

The restoration of one of the Correction Department's historic boats was unveiled at the annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony on Sept. 5 on Rikers Island.

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September 2025

The ROLL CALL

Issue No. 9

A MESSAGE FROM COMMISSIONER MAGINLEY-LIDDIE

This September marked 24 years since the terrorist attacks on our city on 9/11.

Bravery and boldness are the defining characteristics of the Department of Correction. Our work is not easy and, as you've heard me say before, heroes work here. But even among heroes, there are those who answer an even higher call.

At our annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony, we honored the Department's vital contributions to the response. Few people know that it was our Communications Unit that reconnected first responder agencies by distributing radios, setting up repeaters, and even tapping into a nearby telephone service to restore phone lines.

The K-9 Unit was also at the World Trade Center site, searching tirelessly amid the wreckage during rescue and recovery efforts.

The Harbor Unit boarded ships and raced to Lower Manhattan to evacuate civilians from Ground Zero. In the days that followed, the Harbor Unit transported members of ESU from Rikers Island to Ground Zero with water, batteries, and personal protective equipment.

I am proud to share that we restored one of those historic boats and unveiled it with members of service, past and present, along with their families, at the ceremony.

This boat now has a permanent station at the base of the Buono Bridge, reminding everyone of our role in the 9/11 response and inspiring future generations of staff.

New generations of officers are joining us every day. In September, we proudly swore in 167 new officers—the largest graduating class since 2019. We are also continuing to accept registrations for the exam period that runs through October.

Our incoming Officers join a Department that includes amazing members of service who have given centuries of service. At the ceremony we celebrated staff who have a combined 400 years of service. Longevity awards were given to Correction Officer Willie Billingslea (43 years); Director Ronald Greenberg (38 years); Correction Officer Lynell Wright (38 years); Correction Officer Dwayne Lance (38 years); Correction Officer Lionel Cumberbatch (38 years); Chief Charlton Lemon (37 years); Correction Officer Rickey Stewart (37 years); Assistant Deputy Warden Luis Matos (37 years); Executive Director Hardeep Saini (36 years); Manager Jennifer Harley (36 years) and Associate Pamela Johnson (36 years).

We also recognized the appointment of five new senior leaders, the promotion of 23 Assistant Deputy Wardens (ADWs), and the certification of 15 staff members who completed the rigorous New York State Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) course.

These staff members show us that the Boldest are always finding new ways to help us fulfill our mission to promote safety and improve lives.

That same spirit was evident in the many community events throughout the summer, including, most recently, providing children with new sneakers at the start of the school year. The hundreds of sneakers collected across facilities demonstrated to our city and the communities we serve how much the Boldest give of themselves.

This month, we honored our history through our remembrance of 9/11, welcomed new members of service into this incredible legacy, and strengthened our culture for the future through service to our city and its communities.

I am so proud to share this work with all of you. Thank you for what you do every day.



NYC DOC Celebrates LARGEST CORRECTION OFFICER GRADUATING CLASS SINCE 2019

The Department of Correction graduated its largest class of new Correction Officers since 2019 during a Recruit Graduation, Appointments, and Promotion Ceremony held at Queens College on Friday, September 12. The event was presided over by Deputy Mayor for Public Safety Kaz Daughtry and Commissioner Lynelle Maginley-Liddie.

Alongside 167 newly appointed Correction Officers, the ceremony celebrated the promotion of 23 Assistant Deputy Wardens (ADWs), as well as 15 uniformed and non-uniformed staff members who completed training to become certified New York State Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs).

Long-serving staff were honored for their decades of dedicated service, new members were warmly welcomed, and five senior-level staff members received promotions.

Deputy Mayor Daughtry expressed his honor at attending the graduation and promotion ceremony, stating:

"You are now part of one of the most innovative and elite public safety teams in the nation — so effective that agencies around the world model themselves after you. Every day, 8.5 million New Yorkers depend on your vigilance, courage, and commitment. Welcome to the ranks of New York's Boldest. The mission is sacred. The responsibility is immense. And you are ready."

Commissioner Lynelle Maginley-Liddie encouraged the new Correction Officers to take pride in their decision to embark on this challenging career and reminded them that the entire city stands behind them.

