



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**LONGTIME HEAD OF RED WING CORRECTIONAL FACILITY  
FOR JUVENILES TO RETIRE**

**ST. PAUL** – After leading the home for Minnesota’s most serious juvenile offenders for 15 years, Warden Otis Zanders has announced his retirement. Zanders will end his tenure at the Minnesota Correctional Facility (MCF)-Red Wing on Oct. 3.

“Seeing the transformation in these young men was one of the best parts of my experience here,” Zanders said. “It’s a testament to the quality of our staff and their commitment to making sure residents have the best programs we can provide.”

Corrections Commissioner Tom Roy praised Zanders’ service. “Otis has a true passion for working with these troubled youth to improve their lives,” said Roy. “Minnesota’s juvenile justice system is losing a great advocate and leader.”

Zanders spent 34 years as a Department of Corrections employee. His first job was providing training for new correctional officers. He went on to serve as a case manager supervisor, program manager and associate warden at several facilities before being named warden at Red Wing October 16, 1996.

“The unconditional support the people of Red Wing have given this facility over the last 15 years is something I will never forget,” Zanders said. “By including our youth in community events and projects, they have helped these young men successfully transition back into the community.”

Constructed in 1889, the MCF-Red Wing provides treatment, education, and transition services for the state’s most serious and chronic male juvenile offenders. In addition, the facility provides a separate community re-entry program for 42 minimum-security adult male offenders.

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