



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 13, 2018

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Contact: Linda Russell
901.385.4230
lrssell8@memphis.edu

**UPCOMING SYMPOSIUM FOCUSES ON OPPORTUNITIES
FOR COMPANIES TO HIRE EX-OFFENDERS**

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – The Tennessee Department of Correction (TDOC), the Public Safety Institute (PSI) at the University of Memphis, and the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission will co- host a Symposium on opportunities for companies to hire trained, skilled ex-offenders on Thursday, June 14, from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Fogelman Executive Conference Center, University of Memphis.

The event will provide an opportunity for Memphis area employers to learn more about how they can tap into sources of skilled, qualified workers while at the same time expand opportunities for ex-offenders and create a pathway for their success in our community.

Guest speakers include Tony Parker, Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Correction, and Burns Phillips, Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Other participants include Shelby County Mayor Mark Luttrell and Memphis Mayor Jim Strickland.

Providing job training, life skills and support programs for ex-offenders is a key part of the local Operation: Safe Community plan, the development of which was spearheaded by the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission. The Crime Commission is coordinating implementation of the plan, and the University of Memphis’ Public Safety Institute is charged with independently evaluating certain training efforts geared toward ex-offenders in the community.

- WHO:** TN Dept. of Correction, UofM Public Safety Institute, Memphis Shelby Crime Comm.
- WHAT:** Helping Others Helps Your Company – a Symposium on enhancing Job Opportunities for Skilled, Qualified Ex-Offenders in Memphis and Shelby County
- WHEN:** 8:30 a.m. – Noon CST
Thursday, June 14, 2018
- WHERE:** Fogelman Executive Conference Center, U of M Campus
330 Innovation Drive
Memphis, TN 38152

###