

*Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans.*

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AUGUST 2025

THE ROLL CALL

Issue No. 8

A MESSAGE FROM COMMISSIONER MAGINLEY-LIDDIE

Dear Boldest Family,

This August marks 20 years since Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast — a national tragedy that claimed more than 1,800 lives and displaced over a million people.

In moments of crisis, we look to the helpers — those who put their own well-being aside to serve others. At the Department of Correction, we need not look far. During Hurricane Katrina, more than 130 of our members of service answered the call for volunteers, to help restore stability in the face of incredible upheaval and turmoil. They spent weeks in the South staffing correctional facilities, building makeshift courts, and supporting rescue and recovery efforts.

I am honored to share their stories in this issue. Their bravery and heroism during Katrina stand as a defining chapter in our agency's 130-year history and a lasting reflection of who we are. Their sacrifices were extraordinary — but equally important is the reminder that the same skill, courage, and commitment they brought to the Gulf Coast are the very qualities they bring to New York City every day.

Those heroes carried out the same roles that our staff performs tour after tour, day after day. They remind us that this is an extraordinary agency, staffed by exceptional people who step up whenever they are called.

This month, we also saw so many remarkable moments of service, both in the jails and in the community. For example, our facilities challenged each other to donate the most bicycles to children across the city. Together, they raised an astounding 700 bikes, which were distributed to children at neighborhood events. Families were deeply grateful — and some children even shed tears of joy upon receiving their new bicycles.

Our staff also went above and beyond in working with federal authorities and local prosecutors to bring individuals who endangered the safety of our jails and

committed acts of violence to justice. Their work dismantled a drug-smuggling scheme aimed at jails and prisons across the state and secured significant prison sentences for those who attacked officers and other people in our custody.

Finally, we must always remember that the helpers need support too. That is why I am proud to announce the launch of a free, confidential health app for DOC heroes. This new resource allows staff to assess their physical and mental health, with direct links to additional tools and support.

I am so proud to highlight members of service — past and present — and to celebrate the enduring strength of our Boldest family.



*Only steps left after 2005 Hurricane Katrina, Mississippi coast, Mississippi
Carol M. Highsmith, photographer
Library of Congress*

HURRICANE KATRINA 20 Years Later

When one of the deadliest hurricanes in American history struck Louisiana, the nation watched in horror as lives were lost, homes destroyed, and leaders struggled to meet even the most basic needs of their people.

As 125-mile-per-hour winds battered a submerged New Orleans, roughly 1,400 miles away the New York City Department of Correction (DOC) — along with partner agencies — mobilized to support the response. The more than 130 members of service who deployed over seven weeks staffed a total of seven Louisiana correctional facilities, built a makeshift justice center, assisted with search and recovery, and brought a wide range of skills to the Pelican State in its hour of need.

Two decades later, DOC members of service, past and present, reflected on their experiences and the role they played in helping Louisiana.

"I GOT THE TROPHY, BUT I NEVER MADE IT TO THE GAME"

At the time, **Sharvon Stewart** had been seconded from the Department of Probation to New York City Emergency Management (then known as the Office of Emergency Management or OEM). She was on her way to play in a basketball championship at West Fourth Street when her phone rang: a leadership meeting had just ended, and she was needed back at headquarters.

Her team went on to win, but Stewart never made it to the court. Instead, she took charge of operations at OEM's headquarters, a squat FDR-era bunker under the Brooklyn Bridge known as the Purchase Building.

"I got the trophy," she recalled with a laugh. "But I never made it to the game."

As the first African American woman to direct facilities management at OEM, Stewart began compiling lists of needed supplies and skills—and DOC delivered.

"DOC, as usual, brought a lot to the response, including security, budget and finance, communications, central storehouse, health management, information technology, transportation, administration and nutritional services," Stewart said. "They realized we were versatile and could do a lot of things. So, we were all over."

Stewart, who joined DOC in 2009 to support emergency operations, remembers those days as the start of an extraordinary mobilization.

