



Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia

Office of Legislative, Intergovernmental and Public Affairs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 23, 2003

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CSOSA, EXCEL INSTITUTE AND DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES JOIN TOGETHER TO PROVIDE OFFENDERS A NEW CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Washington, DC - The Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (CSOSA), in partnership with the Department of Employment Services and the Excel Institute, will host a joint meeting and luncheon to recognize and encourage 16 offenders about to begin training at the Excel Institute. The event will take place on June 24, 2003, at the New Commandment Baptist Church, 625 Park Road, N.W., Washington, D.C., at 1:00 p.m.

The Excel Institute, founded by George Starke, President of Excel Institute and Former Washington Redskins "Head Hog," is a two-year automotive technician training program that includes basic literacy, workplace counseling and on-the-job training as part of its basic curriculum. Excel Institute offers young men and women in Washington, DC the opportunity to train for a career, earn a high school equivalency diploma, and obtain an unsubsidized job in the automotive industry.

Paul A. Quander, Jr., Director of CSOSA stated, "This event is reflective of CSOSA's ongoing efforts to partner with community-based and governmental entities to secure the opportunities offenders need to transform their lives and become productive members of the community. The Excel Institute President George Starke has offered these 16 men the promise of a career in the automotive industry."

To assist and support the offenders in this endeavor, CSOSA is matching each of them with a mentor from a local faith institution. Additional support is being provided by the Department of Employment Services, which has agreed to sponsor reference books, shop wear, tools and transportation for the enrollees.