

# **Hampden County Sheriff's Department Cited As Model By Governor's Commission**

LUDLOW- The Hampden County Sheriff's Department has been cited as a model for the Commonwealth in a recent report by the Governor's Commission on Corrections Reform in a recent report titled "Strengthening Public Safety, Increasing Accountability, and Instituting Fiscal Responsibility In The Department of Corrections."

"The Hampden County Sheriff's Department has created a positive environment for both staff and inmates by paying attention to very basic management duties and by adapting "best practice" approaches to managing correctional facilities and successful prison reentry. With the benefits of a long serving Sheriff, Hampden County has introduced approaches to inmate and staff accountability that are mutually reinforcing and that dovetail with high expectations for management personnel," the report states. "Inmates understand that their status in the institution and their progress toward community release are tied directly to their active participation in programs to prepare for release and to their institutional behavior. Similarly correctional staff recognize that professional advancement depends upon performance."