



Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

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www.mecksheriff.com

GARRY L. MCFADDEN
SHERIFF

TELISA E. WHITE
CHIEF OF DETENTION

MEDIA ALERT

January 5, 2024

CONTACT: Bradley Smith
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Bradley.Smith@mecklenburgcountync.gov
O: (980) 314-5008

**Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office Partners with FHI 360 and Erika's Closet to Provide
Post Release Employment Program to Residents.**

WHO: Sheriff Garry McFadden, Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office
Lisa Johnson, Director of FHI 360's National Institute for Work and Learning
Traletta Banks, Executive Director, Erika's Closet

WHAT: Press Conference

WHEN: Tuesday, January 9, 2024
10:00 a.m.

WHERE: Stancil Center Conference Room, Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office
801 E 4th St. Charlotte, NC 28202



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Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office Partners with FHI 360 and Erika's Closet to Provide Post Release Employment Program to Residents.

(CHARLOTTE, NC) – The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) in collaboration with FHI 360 and Erika's Closet are implementing career training for incarcerated adults through the Post-Release Employment Program (PREP). The goal is to improve job readiness, develop case plans and provide employment related services that will ensure sustained employment once a resident is released.

PREP will provide 100 residents with pre-release and post-release case plans including career and education planning, along with supportive and transitional services. The program will continually assess local demand for employees in the areas where residents are likely to return to and adjust educational and employment goals as needed.

"An initiative like this will do more than just meet the needs of our residents, it will help reduce recidivism by empowering them to not make the same mistakes that put them in the Detention Center," said Sheriff McFadden.

"Reentering the community after incarceration is challenging," said Lisa Johnson, director of FHI 360's National Institute for Work and Learning. *"Successful reentry is highly dependent on the availability of services and support, including employment. We are proud to partner on PREP because we believe everyone deserves a second chance."*

Funded by the Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for the Second Chance Act, MCSO and its partners are excited about collaborating on this vital initiative, supporting the DOJ's mission to reduce crime and recidivism, and enhance public safety.

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