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Charleston County Sheriff's Office Statement on Juvenile Detention Center Settlement

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. – The Charleston County Sheriff's Office acknowledges the recent Consent Decree approved regarding the Charleston County Juvenile Detention Center. It reflects our shared commitment to ensuring the safety, dignity, and well-being of all youth in our care.

This litigation spanned multiple administrations within the Sheriff's Office. Charleston County Sheriff Carl Ritchie, who assumed office in January 2025, prioritized resolving this matter and implementing additional reforms to ensure lasting improvements. The Consent Decree provides a clear framework for continuing these reforms and maintaining compliance with best practices in juvenile detention.

"Our priority is to provide a safe, lawful, and rehabilitative environment for young people," said Sheriff Ritchie. "We fully support the measures outlined in the Consent Decree and will work closely with the Professional Monitor to ensure accountability and transparency throughout the process."

The Sheriff's Office remains committed to uphold the high standards set forth in the Consent Decree and to foster an environment that respects the rights and needs to every youth.

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