WHEREAS, studies have proven that inmates of correctional facilities who participate in vocational training programs and who get jobs in their field of training are less likely to be repeat offenders; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Vocational and Technical Education operates inmate training programs within the facilities operated by the Department of Corrections; and

WHEREAS, inmates who complete vocational training while incarcerated are among the approximately 5000 inmates discharged from the Corrections system annually; and

WHEREAS, after their discharge, many ex-offenders who completed vocational training while incarcerated do not obtain jobs for which they were trained; and

WHEREAS, there now exists no coordinated means by which trained ex-offenders may be monitored in job placement efforts upon their discharge from the Corrections system; and

WHEREAS, a well-coordinated statewide system for monitoring ex-offenders is necessary to assure taxpayers that funds used to train inmates result in a lower rate of return of inmates into the Corrections system; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission operates employment offices throughout the state which may be used to enhance job placement opportunities for ex-offenders who complete vocational training while incarcerated,

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in the Office of the Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Oklahoma, I hereby order the following:
1. The Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections, and the Oklahoma Department of Vocational and Technical Education shall join in a cooperative effort to find jobs for ex-offenders who complete vocational training while in the Corrections system.

2. The purpose of this cooperative effort is to enable existing state programs and resources to:
   a. provide better opportunities for ex-offenders to secure employment in training-related occupations;
   b. increase inmate usage of employment related services; and
   c. improve monitoring of individual inmates upon discharge.

3. The Oklahoma Employment Security Commission shall be the lead agency in coordinating this effort and shall periodically report to the Governor and the Legislature on progress towards enhanced monitoring and use of resources.

4. Copies of this order shall be distributed to the chief executive officers of the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections, and the Oklahoma Department of Vocational and Technical Education.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed at Oklahoma City on this 23rd day of May, 1991.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

[Signature]

ATTEST:

[Signature]

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE