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Secretary Raemisch Appoints New Superintendent of Sanger B. Powers Correctional Center

John Richards brings 25 years of correctional experience to leadership position at Oneida facility

MADISON – Department of Corrections (DOC) Secretary Rick Raemisch today announced that John A. Richards has been named the new Superintendent of the Sanger B. Powers Correctional Center (SPCC) in Oneida.

“John Richards has a wealth of experience in corrections, including a strong management background in the Wisconsin Correctional Center System, and his abilities will be an asset to the Sanger B. Powers Correctional Center,” Secretary Raemisch said. “As Superintendent, he will lead a facility that holds offenders accountable and prepares them for their successful return to the community.”

Richards began his state corrections career in 1983 as a Correctional Officer at the Waupun Correctional Institution. He promoted to Lieutenant at the Dodge Correctional Institution in September 1990, and was named Captain in May 1993. Richards joined the Wisconsin Correctional Center System (WCCS) in June 2001, serving as a Captain at both Oregon and Thompson Correctional Centers. In January 2008, he became Administrative Captain for WCCS.

Richards has served on several committees, including the DOC’s National Incident Management System Steering Committee, the Division of Adult Institution’s Security Policies Committee, and the WCCS Procedures Committee. He also is a trainer for the Incident Command System and has also served as a member of the Restorative Justice Leadership Development Project and as a Subject Matter Expert in the development of the Wisconsin Integrated Corrections System. Additionally, Richards is a 1999 graduate of the agency’s Leadership Development Program.

SPCC is located in Oneida in Outagamie County and has a current capacity for 110 adult males. It is a minimum-security facility.

Richards succeeds former SPCC Superintendent Patrick Melman, who moved in June 2008 to the Superintendent position at the Drug Abuse Correctional Center in Winnebago County. Richards’ appointment is effective Sept. 28, 2008.

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