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Agency News

Linthicum becomes ACA president at 2017 Winter Conference

In January, TDCJ Health Services Division Director Dr. Lannette Linthicum was sworn in as the 105th president of the American Correctional Association at the ACA 2017 Winter Conference held in San Antonio. As president, Dr. Linthicum will serve on the ACA Executive Committee to promote the association's goals and interests. Dr. Linthicum replaces Mary L. Livers who will complete her term by serving two years as immediate past-president. Dr. Linthicum has served the last two years as president-elect. This arrangement gives the incoming president time to gradually assume the new responsibilities of the position, serve as president, and then provide support for the next president.

Dr. Linthicum commented on how her work history with TDCJ will benefit the ACA during her term as president, saying "My career at TDCJ has taught me the true meaning of public service and what it takes to be an outstanding public servant. I hope to emulate TDCJ's core values of perseverance, integrity, commitment and courage during my tenure as ACA president."

Regarding her upcoming term as ACA president, Linthicum said "My goal is to continue to foster the rich traditions of excellence, industry and innovation that have established the American Correctional Association as the premier correctional association in the nation."

TDCJ Executive Director Bryan Collier commended the selection, saying "Dr. Linthicum has served this agency with distinction for many years, and her public service has al-

ready been recognized by the Association." He continued, "She is a strong leader and is going to make an outstanding ACA president."

Texas Board of Criminal Justice Chairman Dale Wainwright recognized Dr. Linthicum's accomplishment at the February TBCJ meeting, saying "I'd like to praise Dr. Linthicum publically for her dedication and outstanding performance in criminal justice and as I've said before, I believe she is the foremost



Dr. Lannette Linthicum with TBCJ Chairman Dale Wainwright (left) and TDCJ Executive Director Bryan Collier at the ACA 2017 Winter Conference in San Antonio.

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authority for health care in a correctional context in our nation.”

Under her guidance and through her efforts, TDCJ’s Health Services Division has earned an international reputation as a leader in delivering quality correctional healthcare. Dr. Linthicum currently oversees the delivery of medical care for nearly 147,000 male and female offenders at 108 facilities throughout Texas.

Dr. Linthicum’s career in correctional medicine with TDCJ began in 1986, when the Maryland native became the health authority at the Huntsville Unit as a member of the National Health Service Corps. She held numerous positions before becoming the director of Health Services in January 1998, a position she currently holds. She earned a bachelor’s degree from Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, and a medical degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine. A certified internist by the American Board of Internal Medicine, Linthicum is also a Certified Correctional Health Professional - Advanced, and a fellow of the American College of Physicians.

Linthicum’s work was recognized in 2007 when she received the ACA’s Walter P. Dunbar Award, and again in 2011 with the ACA’s E.R. Cass Achievement Award. Linthicum has served ACA in numerous capacities including: member of the American Correctional Association Program Planning Committee; Chair of the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections; Chair of the Commission on Accreditation Quality Assurance Task Force; Vice-Chair of the Standards Committee; Co-Chair for the Coalition of Correctional Health Authorities; Health Care Committee member; Treasurer; and President-Elect.

Dr. Linthicum has served as a senior editorial board member for Correctional Health Today, a peer-reviewed journal published by the ACA, has coauthored several papers on correctional medicine and was a founding member and first co-chair of the ACA’s Coalition for Correctional Health Authorities. She spent four years as a task force member of the National Commission on Correctional Health Care Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee and a member of the Society of Correctional Physicians Board of Directors. ●

Founded in 1870 as the National Prison Association, the American Correctional Association is the oldest association for criminal justice professionals, and its Declaration of Principles serves as a guideline for socially responsible and humane correctional policies and practices in the United States. Today, the ACA and its thousands of members around the world work together improve the nation’s justice system through promotion of staff diversity, effective professional development and education, and a standards and accreditation process based on valid, reliable research and exemplary correctional practice. The ACA’s standards are national benchmarks for secure and effective correctional, parole and training operations, as well as central administration.