricity, telecommunications and so much more in order to keep all individuals safe and the buildings operational.

## **What is your biggest challenge as Director?**

Staffing shortages and fiscal restraints.

## **What is your favorite aspect of being the Director/what do you like most about your job?**

Seeing projects get completed/tasks accomplished and witnessing all that hard work paying off.

## Training for a Healthy Future

The Health Improvement Through Employee Control (HITEC) program in conjunction with the Correction Supervisors Council are offering training sessions on the topic of retirement planning.

Based on information gathered from current supervisors and DOC retirees, retirement preparedness was selected as the training topic for 2026. This year's training, *Preparing for a Healthy Future*, will provide valuable information to supervisors who are nearing retirement, as well as those who are early in their careers. Specific topics covered in this training will be financial and legal issues related to retirement planning, post-retirement employment and education, and psychological and social transitions into retirement.

Trainings will take place on Mondays and Fridays from April 6 through May 8. Locations for the training will include the CSEA Union Hall, MacDougall-Walker CI, and York CI. Additional information, including how to sign up for a training day, will be shared with supervisory staff via email.

The national life expectancy of correctional workers is 58 years, and in Connecticut it is 66 years. This is eight years longer than the national average but 15 years shorter than other Connecticut residents. The difference is largely due to preventable workplace factors that increase their risk of injury and illness compared to workers in other occupations. In 2014, the Correction Supervisors Council joined UConn's HITEC project to create and deliver workforce interventions aimed at protecting and improving correctional supervisors' well-being. Our union-based team has utilized the contract-negotiated *Annual Wellness Day* to provide trainings on a broad range of topics. Previous trainings presented by Correction Supervisors Council and HITEC include Healthy Sleep (2016), Mental Health (2018, 2022, 2023), Healthy Eating & Substance Abuse (2020), Ideas for a Healthier Future (2024), and The Loud Silence (2025).



## Around the Cell Block

IDAHO: The Idaho Department of Corrections is working to transfer a total of 320 inmates to a prison facility in Arizona as Idaho state prisons continue to exceed capacity limits.

OKLAHOMA: The Oklahoma Department of Corrections is proud to introduce the first ODOC Inmate Games, a statewide event created to offer those in ODOC's care a structured chance for healthy competition. Teams will compete across all 23 facilities in 19 events, along with a singing contest. Each facility will host the events and advance the top three competitors to a regional competition.

NORTH DAKOTA: The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCR) now has more money to expand its GPS monitoring program to track inmates who are transitioning back into society. The DOCR started location tracking late last year. With recent legislative approval, 120 more individuals will wear the GPS bracelets.

**Total CT DOC  
Supervised  
Population  
on  
March 31, 2026  
13,733**

On March 31, 2025  
the population was  
14,047

**EAU toll-free phone number:  
844 - 997- 4EAU (4328)**

# Director Iwanik continued from page 3

## What is the primary thing you would like to accomplish as Director?

The biggest thing I want to accomplish is to leave our agency better than the way I found it. Try and make a positive difference within the facilities and the overall infrastructure. Our buildings are aging, but knowing that we are making improvements and getting buildings to operate properly gives me a sense of pride.

## Who has been the biggest source of inspiration in your life?

My family: my wife, my children and my parents. They are my rock and what keeps me going.

## What is something about you few people know?

I speak another language “Ukrainian” I grew up as first generation in the United States with both of my parents coming from other countries. Growing up while kids watched cartoons on Saturday mornings, I had to attend Ukrainian school.

## What do you do to maintain a healthy work/life balance?

I try my best to keep work and home separate. This job is 24/7 so I have to force myself to go out and do things to get my mind off of work.

## Do you have any hobbies?

I love being outside. I love hiking, biking and my favorite activity is to go quad riding with friends.

## What one word would you use to describe yourself? Resolute.

## What are your plans for when you retire?

Hopefully to do something less stressful and get some time to relax and enjoy my family.

## If you could have dinner with three famous people from history, who would they be?

Jesus Christ, Albert Einstein, and Willis Carrier (the “father of air conditioning”).

## What is your favorite book or movie?

The Godfather. I’m a sucker for drama/action movies.

## If you could have one superhero power, what would it be and why?

Seeing into the future. I could forecast and get in front of things before they happen.

## Anything else you would like to add?

I have been blessed to be part of this agency for almost 23 years. I never imagined I would be in the role of Director when I first started. I am grateful to the present and past staff that make my job easier and have helped me along the way. I truly appreciate all the hard work they put in day after day. They are the unsung heroes behind the scenes keeping these buildings running and operational.



Deputy Commissioner Sharonda Carlos and Director Chris Iwanik showoff the DoC’s GreenerGov award after a ceremony at the State Capitol.

# DoC's Newest (and Smallest) Therapy Dog

The newest member of the agency's Employee Assistance Unit (EAU) is also the smallest by far. Weighing in at only four pounds, Kenzie is the unit's comfort support animal.

