

START

Sheriff's Transition and Reentry Team



Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr. Suffolk County Sheriff



Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr.

Suffolk County Sheriff

Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr. was elected as the 67th Sheriff in 2017 and is the county's first African American to be elected into a non-judicial countywide office. He spent 22 years as a uniformed member of the NYCDOC and retired as the Deputy Commissioner of Operations. As Suffolk's highest-ranking law enforcement official, he serves and protects our residents through innovative programs to reduce crime and recidivism, eradicate the drug epidemic, and works to put an end to human trafficking. Sheriff Toulon has his Doctorate in Educational Administration, a Masters in Business Administration.

START

Sheriff's Transition and Reentry Team

Sheriff Toulon's Philosophy

“Reentry begins on the first day of incarceration and there is a continuum of support from jail to the community”

Mission

This philosophy has shaped the mission of Team Members

START RESOURCE TEAM & CENTER

History

The Transition and Reentry Team was formed in 2020 and provides services from a Resource Center staffed by six Correction Officers
A Captain and Lieutenant supervise the Team

Location

Services are supplied from a Resource Center located on the grounds of the Yaphank Correctional Facility Campus

START RESOURCE TEAM & CENTER



Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr.  Suffolk County Sheriff

START RESOURCE TEAM & CENTER

Mission of the Team

- Identify the reentry needs of the incarcerated and match them to available services and resources

Goal of the Team

- The reduction of recidivism by facilitating a “warm handoff” into the community after incarceration



Team members bridge the gap between the correctional facilities and communities that the incarcerated will be returning to



The **START** Resource Center is open to any individual with current or prior justice system involvement that resides in Suffolk County.

The Center serves both county individuals, their families, and those transitioning from state prison back to Suffolk County.



Team Members Roles and Responsibilities

Captain- supervises, plans and organizes activities of the Team to the meet the objectives set by the Sheriff

Lieutenant- manages the activities of correction officer team members, assesses progress and monitors resource utilization

Correction Counselor- first contact with the incarcerated, begins individual reentry plan

Community Correction Officer- completes and implements reentry plan



Duties of Correction Counselors

Meet with the incarcerated within first week of confinement to:

- Conduct a needs-based assessment to create an intake screening packet
- Create an initial case file for ongoing case management
- Identify programs available inside the facility and match to inmate needs
- Facilitate communication with mental health, addiction treatment or internal security professionals if necessary
- Careful not to discuss current crime

***Utilization of Active Listening and Communication Skills
Professional trust is formed – Not a “got you” moment***



Goals of Correction Counselors

- Assist the incarcerated individual *during* confinement
- Begin to formulate an Individualized Reentry Plan (IRP).
- Utilize a *holistic approach* looking at the “whole person” including mental health and physical, emotional, social and spiritual well-being

Connect the individual to available services

Facility Services and Programs

A wide variety of services are available to the incarcerated including:

Faith and Religious Based

- Weekly services for prominent religions including Christian, Muslim and Jewish faiths
- Group and individual religious counseling sessions

Community and Life Skill Based

- New Hour for Women and Children
- Youth Enlightenment Seminar (YES)
- Dog training (SATP)



Drug and Alcohol Based

- Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous
- Substance Use Disorder Counseling (in house and transitional case managers)

Facility Services and Programs

Education Based

- **Learning Centers**

- Provides educational services for GED and High School Equivalency Diploma attainment

- **Eastern Suffolk Board of Cooperative Educational Services (B.O.C.E.S.)**

- Incarcerated Youth and Adult Literacy Programs
- Facility Maintenance Program
- ServSafe Program



- **Sound Justice**

- Variety of educational offerings aimed at reducing recidivism and reverse the “prison pipeline”

Sheriff’s Addiction Treatment Program (SATP)

- Intensive substance use treatment initiative



Facility Services and Programs

Occupationally Based

- Department of Labor liaison
- Law Library
- Universal Class access at the Learning Center



Motivationally Based

- Mentoring
- Memoir Writing



Veterans Program

- Vietnam Veterans of America (Green Jackets)
- NYS Defenders Association



Senior Program (55 and over)

- Housing Unit

START



SHERIFF'S TRANSITION AND RE-ENTRY TEAM

200 Glover Drive
Yaphank, NY 11980

*"Building safer, stronger communities through
comprehensive re-entry planning"*

(631) 852-5391

S.T.A.R.T. INTAKE FORM

Date: _____ Name: _____ Pin: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____ Race: _____ Ethnicity: _____ Level of Education: _____

Classification: _____ Housing Location: _____ Y N Number of Children: _____

Children: _____

Children Age/Gender: _____

Former Residential Town: _____

Returning Residential Town: _____

SERVICES/ACTIONS APPROPRIATE FOR THE INMATE (check all that apply)

MEDICAL	ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
MENTAL HEALTH	NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS
E.A.C	PROPERTY
INTERNAL SECURITY	RELIGION
S.A.T.P.	GED
VETERAN PROGRAM	CLASSIFICATION
OVER 55 / SENIOR PROGRAM	LEARNING CENTER
BRIGHTER TOMORROWS	Other: _____
NEW HOUR	