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DOC GRADUATES LARGEST CLASS OF NEW CORRECTION OFFICERS SINCE 2019



"While this work is undeniably difficult, it is also a passion and a calling," said Commissioner Maginley-Liddie. "Our members rise to every challenge, solve complex problems, juggle seemingly impossible tasks, and pursue our shared goals with integrity, ingenuity, and character. We are the Boldest because we do what others cannot."

Commissioner Maginley-Liddie also reflected on the graduates' induction into an agency shaped by over 130 years of dedicated professionals. She highlighted the tireless efforts of DOC staff in safeguarding communities, ensuring public safety, and caring for some of the city's most vulnerable populations.

She emphasized that the new officers and promoted staff are the inheritors of this proud legacy, charged with upholding the highest standards of ethical conduct and professional excellence.

Expressing gratitude to the families of the new Correction Officers, the commissioner said, *"Your support, love, and commitment*

will remain vital as they take on the responsibility of serving our city."

The Commissioner further recognized the promoted staff for their exemplary service and contributions to advancing the Department's mission. She encouraged them to continue mentoring future leaders and fostering a strong, positive agency culture.

Welcoming the newly appointed staff, Commissioner Maginley-Liddie also congratulated those who enhanced their skillset by becoming certified Emergency Medical Technicians.

"The skills you have gained broaden our capacity to save lives," she noted. "There is no higher calling. I have been informed that some of you have already applied your skills in real-world situations and excelled. You set a powerful example for your peers, encouraging them to pursue growth in their own careers."

New senior level staff promoted are Deputy Chief of Staff Jeneen Gilliam,

Deputy Commissioner Ayinde Williams, Associate Commissioner Stacey King, Assistant Commissioner James Munson, and Assistant Commissioner Miguelina Zorrilla-Aristy.

As part of the graduating class, awards were presented to Valedictorian Correction Officer Brianna Cantore, Salutatorian Correction Officer Vaiva Vitkute, and Top Shooter Correction Officer Naim Coakley.

At the ceremony, several staff members were honored for their remarkable tenure of 36 to 43 years of service. Recognized by Commissioner Maginley-Liddie, these individuals included Correction Officer Willie Billingslea, Director Ronald Greenberg, Correction Officer Lynell Wright, Correction Officer Dwayne Lance, Correction Officer Lionel Cumberbatch, Chief Charlton Lemon, Correction Officer Rickey Stewart, Assistant Deputy Warden Luis Matos, Executive Director Hardeep Saini, Manager Jennifer Harley, and Associate Pamela Johnson.



NEW AND LONG-TIME STAFF HONORED AT RECRUIT GRADUATION, APPOINTMENTS, AND PROMOTION CEREMONY

The Recruit Graduation, Appointments, and Promotion Ceremony celebrated the achievements and advancements of many long-serving uniformed and non-uniformed staff members.

Senior leadership promotions included Deputy Chief of Staff Jeneen Gilliam, Deputy Commissioner Ayinde Williams, Associate Commissioner Stacey King, Assistant Commissioner James Munson, and Assistant Commissioner Miguelina Zorrilla-Aristy.

The ceremony also marked the promotion of 23 new Assistant Deputy Wardens (ADWs): Miriam Anderson, Brittany Brown, Marche Franklin, Michelle Gilliam, Deliah Hope, Nauvella Lacroix, Marceline Lincifort, Eloisa Martinez, Andre Middleton,

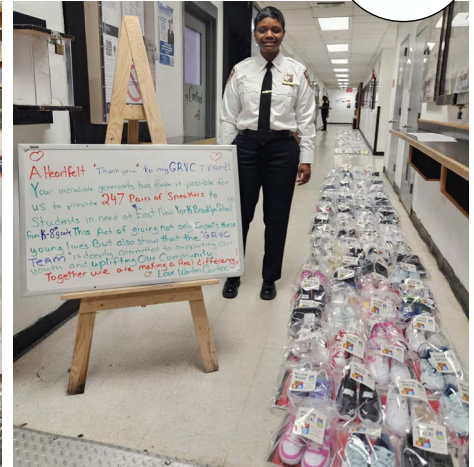
Ceon Mitchell, Nortricia Moreno, Khalid Muhammad, Lashane Nembhard, Debbie Palmer, Bayyinah Peacock, Kemeashia Redwood, Kerry-Ann Rowe, Marcella Sapp, Sakinah Sharif, Sabreen Taylor, Matthew Turner, Odetta Williams, and Verkisha Wilson.

