



**DJJ TESTIFIES AT CITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE BUDGET HEARING**

On Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, the Department of Juvenile Justice testified at City Hall before the New York City Council's Juvenile Justice and Finance Committees concerning the Department's Fiscal Year 2008 Executive Budget. The budget hearing was chaired by Sara M. Gonzalez, Chair of the Juvenile Justice Committee, and David Weprin, Chair of the Finance Committee.

Representing the Department of Juvenile Justice were Commissioner Neil Hernandez, First Deputy Commissioner Judith Pincus and Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs Herman Dawson.

DJJ highlighted critical funding in next year's budget that supports continuing the Collaborative Family Initiative, adding case management supervisory and management positions, and implementation of the Workforce Life Skills Initiative, which is part of Mayor Bloomberg's Center for Economic Opportunity to reduce poverty in the City.

In its prepared remarks, the Department noted, "Allocations for Fiscal Year 2008 will continue to support the agency's enhancement of human services, sustain the administrative functions that drive agency operations, and promote the restructuring of the juvenile justice system as outlined by Mayor Bloomberg in his State of the City address."

