



Mike McCormick
Sheriff

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 5th 2021

**Garland County Sheriff's Office Detention Center Leads the
Nation for the most Certified Jail Officers**

Sheriff McCormick is proud to announce that as of January 4, 2021 the Garland County Detention Center has achieved the number one ranking in the Nation according to the American Jail Association for the most Certified Jail Officers with 64 CJO certifications. This unprecedented milestone was reached after the following deputies of The Garland County Sheriff's Office Detention Division applied and tested for National Certification through the American Jail Association between November and December of 2020. The test results were delivered to the Sheriff's Office and the following designations were conferred upon the successful candidates:

Jimmy Caldwell- Certified Jail Officer
James Cheatwood- Certified Jail Officer
Barbara Falasca- Certified Jail Officer
Austin Harrell- Certified Jail Officer
Rhonda King- Certified Jail Officer
Amanda Medina- Certified Jail Officer
Dylan Parsons- Certified Jail Officer
Aaron Standiford- Certified Jail Officer
Austin Thompson- Certified Jail Officer
Robin White- Certified Jail Officer
James Yerina- Certified Jail Officer
Kelly Hall- Certified Jail Officer

Charles Chandler- Certified Jail Officer
Julian Cooper- Certified Jail Officer
Wendy Guthrie- Certified Jail Officer
Nicholas Killian- Certified Jail Officer
Ryan Kluever- Certified Jail Officer
Alexander Nelson- Certified Jail Officer
Marcus Southerland- Certified Jail Officer
Cheiana Sykes- Certified Jail Officer
Mason Tilley- Certified Jail Officer
David Willcutt- Certified Jail Officer
Colleen Smith- Certified Jail Officer

The Certified Jail Officer is awarded to line staff and first-line jail supervisors upon the completion of a background application and an intensive three-hour examination which tests for competency and mastery of jail operation knowledge and skills at the line and first line supervisory levels. Based upon the results of the most recent application and testing, The Garland County Sheriff's Office Detention Division continues to lead the State of Arkansas and now leads the Nation with the highest number of Certified Jail Officers in the United States.

*The American Jail Association is a national, nonprofit, educational organization delivering professional development, personal certification and advocacy services to correctional personnel at all ranks and operational levels working in this nation's 3,200- plus jails and detention facilities. It is the only association of its kind that focuses exclusively on issues affecting today's jail professional. Appointed by the association's Board of Directors, the five-member commission administers the Certified Jail Manager program, in addition to the Certified Jail Officer program; sets policy; and ensures the two programs reflect the changing needs of the profession.

For more information, visit www.americanjail.org/education/certifications/.

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