Additionally, 15 uniformed and non-uniformed staff members successfully completed a rigorous New York State Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training program, comprising over 150 hours of instruction.

The newly certified EMTs honored at the ceremony were Latisha R. Boone, Travis Briggins, Tyrone Carter, Joshua Chavez, Courtney Corley, Angela A. Gonzalez, Olawamiri Otukoya, Nicole A. Primus, James F. Quinn, Ashley L. Reed, Paul T. Robertson, Richard S. Sisti, Xavier D. Smith, Enrique Vasquez, and Seleste N. Williams.



EMTC joined in the effort, collecting 600 pairs of sneakers



Acting Warden Charisma Carter with the donated sneakers lined up outside the entrance to the Warden's/Administrative offices at GRVC



DOC BRINGS SMILES by Collecting Hundreds of Sneakers FOR LOCAL KIDS

The NYC Department of Correction continued its summer of service with sneaker giveaways at events across the city.

On September 4th, the George R. Verno Center (GRVC) staff showcased their generosity by donating 247 collected pairs of sneakers to two Brooklyn schools: J.H.S. 218 James P. Sinnott and P.S. 224 Hale A. Woodruff in Brooklyn. The sneakers were gathered in just over two and a half weeks.

A message of thanks to GRVC team read in part: *"The act of giving not only impacts these young lives but also shows that the GRVC team is deeply committed to supporting our youth and uplifting our community."*

As the van carrying the sneakers was being loaded, Acting Warden Charisma Carter, who at the time of the collection and donation was leading GRVC, said, *"I think it is important that DOC be viewed as positive."*

The Eric M. Taylor Center (EMTC) also joined in the effort, collecting an amazing 600 pairs of sneakers that were distributed to P.S. 204 in the Morris Heights section of the Bronx.

The school partnered with retired Officer Mary Love who worked alongside P.S. 204's physical education instructor and coach, Scottie Reynolds.



WARDEN CARTER WITH GRVC STAFF: Debora Faustin (far right, associate correctional coordinator); Sherese Campbell (2nd from right, program specialist); Dionne Spencer (far left, executive director), and C.O. Williams from GRVC (second from left)

"When something like this happens, it's important to shine a light on it," said Coach Reynolds. "I can guarantee you that when school starts, I'll see the students in new shoes with smiles on their faces."

The sneaker giveaway came on the heels of a bicycle collection on Rikers Island over the summer. Staff donated 700 bikes that were donated to children at events throughout the city.

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SNEAKER GIVEAWAY AT JHS 218 IN BROOKLYN



RIKERS ISLAND ASSAULT LEADS TO HEAVY NEW CHARGES



A man who attacked two officers on Rikers Island was hit with new charges this month.

Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark announced on Sept. 22 that Sundance Oliver, 31, was indicted on charges of attempted murder in the second degree, along with multiple other felony counts, including assault on a peace officer. Oliver had previously been indicted on four counts of aggravated harassment of an employee by an inmate and four counts of second-degree obstruction of governmental administration.

District Attorney Clark said, *"The defendant will be prosecuted to the fullest extent for such alleged egregious behavior."*

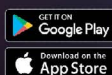
On the day of the heinous attack inside the North Infirmary Command, Oliver attacked two Emergency Service Unit Correction Officers while being transferred to another facility. During two court appearances, DOC staff, including members from ESU and the Commissioner's Office, flooded to courtroom to show support for their fellow officers. Oliver has since been housed in another jurisdiction.

Commissioner Maginley-Liddie said, *"An attack on one of us is an attack on all of us, and we stand together to demand justice for our Boldest family."*

HEROES NEED HELP TOO!

All DOC staff — along with up to five family members — now have access to a free and confidential wellness app created specifically for first responders and other high-stress professions.

