

New vocational program provides more opportunities for inmates after release

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A new vocational program offered at Caddo Correctional Center will give inmates a better chance at in-demand jobs upon release, said Caddo Sheriff Steve Prator.

Two fiber optics curriculums are now available to Department of Corrections inmates participating in the Northwest Regional Re-entry Program at CCC. Ten inmates enrolled in the courses with all 10 successfully completing at least one of the two modules. Those inmates will participate in a graduation ceremony at noon Friday, February 24, at the Caddo Sheriff's Re-entry Facility located at 1121 Forum Drive in Shreveport.

Inmates completed the Certified Premises Cabling Technician curriculum and the Certified Fiber Optic Technician curriculum offered through Bossier Parish Community College. The Fiber Optic Association (FOA) is the governing body for the credentials.

The program uses classroom lecture and hands-on lab exercises to teach about applications, installations, and communication systems related to fiber optics.

"Any opportunity we can provide to help an offender succeed after release is a positive thing," Prator said. "We are excited to help in this process by offering training in a field that's in demand and well-received by the participants."

The Caddo Sheriff's Office will continue to offer the program to DOC inmates, making it the first on-going fiber optics program offered in a correctional facility nationwide.

Attachments

