

Date:November 10, 2011Contact:Tara Booth

Phone: (601)359-5701 Email: tbooth@mdoc.state.ms.us

## <u>Corrections Corporation of America and the State of Mississippi Announce Closure of the</u> <u>Delta Correctional Facility</u>

**Jackson, Miss.** – Corrections Corporation of America (CCA), the nation's largest partnership corrections provider to government agencies, announced today that it and the state of Mississippi have jointly agreed to cease operations of the 1,172-bed Delta Correctional Facility in Greenwood, Miss. on January 15, 2012.

The Mississippi Department of Corrections will begin ramping down the current population of approximately 900 inmates from the state-owned Delta facility to other facilities in the state of Mississippi in December 2011. CCA will also cease operations of the portion of the facility owned by Leflore County for the housing of approximately 125 local jail inmates.

"Our agency's effort to operate more efficiently and effectively has resulted in \$118 million in savings and cost avoidances," Mississippi Corrections Commissioner Chris Epps said. "State law requires private prisons to operate facilities more cost effectively than the state. So, it was difficult for CCA to match our savings as required by law and increase its revenue. While I am disappointed to see them leave, I understand. CCA has worked hard to remain open and has been a good corporate partner."

Damon Hininger, president and CEO stated, "CCA sincerely appreciates the partnership it has had with the state and the community of Greenwood, Mississippi for more than seven years and it is certainly with deep regret that we find ourselves unable to renew the contract. At this time, however, the need by the Mississippi Department of Corrections for beds/services at Delta no longer exists. CCA will work with the Mississippi Department of Corrections and Leflore County to assist with the transition of inmate populations to other facilities."

###