



NEWS RELEASE



ALACHUA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Media Advisory – Thirteen Inmates Passed GED Tests in First Quarter of 2009

Thirteen inmates from the Alachua County Jail have passed their GED tests for the first quarter of 2009, nearly matching the record-setting pace of 2008.

Of the 28 adult inmates who were tested already this year, 10 passed the test. Three of the four juvenile inmates who tested in 2009 passed. In the first quarter of 2008, 16 inmates (13 adults and 3 juveniles) passed their GED tests.

Last year, 43 inmates passed their GED tests, surpassing the totals for 2006 and 2007 combined. In 2008, thirty-seven adults and 6 juveniles 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.

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.

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 given intensive pre-GED preparation to get them to the level to take GED 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.

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