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## Charleston County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) encourages community to participate in criminal justice conference this Saturday

The CJCC is pleased to announce its support of this important conference, <u>Transforming Our Criminal Justice</u> <u>System: Engaging Our Community</u>, this Saturday, November 18, at Trident Technical College in North Charleston, SC from 8:30am – 4:30pm. All members of the community are encouraged to participate. The conference is sponsored by the <u>Episcopal Forum of SC</u> in collaboration with the <u>Charleston County Criminal Justice Coordinating</u> <u>Council</u> (CJCC) and <u>City of Charleston Illumination Project</u>. Together community members, criminal justice professionals, behavioral health professionals, and diverse faith-based groups will discuss, learn, and contribute towards improving our criminal justice system. The interactive day will immerse attendees in improving the local criminal justice system, and offer specific and concrete actions each person can take to help bring about the desired future. The conference includes a variety of notable speakers, such as:

- CJCC Co-Vice Chair and Director of the Charleston-Dorchester Mental Health Center, Deborah Blalock
- CJCC Co-Vice Chair and Director of the Charleston Center, Dr. Chanda Brown
- South Carolina Senator, George E. "Chip" Campsen III (R-Charleston)
- Honorable Charleston County Chief Magistrate, Leroy Linen
- CJCC Chairman and Charleston County Assistant Sheriff, Mitch Lucas
- Rev. Kylon Middleton, Mt. Zion AME
- Retired City of Charleston Police Chief, Gregory Mullen
- Ninth Circuit Defender (Charleston and Berkeley), Ashley Pennington
- Director of the South Carolina Department of Corrections, Bryan Stirling, and more.

Additionally, professional credits are available to attendees: 3.41 CLE for legal practitioners, and 4 CE for LPC, LMFT and social workers. "We are thrilled for this great opportunity to engage with the community. Participants can expect to get a big picture view of the past, present and future of the criminal justice system; learn about what is happening here in South Carolina and specifically Charleston; network with others; and identify opportunities to become actively involved with local efforts," said CJCC Co-Vice Chair, Deborah Blalock.

To register for the conference, visit <u>www.episcopalforum.com</u>.

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## About the CJCC

The mission of the CJCC is to assist in making sustainable, data-driven improvements to Charleston County's criminal justice system and thereby improve public safety and community well-being. The CJCC is a collaboration of elected and senior officials, law enforcement leaders, judicial and court leadership, behavioral health professionals, victim advocates, various community leaders and many more. The CJCC works collaboratively to improve the administration of justice and promotion of public safety through the planning, research, education and system-wide coordination of data-guided criminal justice initiatives.