"FOR 33 HOURS ON THE BUS, WE FIGURED OUT WHAT WE HAD TO DO"

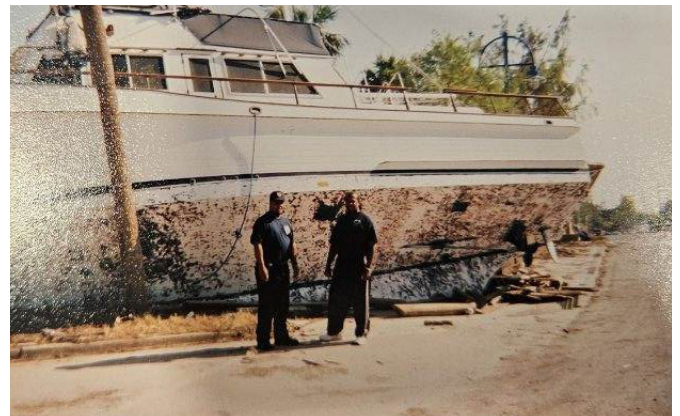
Back on Rikers Island, a call went out for volunteers. Dozens of staff raised their hands, and the first contingent departed in early September aboard two charter buses.

Captain Joseph Ferramosca was among roughly 80 volunteers.

"For the 33 hours we were on the bus, we figured out where we were going and what we had to do," he said.

As more staff joined, they traveled south by bus, plane, and even city vehicles—though those came with a catch. The cars were fitted with speed governors that topped out at 60 miles per hour.

"It was a slow ride," one member of service quipped.



SPARTAN QUARTERS, BIG CHALLENGES

Most staff were housed at a “bunkhouse” on Louisiana’s Department of Public Safety & Corrections training grounds. The building slept about 50 people, with an outhouse around 100 feet away. At night, with no outdoor lighting, finding the bathroom was an adventure no one wanted.

Assignments varied. Some stayed only a few days before being deployed to New Orleans or elsewhere; others remained for weeks, filling in at state correctional facilities where many local officers had lost their homes.

“The people living further south—their homes were basically destroyed,” said Capt. Ferramosca, who served at Wade Correctional Facility in Homer, La. “It was a difficult situation for them. They appreciated us coming in and doing what we had to do.”

BUILDING RESPECT

DOC staff ultimately worked in seven correctional facilities across Louisiana. Their reputation preceded them, and their experience on Rikers Island earned respect.

At the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola, the New York City staff were surprised to see little interaction between people in custody and officers, who largely stayed on the catwalk. With severely disrupted services, tension in the units and episodes of unrest and disrespect, **Capt. Edwin Caban** (retired) decided to change that. He asked that a gate be opened so he could address the housing area directly.

When he asked for a gate to be unlocked, he was told, “Sir, we don’t go into the pods. We stay on the outside.”

Capt. Caban replied, “I understand, but open the door.”

Inside, Caban gathered everyone and stood on a platform to address the room.

“Listen, I know there is a lot going on,” he said. “But what we’re not going to do is have any disrespect. While we’re here, we’re going to make sure your services are met to the best of our ability. If they’re not, it means they couldn’t get done in a timely fashion—but that does not mean you will conduct yourselves improperly.”

From that point forward, **Officer Toussaint Boyd** recalled, they maintained respect within the facility.

“At the end of the day, they knew that if we said we were going to be fair, we were going to be fair,” he said. “We let them know, we are here for you. But all that noise stops today.”



CAMP GREYHOUND

For many, the journey took them to New Orleans, where they built “Camp Greyhound” — a makeshift jail in a bus station after the local facility became unusable.

DOC officers fenced in bus lanes to create holding pens and converted an office into a courtroom to uphold due process.

*“We had between six to eight pens, each could hold about 50 people,” recalled **Officer Tyson Jones** (retired).*

Members of service set up intake, fingerprinting, booking, searches, and classification to ensure proper separation of women, men, and adolescents. They worked 12-hour shifts, seven days a week, sleeping wherever they could.

“There were no beds, so we made palettes out of our luggage until we could get cots from the military,” Jones said.

Meanwhile, DOC’s Emergency Service Unit supported recovery efforts in Jefferson Parish, where floodwaters had devastated homes.

“We saw the destruction—cars shoved against houses, a van propped on its nose, even a boat on top of a roof,” Boyd said. “The waterline was 60- or 70-feet up buildings.”

Staff went house-to-house. Those marked “X”, had already been cleared. Those without markings were searched.

HURRICANE KATRINA 20 Years Later

A LASTING LEGACY

Despite hardships — lack of water, power outages, makeshift accommodations — DOC staff kept operations under control.

"Everybody did what they had to do," said Deputy Warden Emmanuel Bailey (retired), who served as a personnel supervisor and spent more than a month deployed. "When they saw me, they saluted. They kept their uniform tight. And it was hard to do that."

