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**Date: 08/21/09**

**Released By: Wendy Rose**

**NR #:09-170**

## **Sarasota County Correctional Facility Earns High Marks**

Sarasota County Sheriff Tom Knight is pleased to announce that the Sarasota County Correctional Facility earned high marks during two separate evaluations this week.

Members of the Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission (FCAC) spent three days reviewing records and meeting with personnel and inmates. Noting "a smoothly run facility," assessors will recommend re-accreditation. First accredited by FCAC in 1994, the facility must be assessed every three years to maintain its accreditation.

Today, the annual Florida Model Jail Standards Inspection was also conducted at the facility. Fifteen certified jail inspectors from a six-county team combed through all aspects of the jail, including housing, food services, documentation, booking and medical services.

The inspectors found no serious violations. The only notable violation included overcrowding for the facility being out of ratio for showers and toilets in the housing unit, but recognized that the situation is due to the closure of two cell blocks for remodeling.

Both evaluating organizations consistently commented on the cleanliness and quietness of the facility, the rapport between corrections personnel and inmates, and the evident pride and professionalism of staff. They mentioned as exemplary the Addiction Recovery Pod, and new kiosks, electronic information systems that show inmates their commissary balance and allow them to order food, clothing and toiletry items.

Said Sheriff Tom Knight, "I'm very proud of the hard working, dedicated personnel in our Corrections Division. The professionalism of our certified and civilian staff was evident in these evaluations and repeatedly noted by assessors and inspectors."