

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 19, 2017 **CONTACT:** pressoffice@doc.nyc.gov, (718) 546-0631

STATEMENT ON MAYOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT 2017

ATTRIBUTE TO SPOKESMAN PETER THORNE: "Our reforms are working even while DOC is managing a more difficult population. We have more people in custody with felony charges and gang affiliations, who are significant drivers of violence. While any assault on staff is one too many, since 2014 the Department has seen a huge drop in serious assaults on staff incidents – a 65% decrease in the last three years – as well as a significant 53% drop in the most serious uses of force incidents.

This year's MMR shows that the Department has made other significant gains. We have stepped up our efforts, and today more inmates benefit from meaningful vocational and work skills programs which help them re-enter our community after release. We have improved the on-time transport of individuals to court and also boosted the number of health clinic visits, while reducing clinic wait time."

Our reforms are working even while DOC is managing a more difficult population.

This administration's successful efforts to divert low-risk, non-violent offenders from our jails have caused our inmate population to decline; those who remain tend to be more violent and difficult to manage.

- 14.7% of our average daily population is gang-affiliated, a 6.5 percentage point increase from FY14 (8.2% of average daily population was gang affiliated in FY14).
- 48.2% of population admissions have a felony top charge, a 5.3 percentage-point increase from FY14 (42.9% of population admissions in FY14).

Key stats:

- FY17 saw a 65% drop in assaults on staff with serious injury compared to FY14 (from 92 in FY14 to 32 in FY17).
- Uses of Force (UOF) with serious injury have also significantly dropped as a result of our reforms— a 53% decrease in in the last three years (from 161 in FY14 to 75 in FY17).
- Serious Injury to Inmate (due to inmate assault/fight) have also dropped—an 11% decrease since FY 2014 (from 157 in FY14 to 139 in FY17).

Assault on Staff

- The MMR statistics on serious injury to staff as a result of inmate assaults measure the frequency of incidents per 1,000 inmates, and they fluctuate with changes in the population. Violent incidents and population numbers don't rise or fall in a one-to-one ratio. Although the overall DOC population has fallen, there is an increasing share of people in custody who face felony charges and have gang affiliations; these inmates are significant drivers of jail violence.
- While even one assault on a staff member is unacceptable, the number of assaults on staff with serious and minor injury have fallen every year since our reform agenda began (2014).
- Better staffing and officer training in de-escalation tactics have significantly driven down assaults on staff with serious injury.
 - o FY17 saw a 65% drop in assaults on staff with serious injury compared to FY14 (from 92 in FY14 to 32 in FY17).
 - o Assaults on staff with minor injury dropped 9% in the last three years (from 439 in FY14 to 398 in FY17)
 - o Assaults on staff with no injury have shown a small increase of 1%

Inmate Arrests

- The Department has zero tolerance for any assault on staff and our Correction Intelligence Bureau will continue to work with the Bronx D.A. to hold assailants accountable.
 - Under Mayor de Blasio's administration, the Department has beefed up the Correction Intelligence Bureau's Arrest Unit with a staff of 16 to put together priority cases to present to the Bronx DA's office.
 - The Bronx DA has also established a unit at Rikers to work with DOC to expedite cases. This has resulted in many more arrests:
 - Total inmate arrests at DOC rose 41% in FY17 compared to FY15, to 1126 from 796.
 - Arrests for stabbings/slashings rose 9% in FY17 compared to FY15, to 63 from 58.

Uses of Force

- Uses of Force (UOF) with serious injury have also significantly dropped as a result of our reforms—a 53% decrease in in the last three years (from 161 in FY14 to 75 in FY17).
- This is the result of better staffing, officer training in de-escalation tactics and the use of OC spray to end incidents.
- Uses of Force with minor injury dropped 8% in the last three years (from 1,812 in FY14 to 1,660 in FY17).

Serious Injury to Inmate (due to inmate assault/fight)

• Serious Injury to Inmate (due to inmate assault/fight) have also dropped—an 11% decrease since FY 2014 (from 157 in FY14 to 139 in FY17).

Contraband Finds and Keeping Contraband Out Of Facilities

A key part of our anti-violence reform agenda is keeping contraband out of facilities. Since 2014, the year the reforms began, the Department has seen a huge spike in contraband finds this is the result of new strategies in stopping the flow of contraband, including the <u>introduction of more K9s</u>, <u>our amnesty program and searching the buses that bring visitors after the</u> visitors have departed.

- DOC's total Department-wide contraband finds were up 58% in FY17 compared to FY14 (from 4218 in FY14 to 6,652 in FY17)
- TOTAL Department-wide weapons contraband finds were up 69% in FY17 compared to FY14 (from 2,348 in FY14 to 3,976 in FY17)
- TOTAL Department-wide drug contraband finds rose 81% in FY17 compared to FY14 (from 637 in FY14 to 1,150 in FY17)