

(Originally published in DC Compass, an internal newsletter of the Florida Department of Corrections, July, 2011. Reprinted with permission)

Re-Entry a Reality at 10-7 Haines City

By CPS Wade Cohen

On June 22, 2011, CPO Frank Allen of the Haines City Probation and Parole office was an honored guest at the graduation ceremony of the Polk Works Young Leaders Program.

One of Officer Allen's offender youth was recognized at the ceremony for his achievements in the program. He was awarded a new laptop computer for his efforts. The Young Leaders Program is one of the primary re-entry initiatives at the Haines City Probation Office. The program provides youth, ages 16-21, who reside in Polk County with opportunities to gain valuable academic and workplace skills that will help them connect with jobs and careers. This re-entry success story was the result of a strong initial motivational interview, appropriate referrals, follow-up, and encouragement along the way from Officer Allen.

Well done.