The app is already installed on all departmental cell phones and is also available for download on personal devices through Google Play or the App Store.



Staff will have access to 24/7 wellness services directly from their mobile devices.

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!

Department ID
and Code
are case sensitive.

DOC HONORS 9/11 HEROES

The restoration of one of the Correction Department's historic boats was unveiled at the annual 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony on Sept. 5 on Rikers Island. The vessel's service on Sept. 11, along with recognition of the Communications Unit, was a centerpiece of this year's event.



"Bravery and boldness are the hallmarks of the men and women of the Department of Correction," Commissioner Maginley-Liddie said at the ceremony. *"We do a job few understand and even fewer could do. We keep this city safe while upholding the dignity and humanity of those entrusted to our care."*

Twenty-four years ago on 9/11, the DOC's Harbor Unit boarded its boats and raced to Lower Manhattan to evacuate civilians from Ground Zero. In the days that followed, with normal transit channels shut down, the Harbor Unit transported members of ESU from Rikers Island to the World Trade Center site as well as desperately needed supplies — water, batteries, PPE — and even delivered donated goods from across the Hudson in New Jersey.

The Harbor Unit was eventually disbanded due to budget cuts, and the craft was most recently parked in a lot behind George Motchan Detention Center. At the Commissioner's direction, the Facility Maintenance and Repair Division began restoring the 52-foot vessel beginning May and completing the process in late August 2025.

Deputy Commissioner of FMRD Kevin Doherty stated, *"This was a passion project for me, as I previously served in the US Coast Guard and as a student of history, it was a privilege to honor those that assisted*

our beloved city in its hour of need during the 9/11 terrorist attack."

The vessel has now been stationed at the base of the Buono Bridge to stand as a visible reminder — lit at night as a beacon to all — of DOC's role in the 9/11 response.

The event also celebrated the service of the DOC's Communications Unit in the rescue and recovery efforts. Immediately after the attacks, with communications disrupted, the unit raced to Ground Zero to distribute radios, set up repeaters, and enable partner first responders to communicate effectively in those chaotic first hours. A Department telecommunications expert

even secured a live line to connect multiple responding agencies.

Capt. Carmen Reyes (retired) responded in 2001 as the communications supervisor.

"I was very proud of my agency, very proud," she said. *"I'm still proud of Correction. It was a great job. I met so many great people and I learned so much ... How could I not love this job?"*

Capt. Reyes, along with the Communications Unit, received a Unit Citation to honor their work.

Deputy Mayor Kaz Daughtry, the Tunnel to Towers Foundation, the American Jail Association, and One Voice United — an

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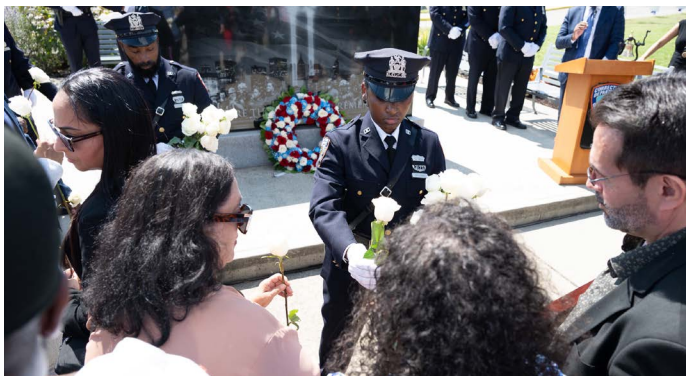
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organization dedicated to raising awareness about the realities of correction — also joined the event to recognize DOC and pay respects to the members of service who have since passed away.

"Of the 43 officers you've lost since 9/11, I want to thank each one of those families," said John Huvane, board member of Tunnel to Towers.

The Department added five names of 9/11 heroes who passed away over the past year: Kenneth Forte, Miguel Melendez, Bruce Boyd, Anthony Rivera, and Lamont Monroe.

"Your story is our story," said Shaun Klucznik, president of the American Jail Association. *"We will continue to speak your names, share your legacy, and ensure that the role of correctional professionals in times of crisis is known and honored at the highest levels."*





JOIN THE BOLDEST

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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