CHARLESTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE Sheriff Kristin Graziano 3691 Leeds Avenue North Charleston, SC 29405





## **6 Detention Center residents receive GED**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 3, 2021

**NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C.** – Sheriff Kristin Graziano is pleased to announce the awarding of GED certificates to six male residents of the Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center (SACDC). The jail residents received their certificates in two separate ceremonies Friday, Dec. 3, 2021. The events were closed to the public.

The residents, two adults and four juveniles, have worked over the past three months with instructors from the Charleston County Adult Education Department to further their education. The ceremonies also consisted of residents receiving their WIN (WorkKeys) Certificates and acknowledgement of the Trident Technical College satellite program participants.

This is the first time in the history of SACDC that residents have had the chance to earn, and receive, their GED certificates.

"We wanted to give these guys opportunities that they've never had before," Sheriff Kristin Graziano said during the juvenile graduation ceremony today. "We made history together."

One of the adult GED certificate recipients spoke at his ceremony about how this has allowed him the chance to be more successful when he is released.

"I feel proud of myself and everyone else who participated," he said. "This is a big accomplishment for me. I did it for myself and my kids. I wanted to better myself and be a better father."

Present at the graduation ceremonies were senior command staff of the sheriff's office, as well as representatives of Trident Technical College, members of the community, and parents and loved ones. Plans are underway for jail residents to receive more opportunities to further their education next semester while housed in the facility, keeping in line with Sheriff Graziano's

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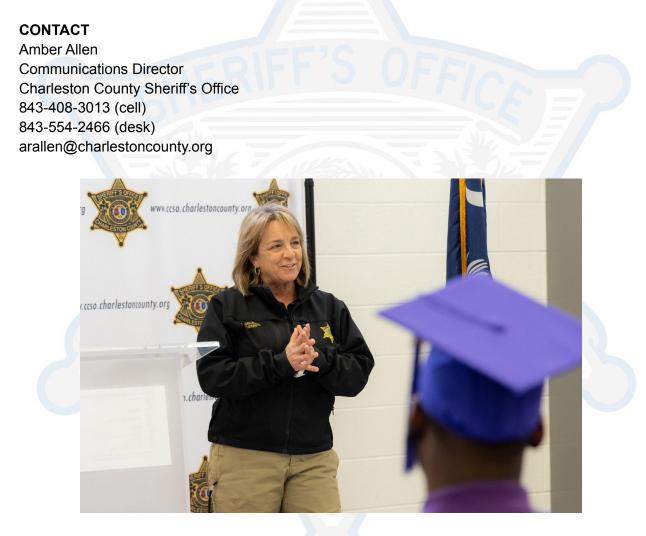
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emphasis on rehabilitation. The education program was led by SACDC Programs Director Radia Baxter.

"You are the master of your fate," Baxter said on Friday. "This isn't the end. It's only the beginning."



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