



Heroic efforts by DJJ staff members save lives and protect safety of Department's juvenile residents.

DJJ Welcomes New Employees and Recognizes Staff Members for Heroic Efforts and Strategic Response

On Friday, October 5th, 16 Juvenile Counselors and five Congregate Care Specialists graduated from the Department's Staff Education Training Academy at a ceremony held at the Downtown Conference Center in Manhattan.

The graduation featured a Keynote Address by New York City Council Member Sara M. Gonzalez, who Chairs the Council's Juvenile Justice Committee.

In addition, the ceremony presented the opportunity for the Department to recognize heroic staff and emergency responders for their exceptional efforts in response to a critical vehicle fire, without which Agency staff as well as youth in the Department's care could have been severely injured.

Staff members recognized for their valor and heroic efforts included:

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| Robert Harris | Barbara Morris | Jerome Davis |
| Kevin Baker | Tyrone Washington | Morris Williams |
| Nathan Kalmanson | Dennis Harris | Wayne Spennie |
| Carleton Samuels | Jamel Nedderman | Milton Southerland |
| Willie Hall | | |

Executive Director of Court Services and Transportation, Kevin Baker summed up the event as follows, "the Department's acknowledgement of the heroic efforts of its staff, as well as using this opportunity to recognize them, serves as inspiration for current employees while simultaneously allowing the new graduates to witness the high standards in which Agency staff operate".

Agency staff, family members of the graduates and the invited guests of the honored staff enthusiastically attended the ceremony.

