

SHERIFF ASHE MANDATES

"NEW INMATES INTENSIVE REGIMEN"

Hampden County Sheriff Michael J. Ashe, Jr. has instituted a policy at the Hampden County Correctional Center that makes it mandatory for all inmates to begin their sentence by going through a "New Inmates Intensive Regimen" at the facility for the first five weeks of incarceration.

All newly sentenced inmates will be required to complete basic core regimens in substance abuse education, anger management, "learn to earn," victim impact, "why school?" and cognitive thinking skills, if they want to maintain privileges and be considered for lower security. All inmates who do not comply with this mandate will be sent to the "Accountability Pod," a living area with minimal privileges, stark living conditions and intensive fundamental programming. When they earn their way out of this Accountability Pod, they will have to complete the New Inmates Regimen or be sent back to the Accountability Pod.

Ashe began the New Inmates Intensive Regimen to reduce any idle time at the beginning of a sentence while inmates waited to be processed into the productive activities available at the Correctional Center, such as substance abuse programs, work assignments, GED preparation, etc.

Ashe has a "Forty Hour Work Week" policy for all sentenced inmates, which puts the expectation on inmates to be involved for forty hours per week with work assignments or in activities preparing them to lead productive lives. The New Inmates Intensive Regimen helps assure that inmates will have strict demands placed on their time from the beginning of their incarceration.

“What we are talking about here is a foundation for these offenders to build upon. When they first come to the correctional center, and they’ve come off all the drugs and booze, and their street life is replaced by a cell, we’ve got their attention,” said Ashe. “I want to take that moment of opportunity and fill it up with the tools and directions to build a law-abiding life.”

