

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Arkansas correctional officers and employees who work tirelessly with professionalism, integrity, and courage to make the state a safer place to live and work; and

WHEREAS: Their duties are complex, demanding, and constantly changing to meet the challenges of securing and managing the inmate population. Regardless of their work assignment or whether they wear a uniform, all correctional employees must put safety and security first; and

WHEREAS: Prisons and community correction centers must operate every hour of every day, regardless of weather conditions, natural or man-made disasters, travel hazards, or a global pandemic. Even when their lives will be placed in harm's way, correctional officers and employees will on the job without fail; and

WHEREAS: Correctional officers and K-9s provide assistance to other law enforcement agencies statewide with fugitive apprehension and missing persons and children searches; and

WHEREAS: Correctional officers are called on to provide security at the highest level while simultaneously serving as a mentor, teacher, and guidance counselor to ensure that conflicts, volatile situations, and crises are handled quickly and properly. Officers make a multitude of decisions every day that could have tremendous consequences if made incorrectly; and

WHEREAS: Thousands of men and women serve as correctional officers and correctional employees at the Arkansas Division of Correction, the Division of Community Correction, and county and local jails throughout the state. Without accolades or fanfare, they serve with honor and are deserving of our gratitude and respect; and

WHEREAS: President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the first National Correctional Officers and Employees Week on May 5, 1984, and called upon "officials of State and local governments and the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities to recognize the continuing contributions of correctional officers and employees";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim May 1<sup>st</sup> through May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, as

**CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, in the year of our Lord 2022.



*Asa Hutchinson*  
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

*John Thurston*  
John Thurston, Secretary of State