

Louie L. Wainwright Award

After Directors of Corrections leave their posts as leaders of corrections agencies, some may be chosen to become Associate members of the Association of State Correctional Administrators. Of these Associates, some want to stay involved. Of those, some stalwart believers continue to contribute significantly in a number of ways to offer assistance and advancement of professionalism in the field.

No Associate has been more successful in directing an agency nor given so much to the profession as the revered Louie Wainwright who, for twenty-five years of continuous service, served as Secretary of the Florida Department of Corrections. After his service, he continued to contribute to Corrections via Wainwright Judicial Services, a criminal justice consulting firm based in Tallahassee, FL and the Corrections Foundation of Florida, a non-profit entity serving the Florida Department of Corrections with more than 25,000 members.

In 2004, Ron Angelone, Associate, Past President of ASCA, and Chair of the ASCA Past Presidents' Committee established the Louie Wainwright Award to recognize outstanding contributions to Corrections by an ASCA Associate who had exemplified the professional standards espoused by Wainwright. Angelone announced that the Award would henceforward be known as the Louie L. Wainwright Award.

The Award is presented annually during ASCA's Summer Business Meeting. Nominations for the Award are received by the Nominations Committee, which ranks them and passes along its ranking to the Past Presidents Committee members, who then vote to select the awardee.

Louie L. Wainwright

Born on September 11, 1923, Louie Lee Wainwright was raised in Lawtey, Florida.

During his early corrections career he excelled, and served in increasingly challenging positions. In 1962, Wainwright was appointed as Secretary of the Florida Division of Corrections by Florida Governor [Cecil Farris Bryant](#). He was Secretary of the [Florida](#) Division of Corrections until 1987. Among Members and Associates of the Association of State Correctional Administrators (ASCA), he holds the record for continuous service as a correctional administrator, having served 25 years as Secretary in Florida. Wainwright served under six governors: Bryant, [Haydon Burns](#), [Claude Roy Kirk, Jr.](#), [Reubin O'Donovan Askew](#), [Bob Graham](#) and [Wayne Mixson](#).

During his tenure with the Florida Department of Corrections, Wainwright's vision and "hands-on" involvement in the daily operations of correctional facilities produced exemplary operations and practices in the profession. He was an early leader in the development of national correctional standards, and was a founding member of ASCA. He was also a leader in developing prototype programs and designs for both community facilities and major institutions.

He was the first President of the American Correctional

Association, the Association of State Correctional Administrators, and the Southern States Correctional Administrators, respectively.

Upon receiving his Masters Degree in Criminal Justice from Nova University, Wainwright later served as an adjunct faculty member. He has also lectured on criminal justice at the University of Florida, Florida State University and the University of Georgia.

Wainwright is a recipient of the American Correctional Association's highest tribute, the E.R. Cass Award for Outstanding Service. Other awards include the National Institute of Corrections Distinguished Service Award and the Volunteers of America Maud Booth Correctional Services Award. Additionally, his efforts in support of accreditation in Florida and nationwide earned him the 1986 Accreditation Achievement Award from the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections.

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Upon his retirement from state government, he established Wainwright Judicial Services, a criminal justice consulting firm based in Tallahassee, which he continues to operate. He has served as President of the Corrections Foundation of Florida, a non-profit serving the Florida Department of Corrections with more than 25,000 members.

He served as advisor to other state corrections departments in reorganizational efforts and testified as an expert witness in Federal Court and before the U.S. Congress.

He received numerous gubernatorial and presidential appointments. He was a member of the Florida Overcrowding Correctional Task Force, the President's Joint Commission on Correctional Manpower and Training and chaired the 1983 National Platform on Corrections Committee.

In 1990 the *Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency* honored him by establishing the Louie L. Wainwright Award to recognize annually the member best exemplifying the professional standards he espoused. On a national level, the *Association of State Correctional Administrators* at its 2004 Summer Business Meeting announced that its annual Past Presidents' Award honoring a former director would henceforward be known as the Louie L. Wainwright Award.

Wainwright was appointed to the Florida Corrections Foundation Board in 2001 and re-appointed as President in 2003, 2004 and 2005. He also served as President of the Florida Peace Officer's Association from 1965– 1966, where he is still a prominent and respected member.

He is most famous for being the named *respondent* in two U.S. Supreme Court cases: *Gideon v. Wainwright* in

which indigents are guaranteed an attorney, and *Ford v. Wainwright*, in which the Court approved the common law rule prohibiting the execution of the insane. *Time Magazine* called the *Gideon* decision one of the ten most important legal events of the 1960s. He also appeared as the respondent in a number of habeas corpus petitions that reached the Supreme Court level during his long tenure in office, making "Wainwright" one of the most familiar names to students of habeas corpus law.