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Innovative Marine Technology and Carpentry Programs Prepare Inmates for Successful Careers Post-Prison

*CALPIA Programs Cut Recidivism by 25 Percent,
Save Taxpayers an Estimated \$35 Million*

CHINO – Today, 23 inmates at the California Institution for Men at Chino graduated with new job skills in marine technology and carpentry that will significantly reduce their chances of returning to prison once paroled.

These innovative programs provide a level of professionalism and technical skills necessary to help ex-offenders find employment opportunities. Both programs are run by the California Prison Industry Authority (CALPIA) and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR).

“Thanks to the effective training provided by CALPIA, we are far less likely to see these inmates in prison again,” said Matthew Cate, CDCR Secretary. “Not only is this great news for the graduates, their families and friends, but it also saves the taxpayers millions of dollars a year.”

Once paroled, CALPIA inmates, in all programs, are approximately 25 percent less likely to return to prison than an inmate in California’s general prison population. Due to this reduced recidivism, California taxpayers save an estimate \$10 million per year when the costs of prosecution, custody, and subsequent parole are considered.

Specific to the Carpentry pre-Apprenticeship program graduates recidivate approximately 18 percent. Graduates in the vocational dive program and the new Marine Technology Training Center return to prison even less, below 6 percent. This is an impressive number given the return rate of prisoners in the general population is 55 percent.

In addition, CALPIA’s unique training programs reduce CDCR costs for traditional classroom or vocational education saving taxpayers an additional \$25 million.

“When released from prison, these graduates will have no excuses and no reason to return to a life of crime,” said Chuck Pattillo, General Manager CALPIA. “I am proud of the work they have accomplished in effort to improve their lives and lives of their families.”

Marine Technology Training Center (MTTC) – CALPIA operates the MTTC and provides an internationally recognized curriculum for its graduates. Coursework includes: diving physics, navigation, report writing, air systems, welding, seamanship, blueprint reading, diesel engines and marine construction. In addition to the coursework, MTTC graduates must demonstrate a high level of professionalism and confidence during and after their training.

Carpentry pre-Apprenticeship – This is the first class of Carpentry pre-Apprenticeship graduates from CIM at Chino. Journey level craftsmen teach inmates construction skills such as concrete pouring and framing to roofing and finished carpentry. Upon parole, CALPIA provides each graduate with a set of tools and pays their initial union dues. The Carpentry pre-Apprenticeship program and all other CALPIA programs, require inmates to receive their GED within two-years of beginning the program.

CALPIA is self-supporting through the sales of its products and services primarily to the State of California and receives no annual appropriation from the Legislature. The program goal: produce CALPIA trained inmates that will not only have job skills, good work habits, and an education, but also job and community support when they parole.

For more information on CALPIA visit: www.pia.ca.gov

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