Deputy Warden Bailey visited staff throughout the state. *"When I came to visit them, I slept there," he said. "It wasn't easy to report back to the barracks they gave me. So, when we visited, we stayed for two or three days."*

Although volunteers initially committed to 14 days, many stayed far longer. Per the city's agreement with Louisiana, the mission ended Oct. 22, nearly seven weeks later, when all staff returned to New York. They were greeted with a hero's welcome.

"They embraced us, they applauded us," Deputy Warden Bailey said. "It was amazing."

Bailey and a number of other members of service from DOC and partner agencies, later joined New Orleans-born music legend Wynton Marsalis for the New Year's Eve ball drop in Times Square.

"I DID MY LITTLE PART"

Twenty years later, the experience remains etched in the memory of those who served —remarkable even for a generation of staff who served during one of the most eventful eras in New York City-history, which included 9/11, the crash of flight 587 as well as momentous changes in the correctional field.

"Every now and then something happens that makes me reflect on it," said Officer Jones. "Maybe it's a bad storm or seeing people [on the news] getting displaced. I just think about how so many people needed help. And I was able to do my little part."

HURRICANE KATRINA 20 Years Later



20th anniversary of HURRICANE KATRINA

**On the 20th Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina,
DOC pays tribute to members of service who answered the call.**

DEPUTY WARDENS

Emmanuel Bailey
Harry Ahl

ASSISTANT DEPUTY WARDENS

Mark Scott

CAPTAINS

Edwin Caban
Latricia Davis
Joseph Ferramosca
Henry Martinez
Eugenio Ramos
Philip Rizzo
Joseph Silecchia

CORRECTION OFFICERS

Angel Baez
Rodney Banks
Budnarine Behari
Candida Bonilla
Donna Bovell
Toussaint Boyd
Lawrence Bradford
Edwin Brea
Tyrone Breedan
Anthony Bulluck
Jose Camacho
Tasha Capers
James Coyle
John Daquet
Darryl Davis

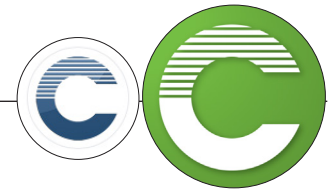
Saul Dejesus
Giuseppe DiFilippi
Michael Dudley
David Dueno
Gilbert Ellison
Daniel Fabre
Michelle Feldra
Janett Francis
Michael Freeman
John Gadson
Conal Gallagher
Verlades Gilles
Carla Gittens
Joseph Goodheart
William Green
Charles Hall
Jerome Hall
Yvette Hamilton
Prescott Harris
Demosthenes Hatzoglou
Jason Hawkins
Jose Hernandez
Nicolas Hershewe
Antonio Irizarry
Arthur Johannes
Karl Johnson
Tyson Jones
Robert Kauer
Dennis Kelly
William Kwasnicki
James Lam
Philip Lee
William Levy
Daniel Lowe
Caroline Lowery
James Maikisch
Victor Maldonado
Ruby Malofsky

Peter Mandeville
Clifford Marquis
Eric Marrero
Antonio Martinez
Rosario Matos
Gerald Maynard
Anthony Mazzo
Willie McAlpine
Veronica McLeod
Chemene McLeod-Quinones
Edward McNamara
Shahid Mehmood
Jeffrey Miller
Ramon Miller
Robert Mitchell
Samuel Morgan
Anthony Mormando
Charles Myers
Richard O'Connor
Craig Oliver
Monica Olmos
James Parker
Cheryl Patterson
Tony Pedro
Michael Peluso
Ivan Penaherrera
Sheldon Powell
John Purcell
Alfonso Reyes
Dale Reyes
Asha Richardson
Freddy Richardson
Wayne Ridley
Edward Ritchie
Damaris Robles
James Robinson
Jasmine Romero
Marilyn Rucker

Stephen Ryan
David Saladellacuna
George Salazar
Marilyn Scrubb
Edward Shanley
Gilbert Sherman
Howard Simmons
Nigel Smith
Michael Sorrentino
Joseph Soto
Anthony Spence
Edward Sperring
Paulette Steele
Devindra Sukhu
Michael Swetokos
Anton Taylor
Trevor Thomas
Scott Thompson
Kwame Tolliver
Anthony Vaughn
Norberto Velez
Timothy Vorhies
Regina Washington
Roy Wayson
Keturah Webb
Andre White
Michael White
James Wolters
Eevie Wooten
Lynell Wright
Mitchell Yablonsky

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Sharvon Stewart,
Community Associate



BOLDEST WELLNESS

COMING SEPT. 1

The DOC is taking a Bold step for health with a new wellness app, called Cordico, that is available to all uniformed and civilian members of service.

