



Community  
Based  
Correctional  
Facility

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**

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**Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Judge Nancy R. McDonnell**  
**Community Based Correctional Facility (CBCF) in Cuyahoga County**

Cuyahoga County becomes the final county in Ohio to open a Community Based Correctional Facility (CBCF) when the ribbon is cut at an upcoming grand opening celebration. The ribbon cutting ceremony is at **2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 26** at the Judge Nancy R. McDonnell Community Based Correctional Facility located at 3540 Croton Avenue in Cleveland.

A public open house for community members to tour the facility will take place on Thursday, January 27 from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Judge Nancy R. McDonnell CBCF is the 19th CBCF in the state and is the result of the combined efforts of the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Judges, Cuyahoga County Administrators, the City of Cleveland, and the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. The facility was named after Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judge Nancy R. McDonnell as it is through her leadership and stewardship that the facility becomes a reality.

CBCFs have been established by Ohio law as a sentencing alternative for non-dangerous felony offenders. Prison overcrowding and state and local budget shortfalls make community corrections facilities viable options for courts and the communities they serve by offering research-based programs that are proven to reduce recidivism while protecting the community. CBCFs provide comprehensive programming addressing offender needs such as chemical dependency treatment, education, employment, and family relationships. CBCFs are considered to be the most restrictive sentencing option in the range of community-based sanctions.

The Judge Nancy R. McDonnell CBCF is a newly built, 53,000 square foot residential facility with a maximum capacity of 200 beds. The single story, brick and glass design is constructed as an energy efficient, environmentally friendly building, meeting the rigorous national standards of LEED certification.

The funding for construction and program operation comes from the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. The state benefits by having community corrections options in the county for non-dangerous offenders, saving costly prison bed space for more violent offenders, and the county benefits by having a locally controlled sentencing option.

The Judge Nancy R. McDonnell CBCF will be operated by Oriana House, Inc., an internationally renowned, non-profit, community corrections and chemical dependency treatment agency that has been providing services since 1981 and has facilities in Cuyahoga, Summit, and Seneca counties.

A Facility Governing Board (FGB) is responsible for oversight of the CBCF. Two-thirds of the members of the FGB are appointed by the Judicial Advisory Board (which is made up of Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judges) and one third of the members are appointed by the County Executive.

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The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will include state, county, and city representatives. The members of the Cuyahoga County CBCF Facility Governing Board are: Alfonso P. Sanchez, chairperson; Sandy Turk, recording secretary; William M. Denihan; Melanie GiaMaria, Esq.; Russell Kaye; Geoffrey Mearns; Gwendolyn Mitchel-Cole; Greg Popovich; Roger Riachi; Charles R. See; Thomas Washington; and Douglas Weiner.

The members of the Cuyahoga County CBCF Judicial Advisory Board are Judge Nancy A. Fuerst, administrative and presiding judge; Judge Dick Ambrose; Judge Michael P. Donnelly; Judge Nancy R. McDonnell, Judge Timothy J. McGinty; and Judge Kathleen Ann Sutula.

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