



NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release:

Today's Date: November 4, 2008
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Release #: 2008-172

Jail inmates conquer GED tests

Forty-one inmates from the Alachua County Jail have passed their GED tests in 2008, further eclipsing the passing totals for 2006 and 2007 combined.

In the first nine months of 2008, forty-one inmates (35 adults and 6 juveniles) have passed their General Educational Development (GED) tests. Twenty-two inmates (20 adults and 2 juveniles) passed GED tests in 2007. In 2006, fifteen inmates obtained GED's while at the jail.

Six of the 22 juvenile inmates who took the test this year have passed while 35 adults - of the 87 who took the test in 2008 - made passing grades. The average grade level for those tested in 2008 was the fourth grade. Their average length of their stay at the jail was 40-60 days.

In 2007, two of the 14 juvenile inmates who took the GED test passed. Twenty of the 53 adult inmates who took the test passed.

All general population inmates are eligible to improve their educational skills through a partnership with the Alachua County School Board. After completing the Test of Adult Basic Education, GED preparation is provided for those inmates without a high school diploma who test at or above the ninth grade level. Those who test below the ninth grade level in one or more of three subject areas (reading, writing and math) are eligible to attend classes.

For more information on this news release, contact Eugene Morris, Bureau Chief of Inmate Programs and Services at the jail at 352-491-4525.

For more information on other programs at the Alachua County Jail, go to www.alachuasheriff.org/jail.