



**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Friday, October 27, 2023**



Minister of State in the Ministry of National Security, the Hon. Juliet Cuthbert-Flynn, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of National Security, Ambassador Alison Stone Roofe (left), Commissioner of Corrections (Assigned), Dr. Marc Thomas (right) and Chief Technical Director in the Ministry of National Security, Ms. Shauna Trowers share in a proud moment with Mr. Melbourne Walker (centre) who was recognized for forty (40) years of service to the Department of Correctional Service (DCS) at the DCS Staff Awards and Recognition Ceremony yesterday.

**National Correctional Services Policy to prioritize overall well-being of DCS Staff -  
Minister Cuthbert-Flynn**

Minister of State in the Ministry of National Security, Hon. Juliet Cuthbert-Flynn says that the National Correctional Services Policy will prioritize the overall well-being of staff at the Department of Correctional Services (DCS).

Minister Cuthbert-Flynn made the disclosure while delivering an address to over one hundred (100) awardees at the DCS Awards and Recognition Ceremony, held at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel in Kingston on Thursday, October 26.

**“We acknowledge that working within the correctional system can be challenging, and we are dedicated to enhancing your overall well-being,”** Minister Cuthbert-Flynn emphasised as she delivered the keynote address at the ceremony.



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With this new policy **“non-managerial staff will have a real voice at the decision-making table”**, she explained, while acknowledging that a supportive and efficient management structure is essential for the staff members to effectively carry out their duties.

In congratulating the awardees and retirees being recognized at the ceremony - the Minister assured the staff that **“by fostering a culture of care and support, we aim to create an atmosphere where you can thrive personally and professionally.”**

Furthermore, the State Minister said that the policy will prioritize the development of psychosocial, welfare and employee assistance programmes, and that the policy has been finalized and taken to the Cabinet for approval.

In addition, the new policy aims to add further value through collaboration with the fire service, emergency medical services and ODPEM to provide joint and centered education and awareness.

To reduce injuries, fatalities and workplace related stress, the policy will provide a framework for a targeted approach to these and other related facets of trauma within the workspace.

The ceremony is part of ‘Corrections Week’, being celebrated by the Department of Correctional Services with members being awarded for ten or more years of service to the Department.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of National Security, Ambassador Alison Stone Roofe, Director of Public Prosecutions, Ms. Paula V. Llewellyn, Commissioner of Corrections (Assigned) Dr. Marc Thomas as well as Chief Technical Director, Crime Prevention Rehabilitation and Inspectorate Policy Division in the Ministry of National Security, Ms. Shauna Trowers were also in attendance.