Screened By: _____

Signature/Rank/Shield _____



Duties of Community Correction Officers

Evaluate Collected Data to Complete Individualized Reentry Plan

Direct Action Begins One Month Prior to Release

- Serve as a liaison between the community and the Sheriff's Office including:
 - Mental Health / SUD Facilities
 - Stable Housing Locations
 - Employers
 - Research and identify quality employment opportunities
- Schedule post release appointments including:
 - Department of Motor Vehicles
 - Employment Interviews
 - SUD treatment centers
- Coordinate and meet with community-based partners and service providers

Duties of Community Correction Officers

The IRP is finalized and utilized for reentry after additional information is collected including:

- Personal Identification Needs
- Benefits Eligibility
- DSS / Medicaid / Medicare / SNAP
- Financial Obligations
- Housing / Family Situation / Children
- Education Needs
- Transportation Needs
- Incarceration History
- Voting Registration



Reentry Plan Finalization

- Community Corrections Officers help develop the IRP and Corrections Counselors finalize the plan with the incarcerated
- Once the plan is complete, appointments are made with START and outside service providers
- The incarcerated can telephone the Resource Center free of charge via housing area telephones to update their IRP



Transitioning from Incarceration to Community

The “Warm Handoff”

At this time, the “warm handoff” to the community begins, and lines of communication are established for follow up care.

After discharge, releasees communicate with and visit the START Resource Center, where solutions for additional needs are developed. The total number of visits is unlimited.



Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr.  Suffolk County Sheriff



Post Incarceration Services

Remains a viable assistance center when released are most vulnerable

Employment- best suited for the individual

Identification- BC, SS Card, NYS non-driver ID

Transportation- START, UBER, family or friends

Education/Vocational training- BOCES, Acces VR

Housing- DSS, sober living, transitional, Spa Housing

Mental Health- Family Service League, Empower Assist Care (EAC) Response Crisis Center

Medical Benefits- DSS, The Health and Welfare Council of Long Island (HWCLI)

Substance Use Disorder Assistance- Seafield, Victory, Voyage, THRIVE, BEST, New Horizon, Phoenix House, Sun River Health



Examples of Outside Service Providers

- Axis Church – Satellite Office
- BOCES
- DOL- Department of Labor
- ECLI- Empowerment Collaborative of Long Island
- EOC- Economic Opportunity Council of LI – Identification needs
- EAC- Empower Assist Care
- Family Service League
- Long Island Cares/Long Island Harvest
- New Hour Women & Children
- Salvation Army
- United Way - Power Up! Wind, Solar & Renewables Career Training



Examples of Employers

- NYCBS- New York Cancer & Blood Specialists
- Winters Bros
- Stop & Shop
- Island Exterior Fabricators
- American Maintenance
- Randstad
- East End Food Institute
- Islip Town (seasonal)
- United Way



DISTRIBUTION OF DONATED ITEMS

START receives donations to supply dignity bags for the returning citizen in need.

Items include: food, gently used clothing & toiletries, childcare items



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Team members participate in community events to improve the law enforcement and community relationship.



Spanish Heritage Parade in Patchogue
St. Joseph's College Domestic Violence Seminar
New Horizon Visit / Housing and Substance Use Treatment
St. John Paul Regional School Riverhead Trunk or Treat
Spanish Outreach Turkey Drive Patchogue
SCSO Turkey Drive/START Resource Center
Axis Church Toy Drive
Cops and Kids Brentwood and Wyandanch

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr.  Suffolk County Sheriff

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr.  Suffolk County Sheriff

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr.  Suffolk County Sheriff

Satellite Offices

Provides a neutral & easily accessible location for services

- Axis Church- Port Jefferson- December 2022
- Spin the Yard- Wyandanch- Spring 2021



Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr.



Suffolk County Sheriff

PROJECTS IN DEVELOPMENT

Financial Literacy: Partnership with Chase Bank and Liam Connect

- **In-house Training Class**
- **Chase Bank in their community – Incentivized to open Checking / Savings / Credit of Funds**

Power Up! Wind, Solar & Renewables Career Training

Promoted in our Learning Center

- **Deer Park Training Center – first 3 graduates**
- **Certificate in Building Science Principles**

Improving Reentry Education and Employment Outcomes

- **Job Training Grant with BOCES – Facilities Maintenance Program**

The Sheriff's Transition and Reentry Team



RESOURCE CENTER

*"Building safer, stronger, communities through
comprehensive re-entry planning"*

***The Resource Center has Case Managers and
Correctional Counselors to help with:***

- **Housing Referrals/Resources**
- **Employment Assistance/Vocational Training**
- **Educational Opportunities/GED**
- **Community Support Meetings**
- **Substance Use Disorder Support**
- **Identification Assistance**
- **Transportation**
- **Clothing, Toiletries, Food Pantry**
- **Assistance with DSS**
- **And much more.**



***If you or someone you know has been Justice Involved
and needs assistance, we can help.***

Center Hours

*Monday - Friday
8am - 8pm*

*Bus Route S68
(Probation Stop)*

***Walk-ins Welcome
Appointments Preferred
(631) 852-5391***

***Visit us online at
www.suffolksheriff.com***



Address

***200 Glover Drive
Yaphank, NY 11980***

***The Resource Center is on
the grounds of the Yaphank
Correctional Facility.***

Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr., Suffolk County Sheriff

Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr.



Suffolk County Sheriff

START SLOGAN

“Building safer, stronger communities through comprehensive re-entry planning”



Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr.  Suffolk County Sheriff



This presentation is courtesy of
Dr. Errol D. Toulon, Jr., Suffolk County Sheriff