

# The Roll Call



Some of our Boldest members cheering each other on during National Correctional Officers and Employees Week!

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## A Message From Commissioner Maginley-Liddie

Dear Boldest Family,

This month, I hope everyone felt the scale of National Correctional Officers and Employees Week matched the Department's incredible achievements over the past year.

There were lights on the bridge, food trucks, events dedicated to health and wellness and an uplifting spirit day when leadership cheered staff into work. Correctional staff were recognized at Yankee Stadium and Citi Field. Facilities also decorated commands with signs of appreciation.

While it is impossible to honor everyone, we also had a chance to recognize some of our colleagues who give us a lot to be proud of.

For example, the Criminal Justice Bureau and the Donald Cranston Judicial Center received a citation for their work bringing court production to nearly 99 percent. The Workforce Development Unit within the Division of Programs and Community Partnerships was honored for the many new and exciting services they have launched as well as their work to open six new staff wellness centers inside facilities. Our Communications Unit has been on the forefront of our modernization from camera installation and repair to personal body alarms. It was a pleasure to recognize all of them.

They, and all of you, are part of the continued development of the Correction Department.

It may not always feel like our progress is appreciated but I can assure you that the improvements we make are seen.

Many of the court orders and oversight reports that receive so much attention explicitly recognize the progress all of us have made in recent months.

We all know that there is more to do but the standards we set – and the examples we lead by – continue to make our department better and stronger. We know how hard everyone works to make positive change, both within the agency and in the community.

That is what makes COEW such an important event. So much of our work is far from view yet its impact is recognized. While one week is not enough to express my gratitude, please know that it is felt 365 days a year.

# SOWING CEEDS OF SUCCESS

On April 25, 2025, the Cadet Education, Empowerment, and Development for Success (CEEDS) program hosted a luncheon at John Jay College of Criminal Justice to celebrate two cohorts of cadets finishing their first year or graduating from the program.

The CEEDS program – a collaboration between John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and the NYC Department of Correction – is a one- to two-year program for juniors and seniors that recruits students interested in Law Enforcement, Criminal Justice, or Correction Studies and prepares them for future leadership opportunities at the NYC Department of Correction.

One such student is Officer Torres an alumnus of the third CEEDS cohort who graduated from John Jay in 2023 with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. Officer Torres credits the CEEDS program with strengthening her personal and professional growth. She said, "The program, on a personal level, helped me develop confidence and resilience."

Although she is a new officer, her goal is to mentor current CEEDS members beyond the gates of the jail. "As a former member of the CEEDS program and now a Correction Officer, I can say that the experience has provided me with many tools to use in my career and has given me clarity on what impact I want to make in the department," Torres declares.

If a program is only as good as its instructor, then the CEEDS program is in good hands. Officer Karl Chin, a 17-year veteran of the department, says he discovered his passion for education and mentorship early in his career.

In 2021 he became the Company Commander for the CEEDS program where he manages the day-to-day operations and serves as a liaison between the department and John Jay. Officer Chin says his proudest accomplishment was designing the program's three-week training curriculum where cadets get real-world experience that provides knowledge that they can use in their future law enforcement careers.



"I'm committed to life-long learning and professional development," says Chin. "I am truly humbled to be recognized as a 2022 Master Instructor, National Instructor of the Year in 2024, as well as being certified as the first ever New York State 'Certified Jail Officer' by the American Jail Association."

For Cadet Calderon, interning at the Correction Academy and the Applicant Investigation Unit helped to develop her leadership and public speaking skills. She says her goal is to "aim for higher-ranking positions such as a warden, chief or lieutenant at DOC or NYPD." One of her best memories of the program was when she got the opportunity to visit various jails in and outside the city as well as working with the Youth Explorers as a mentor.

Whether a current or former CEEDS Cadet, one thing they all agree on is the profound impact the 3-week training had on their future career goals. Cadet Lawson remembers the grueling physical training and the day he thought he would not be able to complete the exercises. He says, "I remember feeling exhausted, but as I kept going, I could hear my fellow cadets cheering me on from the sidelines. Their support gave me the strength to push through and complete the exercise."

That sense of camaraderie and peer support is at the heart of the CEEDS program whether through the various internships, the cadets are assigned to or the three-week classroom instruction, these future law enforcement professionals have forged a bond that will bear fruit for years to come.



# REV KEV: REVEREND GREEN

The Reverend Kevin Green has the distinction of having two careers within the DOC – offering 20 years each to both uniform service and the chaplaincy.

Reverend Green, who is often called “Rev Kev” in the facilities, offers a friendly ear, support, and encouragement, and looks upwards for answers to big life issues.

He brings a deep, abiding faith to help people who are justice-involved while drawing on his earlier experiences with people in custody to help those currently in our care.



“I see it as a ministry,” said Green. “It gives me the opportunity to really engage with these men and women, to hear their problems and really address their problems.”

