



NEWS RELEASE



ALACHUA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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2009 inmate GED scores ahead of record-setting pace of last year

Twenty-two inmates from the Alachua County Jail have passed their GED tests this year, which is slightly ahead of the record-setting pace set in 2008.

So far this year, 18 adult inmates and four juvenile inmates have passed their tests. During the same period in 2008, only 21 inmates (18 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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