The app — which includes one-touch access to peer support teams, licensed counselors, and chaplains trained to support the law enforcement community — is free and completely confidential.

The service also offers self-assessments, guides, and regularly updates videos and articles covering a range of topics including financial literacy, stress management and mental health awareness.

The app is available to the Boldest and up to five family members.

The Cordico mobile wellness app is currently available on all departmental phones. It can also be downloaded to personal devices through the QR code below:



Further ensuring absolute anonymity, the agency is using shared IDs and passwords, which means no personal information will need to be entered to access services.

All members of service can login using the following usernames and passwords:

EMPLOYEE LOGIN:

- Department ID:
NYDOC-A-NY
- Department Code:
NYCBOLDwell!

SPOUSE / FAMILY LOGIN:

- Department ID:
NYDOC-S-NY
- Department Code:
NYCBOLDwell!

RETIREE LOGIN:

- Department ID:
NYDOC-R-NY
- Department Code:
NYCBOLDwell!

Please note that the Department ID and Code are case sensitive.

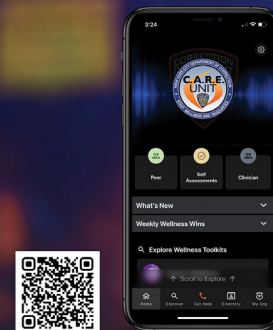
Cordico is a nationally recognized wellness tool designed specifically for first responders and high-stress occupational communities.

Your 24/7 Wellness Resource

- Confidential
- Anonymous
- Accessible 24/7
Mobile application & desktop website
- Available for you and your significant others
- Self-Assessments
PTSD, sleep, stress and more
- Wellness Content
videos & articles on 50+ topics
- Peer Support, Chaplain Support, Therapist Finder



Download the Cordico Wellness App today!



Scan the QR code to install the wellness app.

You do so much to serve and take care of others, now take care of yourself.

EMPLOYEE LOGIN	SPOUSE/FAMILY LOGIN	RETIREE LOGIN
Department ID NYDOC-A-NY	Department ID NYDOC-S-NY	Department ID NYDOC-R-NY
Department Code NYCBOLDwell!	Department Code NYCBOLDwell!	Department Code NYCBOLDwell!

Department ID and Code are case sensitive.



DOC DONATES 700 BIKES TO CITY KIDS



The Boldest wheeled out hundreds of bicycles for city children this summer following a friendly competition between commands to donate the most bikes.

"One of our most fundamental values as an agency is care, and it's care not only for our staff and people in custody, but also for the communities that we serve," said Commissioner Maginley-Liddie. "Each facility challenged each other and made it a real competition, and they were really excited to be able to give back to the community."

At a "Christmas in July" event at JHS 231 in Springfield Gardens, Queens, the Department of Correction's Disaster Relief



Association gave away about 400 bikes. Officers returned to Jamaica, Queens, on Aug. 3 and again to the 26th Precinct's National Night Out Against Crime on Aug. 5. In Harlem, some children burst into tears when they received their new bikes.

"When we put Correction to the test, we always show up," said Officer Allen-Trammell, vice president of the Disaster Relief Association. "It's heartwarming."

The inter-command challenge yielded so many bicycles that pickup had to be spread out over several days.

The George R. Vierno Center (GRVC) took the top spot, donating more than 200 bikes.

Acting GRVC Warden Charisma Carter said, *"Winning the bike donation drive was more than just a victory for GRVC, but it was deeply personal for me. I know what it's like to grow up wanting a bicycle and not being able to afford one. So, to see our facility come together, with staff giving so generously and wholeheartedly, meant the world to me. This wasn't about numbers or recognition, it was about giving kids a sense of freedom, joy, and possibility."*



She added, "What made it even more special was seeing not just our facility, but the entire department come together for a cause bigger than all of us. Watching staff from across DOC contribute with such heart and generosity reminded me of the power we have when we unite for a common purpose. I'm incredibly proud of the GRVC team for stepping up the way they did. Their compassion, commitment, and heart made this effort a true success."



DOC HELPS SECURE SENTENCES IN MAJOR CONTRABAND AND RIKERS ASSAULT CASES



The New York City Correction Department helped build major cases that came to a close this month with the sentencing of two people for violent attacks on Rikers Island, and of a woman who conspired to smuggle drugs into jails and prisons across New York State.

