U. S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons

For Immediate Release
September 24, 2026

Contact: Office of Public Affairs
(202) 514-6551

Federal Bureau of Prisons Establishes Dedicated First Step Act Office

New office will coordinate nationwide efforts to expand evidence-based programming and ensure compliance with landmark criminal justice reform legislation

Washington, D.C.: The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP or Bureau) today announced the establishment of a dedicated First Step Act (FSA) Office, which will report directly to the Director of BOP. This new office will ensure successful implementation of the First Step Act statute and provide comprehensive oversight of all related programs, policies, and initiatives across the federal prison system. This office will be strategically located at Central Office in Washington, DC, and at the Designation and Sentence Computation Center in Grand Prairie, TX.

This centralized structure will enable oversight, direction, guidance, coordination, and evaluation of all First Step Act-related policies, programs, resources, budget, staffing, training, and statutory implementation throughout BOP. The office will play a critical role in managing First Step Act Time Credits and the expansion of evidence-based recidivism reduction and productive activity programming across all BOP facilities. By providing national directives to institutions, regional offices, and Central Office staff, the First Step Act Office will ensure consistency and effectiveness in program delivery and statutory compliance.

"The establishment of this dedicated office demonstrates the Bureau's commitment to the successful implementation of the First Step Act and our mission to reduce recidivism and promote successful reentry," said BOP Director William K. Marshall III. "This office will provide the focused leadership and coordination necessary to maximize opportunities for inmates in our custody to participate in evidence-based programming and earn time credits toward earlier release to prerelease custody or supervised release."

The First Step Act Office will be involved in a wide range of activities pertaining to the management of inmates committed to the custody of the Attorney General and under the care of the Federal Prison System. These responsibilities include:

- Overseeing the administration and calculation of First Step Act Time Credits
- Coordinating the implementation of evidence-based recidivism reduction programming
- Ensuring the availability and quality of productive activities
- Developing and disseminating policy guidance and training materials
- Monitoring compliance with statutory requirements
- Managing resources and budget allocation for First Step Act initiatives
- Evaluating program effectiveness and outcomes
- Providing technical assistance to institutions and regional offices

"The creation of the FSA Office represents a significant step forward in our commitment to transparency and accountability," said Rick Stover, Special Assistant to the Director. "By centralizing oversight and coordination under one office, we are better positioned to provide timely, consistent guidance, and

support to our staff nationwide. This structure will also enhance our ability to respond more effectively to questions and concerns from inmates, their families, and advocacy groups who are navigating the First Step Act process."

The First Step Act, signed into law in December 2018, represents the most significant criminal justice reform legislation in a generation, expanding evidence-based programming, incentivizing participation through time credits, and promoting successful reintegration of individuals returning to their communities.

###