Director Dianne Moynihan proudly introduced, Kenzie a six-month-old female Maltipoo, back in January. She said that she planned to have the puppy "tour" Central Office frequently. Kenzie will also make appearances at other statewide agency events from time to time.

The benefits of therapy dogs are well documented. Therapy dogs can help employees feel more resilient at dealing with stress and lessen their reactions to stressful situations. Lower stress equals lower blood pressure and fewer heart problems. How is that related to workplace productivity? Employees who are healthier take fewer sick days, have lower health insurance premiums and contribute better at the workplace than those who fall sick often or suffer chronic health issues.

Regardless of research, it is just common sense that it is nearly impossible to look at a picture of a dog and not smile or laugh (see accompanying photo).

The introduction of a therapy dog can help generate workplace interactions that would not normally take place; it encourages dialogue as employees share favorite memories of their pets. This commonality helps employees feel more connected to one another.

Kenzie is the department's third therapy dog – she joins her much larger counterparts Semper Fi and Remy.




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## Critical Incident Stress Response Team (CISRT) Fundraiser

Enter for a chance to win a

**\$500 Amazon Gift Card Giveaway**

Tickets are \$10.00 each

Drawing to be held April 10, 2026

**Please see the following facility contacts for tickets:**

Bridgeport CC- Lt. Negrón, Brooklyn CI -Captain Palmer, Cheshire CI – Lt. Goldman, Carl Robinson CI – Captain Fleming, Corrigan CC – CS Kerwin, Cybulski CI – CO Reale, Garner CI – AA Osteyee, Hartford CC – CC Smith, Osborn CI – APRN Heap, Parole & CS– PO Richardson, New Haven CC – CNS Brown, York CI – CS Lawrence, MacDougall-Walker CI – Lt. Cieboter & CC Riccio, Manson YI – Captain Stewart, CO Ostuno, & CO Burns, Central Office/Maloney CTSD – CS Leighty

**You can also purchase tickets using the Cash Apps using below:**



# A Bold and Bright USD #1 Conference

Unified School District #1 proudly hosted their Annual Fall Conference under the inspiring theme: **Bold Moves, Brighter Futures**. It was a day filled with learning, connection, and renewed purpose.

Commissioner Quiros opened the event with a powerful message of gratitude and appreciation for the entire education department - a message that resounded through the audience with a tone of support and understanding, reminding us all of the vital role we play in shaping lives through education.

We were honored to welcome back former Commissioner and Keynote Speaker Scott Semple, who shared his personal journey and deep-rooted history with the Connecticut Department of Correction, offering valuable insights into the evolution of our work.



USD #1 staff members enjoying one of the conference's breakout sessions

Throughout the day, staff engaged in a variety of enriching sessions designed to enhance both professional knowledge and personal well-being:

Dr. Nasreen Al Omari (ESL) led sessions focused on listening skills, vocabulary development, and connecting students with essential resources. Peggy Bernard and Susan Bible (Technology) introduced beginner and intermediate training on Essential Education, a new adaptive program now available in every classroom to support reading and math growth.

Dawn Dubay (Middletown Public Schools) shared mindfulness strategies and de-escalation techniques to help reduce anxiety for both students and staff. Dr. John Lawrie (Assistant Professor and 2024 Keynote Speaker) returned to reflect on his DOC experience and the importance of maintaining open communication between education and custody staff. Susan Pittman (GED) provided targeted strategies to address the most challenging areas of the GED math subsection. Todd and Karrie Russell (Arthur Murray Dance Instructors) brought energy and joy to the day with a high-quality dance experience that promoted wellness and strengthened staff relationships. A highlight of the conference was the formal introduction of our 2026 Teacher of the Year, Ms. Dafne Sepulveda from Cheshire Correctional Institution. Please join us in congratulating her on this well-deserved recognition.

Thank you to everyone who participated, presented, and supported this event. Your commitment to growth, collaboration, and student success continues to move us forward—boldly and brightly. By the direction of Superintendent Veron Beaulieu, and under the leadership of Professional Development Committee Chair, Latesha Jones, State School Principal 2, the training sessions for the 2025 Annual Fall Conference were thoughtfully selected based on teacher feedback and student performance data. This intentional approach ensured that the professional development offerings were both relevant and impactful for our staff and students.

We would like to thank the dedicated Professional Development Committee members whose collaboration and insight made this event possible: Jennifer Blake, State School Teacher; Jennifer Dawkins, Correctional Vocational Instructor; Kevin Devery, P3B Union Representative; Steven Roccapiore, Correctional Vocational Instructor; Meredith Rogers, State School Teacher; Chris Supik, State School Teacher; and Allison Underwood, Correctional Vocational Instructor.

Thank you also to: Dr. Rev. David Santiago; Jamie Conway, Administrative Assistant; and Kip Mundle, State School Teacher. Their presence and contributions helped to make the conference a great success.

# DoC Season of Giving Wrap-up

As is always the case during the holiday season, the generosity of the staff of the Department of Correction was on full display. Many facilities partnered with the State's Department of Children and Families to help make the holidays a little brighter for children under their care. Below are photos of the various facilities charitable efforts.