On July 31, Maya McIntosh, age 33, of Albany, was sentenced to eight years in prison for the manufacture, distribution and possession with intent to distribute MDMB-4en-PINACA, a synthetic cannabinoid. The NYC Department of Correction Special Investigations Unit (SIU) partnered with federal authorities to uncover Ms. McIntosh's scheme to spray and soak the liquid onto copy paper and business envelopes and then ship the papers to people in custody at various correctional facilities across the state. She allegedly disguised the envelopes as legal mail by stamping the names of actual, unwitting attorneys in the return address portion of the envelopes.



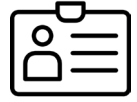
"Maya McIntosh's sentencing should stand as a warning to anyone seeking to introduce contraband into prisons and jails: we will find you and you will be punished," said NYC Correction Commissioner Lynelle Maginley-Liddie. *"The violence and loss of life prevented by the vigilance of the dedicated DOC staff who identify and investigate the presence of illegal substances in our jails cannot be understated. I commend these staff, and partners at DOCCS, USDOJ, and the U.S. Postal Service, for this coordinated effort to successfully stem the tide of dangerous substances entering our jails."*

The Department's Correction Intelligence Bureau also worked with the Bronx DA to build cases against two men who were sentenced to prison this month for separate violent attacks on Rikers Island.

On Aug. 7, Moussa Cisse was sentenced to 10 years in prison for assaulting four New York City Department of Correction Officers and attacking two people in custody. Mr. Cisse participated in five violent attacks while incarcerated at the Robert N. Davoren Center, including four separate incidents when he punched correction officers.

"This defendant caused pain, bloodshed and chaos in Rikers Island," said District Attorney Clark. *"He assaulted four Correction Officers, breaking one officer's nose, and cut two inmates. These senseless attacks were completely unacceptable, and the defendant should serve a prison term for them. He should not escape punishment for jail violence committed while he is awaiting trial."*

Earlier in the month, on Aug. 1, Eric McKenzie AKA Eric Belmar, 59, of Brooklyn, NY, was sentenced to five years in prison and three years post-release supervision for second-degree assault. McKenzie attacked another person in custody in 2021. The assault was so violent that the victim was taken to Elmhurst Hospital, where he was put in a medically induced coma.



DOC LAUNCHES NEW ID CARDS FOR ALL INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS

The NYC Department of Correction will now issue ID cards to everyone in custody upon admission.

After a period without the use of IDs, the Department launched this initiative with a pilot at RMSC in June and commenced with a full sequential rollout at each of the remaining facilities beginning August 13, 2025.

These cards are designed to enhance the safety of both staff and those in our care. The ID cards will be a helpful identification tool to receive services such as access to commissary, law

library, recreation, visits, and work assignments. All people in custody must produce an ID card upon request.

All facilities will receive pre-printed PIC IDs to distribute during their designated rollout week. All facility Intakes have been equipped with dedicated printers, and designated staff have been trained to print the ID cards. Newly admitted individuals will receive their PIC ID and clip as part of the admissions process.

The use of PIC IDs will improve operational efficiency and contribute to a safer, more secure environment for both staff and individuals in custody.

For more information, please refer to Directive 4536, Identification for Incarcerated Individuals.



COMING SOON:

CLICK HERE

for a preview

OUR NEW INTRANET LAUNCHES **SEPTEMBER 2, 2025**

We are pleased to announce that the Department's new intranet will launch on **September 2, 2025**.

The redesigned platform will serve as a central hub for internal communications, resources, and information.

Stay tuned— Additional details regarding features and transition guidance will be shared in the coming weeks.

Together, we're building a better way to connect.





THE 43RD ANNUAL INDIA DAY PARADE in Manhattan.



THE QUEENS INDIA DAY PARADE in Floral Park / Bellerose.

THE PAKISTAN DAY PARADE in Manhattan.



DOMINICAN DAY PARADE in Manhattan.



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Connect With DOC Recruiters

Looking to speak to someone about becoming a NYC Correction Officer?

OUR RECRUITMENT TEAM IS HERE TO HELP.

Call (718) 707-2420 or e-mail careers@doc.nyc.gov

to become a step closer to joining The Boldest.

Our recruiters also visit events throughout the Tri-State area to share career information and answer hiring questions.

Be sure to also ask them when they will be visiting a community near you.



THE ROLL CALL

The New York City Department of Correction

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