Message from DYS Director Harvey Reed
Safety First
September 28, 2011

Dear Staff:

Our top priority is the safety and security of our youth, staff and facilities. Yesterday seven youth from general population at Scioto JCF and twelve youth at Circleville JCF were transferred to a designated programming unit at Scioto JCF to address violent behavior and security threat group involvement. The response team at Scioto JCF and staff from Circleville JCF provided an orderly transition for these youth in collaboration with the Special Tactics and Response (STAR) teams from the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. No staff or youth were injured during the process.

The STAR teams are continuing to assist as thorough searches are being performed today at Circleville JCF. Youth on the designated programming unit will receive targeted treatment interventions. In the coming months, each facility will be staffed with an STG Coordinator. This person will collect intelligence and lead a multidisciplinary team to address security and treatment needs within each facility.

Yesterday I witnessed staff displaying utmost professionalism and commitment to providing a safe environment for all youth and staff. As we address the high needs of the youth in our care, we will continue to commit to safety first.

Harvey J. Reed, Director
Department of Youth Services