Rev. Green sees his work as a way to provide people in custody the strength of mind and hope that can lead to personal change, using, in this case, the Christian faith.

“I have heard many [people] tell me in 20 years -- hundreds tell me -- ‘I am going to change my life,’ reconnect to God and faith,” said Green.

Green said when visits by chaplains conclude, those in our care are usually thankful not only for the visit but also for a chance to turn their lives around.

Many do change, some may not, but the impact of the visits and worship is felt.

While he was a Correction Officer, starting back in the 1980s, he worked at C-73, a women’s housing area in what is today GMDC, and later at OBCC, NIC, RNDC and TD.

Rev. Green said from the time he started as a Correction Officer in 1981, he always tried to respect people in custody, give them what they were rightly due, and be fair to them.

When Green was eligible for full pension as a Correction Officer and retired in 2002, he was happy and especially proud because he had followed the advice of perseverance in the job that his mentors instilled in him.

Yet despite the satisfaction Green felt, something still seemed uncompleted.

As a reverend, Green stated he felt a deeper calling to return to the DOC as a chaplain, and befriend and counsel those who are incarcerated, adding that when he became a chaplain, his heart’s desire was fulfilled.

For Members of Service that he meets throughout the course of his duties, Green tries to pass along the practical wisdom of his years in the jails and offers advice to all who show interest.

In terms of top advice for uniform and non-uniform staff, “Rev Kev” said it is to leave the work of Rikers and the jails at the door at the end of your tour and to pick it up when you are back on duty.

“When you leave the job, go home...de-program yourself from Rikers Island, and enjoy life and love your loved ones,” said Reverend Green.

Green said he plans to retire soon but is already looking to come back in a more limited capacity.

# SURVEY SAYS! O-MAPPING AGENCY IMPROVEMENTS

DOC recently embarked on an effort to update our chemical agents training curriculum. While there is nothing exceptional about modifying training, what made the initiative unique was that uniformed staff – and their on-the-job experiences – informed the training’s redesign.

Gaining insight into everything from program impact to operational efficiency is part of the Office of Management Analysis and Planning’s (OMAP) three-person Research and Evaluation Unit. The team, created in 2022, has launched a series of surveys to gain insight and feedback from the DOC community, which can then inform future improvements.

On chemical agents, feedback was gleaned from a survey launched in July 2024. The 20 -question survey asked about uniformed staff rank and facility as well as challenges with understanding and complying with the Chemical Agents Directive and identifying how well our uniformed staff respond to real-world scenarios.

The roughly 425 responses were analyzed and then used to shape training curriculum revisions.

“We appreciate everyone engaging with the survey,” said Sara Thompson, OMAP’s Director of Research and Evaluation.

“We hope to continue to launch surveys to get more insight from our uniformed staff, so keep an eye out for future efforts.”

Uniformed staff are notified about these surveys through teletypes, emails, and posters, intranet announcements, and roll call attendance.

## STATISTIC OF THE MONTH

The proportion of individuals presented to a scheduled in-person court appearance reached nearly 99% in recent months.



# 99%



# BOLDEST WIN BIG AT THE AMERICAN JAIL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

The Boldest were awarded top honors by a national correctional association – winning both ‘Correction Officer of the Year’ and ‘Volunteer of the Year’ awards for 2025.

The recognitions were presented to 18-year DOC veteran Officer Santos Barbosa, Jr. and Pastor Tim Johnson at the American Jail Association’s 44th Conference and Jail Expo in Fort Worth, Texas.

“The NYC Department of Correction is full of heroes who dedicate their time, talents and bravery to the agency, and it is so special to have two of our Boldest recognized,” said NYC Department of Correction Commissioner, Lynelle Maginley-Liddie. “Officer Barbosa and Pastor Tim have both gone above and beyond to save lives and give people the tools to reach brighter futures. We are grateful to the American Jail Association for this honor and so proud of Officer Barbosa and Pastor Tim.”

Last September, Barbosa, a former EMT, saved the life of a one-year-old child who began choking on a potato chip while exiting a visit area with his mom.

Barbosa’s quick thinking and calm demeanor allowed him to provide life-saving care to the toddler who was beginning to turn blue due to lack of oxygen. After performing chest compressions and finger sweeps, the chip was dislodged, and the child began to breathe again.

“I am very honored to receive this award but it’s not just for me,” said Officer Barbosa. “This was a team effort, and I am so thankful for the people I work with and for correction officers around the country who don’t always get the recognition we deserve.”



Pastor Tim Johnson has also been awarded the AJA’s 2025 Volunteer of the Year award for his work with the emergent adult population on Rikers Island. Johnson, an NFL Super Bowl Champion, is now Senior Pastor of the Orlando World Outreach Church, an accomplished author, and founder of the Fatherless No More Initiative and Institute.

