

# Morgan County Government

Don Edwards, Executive  
415 N. Kingston St.  
PO Box 387  
Wartburg, TN 37887



Don Edwards, Chairman  
(423) 346-6288  
Fax: (423) 346-9707  
edwardsd@mcsed.net

*Morgan County is a community where God is honored, where our children are safe and well educated, and where hard working, industrious citizens have ample opportunity for good jobs.*

August 20, 2015

## Public Statement From the Morgan County Executive's Desk

I have been very concerned in recent months for the safety of Morgan County citizens who work at the Morgan County Correctional Complex especially those who are Correctional Officers. I am very troubled by the allegations that Morgan Countian Woody Garrett, who was injured in the vicious attack on Tuesday, was the result of staffing deficiencies which seem to be a corollary of the 28 day work cycle aka the 6 on 3 off shift staffing strategy. It has also been reported to me that TDOC in Nashville has been downgrading the categorization of staff assaults to a lesser offense which undermines the respect which the inmates must have for the correctional staff. I call on Commissioner Schofield and Governor Haslam to conduct an internal investigation, one which lets the staff speak freely and honestly, and take corrective measures immediately.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Edwards', written in a cursive style.

Don Edwards  
Morgan County Executive  
Commission Chairman