



News Release

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First Group Graduates from Justice Center TechWorks Training Program

The Winnebago County Sheriff's Office and Rock Valley College are pleased to announce that the first seven students have graduated from the CNC TechWorks Training Program recently launched inside the Winnebago County Jail.

The TechWorks Training initiative was announced in December and provides individuals who are incarcerated the opportunity to earn NIMS credentials that are necessary to enter in to a career in the CNC Machining field. Through the partnership, the students spent the last eight weeks undergoing rigorous and disciplined training. The program helps students develop industry skills that reflect advanced technology and changes in the manufacturing industry. In order to graduate from the program, students have to undergo performance and theory assessments, which they are tested on by NIMS. The credentials validate the individuals' knowledge, skills and abilities in machining parts by operating a CNC simulator.

In addition to the manufacturing curriculum, students participated in a 30 hour job readiness course. A Rock Valley College Instructor worked with students to build resumes and cover letters. They also covered where to look for jobs and how to apply for positions with their newly obtained credentials.

Under the leadership of Sheriff Gary Caruana, the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office has worked hard to ensure this programming opportunity is available to individuals incarcerated in the Jail. We are excited to partner with Rock Valley College for the training program. Our goal is to graduate 56 individuals in the first year of the program.

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