“In no way was I expecting this award because it’s my honor to be able to serve the young adult population on Rikers Island,” said Pastor Johnson. “I will humbly accept this award on behalf of Commissioner Maginley-Liddie, DOC Leadership and Officers Cummings and White for allowing me to be a part of the Boldest Team.”

The Fatherless No More Initiative was created in 2022 and supports young men housed at the Robert N. Davoren Center on Rikers Island. The faith-based initiative instills a sense of accountability, responsibility and spirituality.



# The Roll Call



## NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK 2025! THANK YOU, DOC!

The Boldest's hardworking and dedicated members of service and staff were celebrated during National Correctional Officers and Employees Week with events and recognition in honor of their bravery and perseverance.

As part of the week of festivities, Mayor Adams paid tribute to the efforts of our committed team.

"New Yorkers cannot be safe or feel safe without the work you do," Mayor Adams said in a recorded message to staff. "You are an inspiration to your colleagues and your communities. You have more than courage – you have compassion, too. You keep our city and the people in your care safe."

The mayor added, "On behalf of 8.5 million New Yorkers, thank you for answering the call to serve. Your city is proud of you."

During the week, vendors provided health screenings, and leadership cheered staff as they arrived to work on Rikers Island. New wellness resources were opened at facilities across the Island, and the department was recognized by the New York Yankees and Mets.

At the closing ceremony on May 9, the Communications Unit, Criminal Justice Bureau, Donald Cranston Judicial Center and Workforce Development Unit were honored for their achievements over the past year.

Commissioner Maginley-Liddie said during the week, "For 130 years, Correction Officers and staff have been guardians, protectors, caretakers and heroes. This week – National Correctional Officers and Employees Week – is our opportunity to say, 'Thank you.'"

JoinTheBoldest



Agency leadership served meals to staff at the closing ceremony for Correctional Officers and Employee Week.



## COEWellness: 2025



The Department of Correction opened four new wellness centers during National Correctional Officers and Employees Week 2025.

The new centers are located in GRVC, EMTC, West Facility and RMSC, and feature a combination of serenity rooms, gym, café or lounge.

The centers are conveniently located at each facility to ensure that staff can access wellness resources on their way in or out of work.

The total number of centers is now up to six. The first center opened at OBCC at the start of the year and was soon followed with a Boldest fitness center at Brooklyn Courts.

These facilities expand Commissioner Maginley-Liddie's focus on staff wellness.

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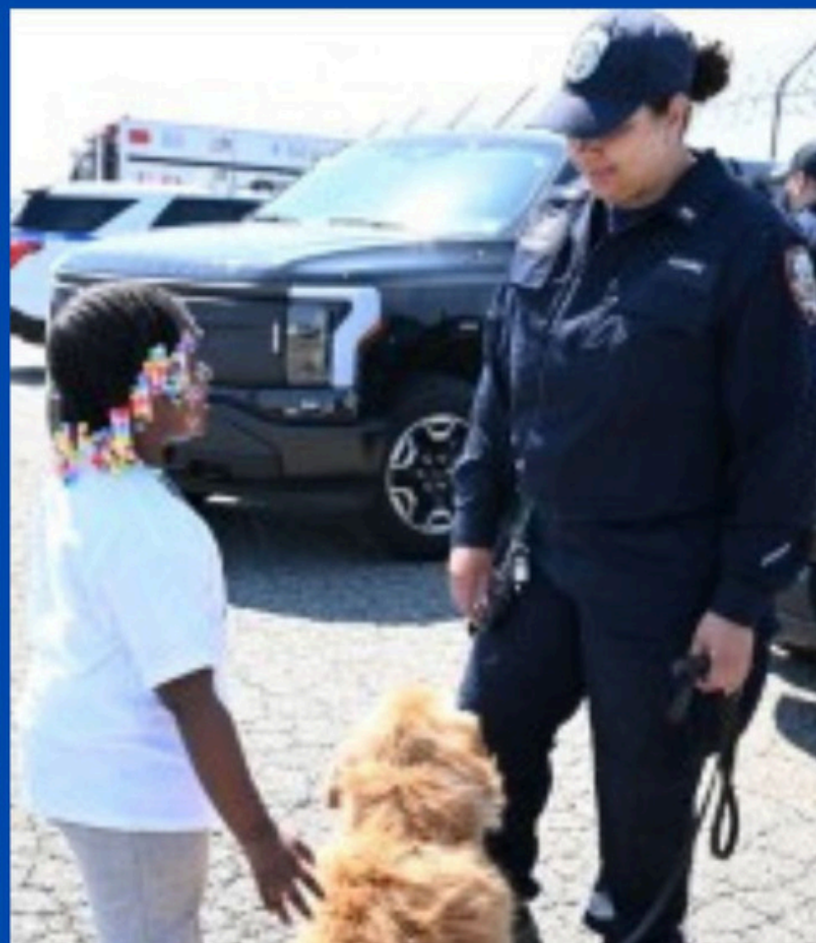
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# Take Your Child To Work Day











# COEW

NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK

