**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**: Thursday, March 31, 2016 **CONTACT**: pressoffice@doc.nyc.gov, (718) 546-0631

## WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH ENDS WITH CELEBRATION HONORING FIRST LADY McCRAY AND WOMEN IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

## DOC Trendsetters Honored at Flushing Town Hall

**Flushing, N.Y.** – Women's History Month culminated in the city with a celebration that honored eight women leaders, including First Lady Chirlane McCray and current and former Department of Correction (DOC) Officials for their accomplishments at a Flushing Town Hall ceremony on Wednesday morning. First Lady McCray was honored for her activism, care, concern and compassion, as well as her passionate focus on mental health, which is creating a safer and more humane city for everyone.

"The Department of Correction has long led the way in recognizing the potential of talented women," said Correction Commissioner Joseph Ponte. "I hope this will help to convince young people looking for a future in law enforcement that the door for women at DOC is wide open."

In addition to the First Lady, NYC Correction Assistant Chief Karen Collins, a 27-year-veteran of DOC, was among those recognized at the Women's Herstory Celebration, which began at 10:30 a.m. on March 30<sup>th</sup> at the Flushing Town Hall.

"Last year, the Mayor and I launched the Commission on Gender Equity to improve gender parity across city government. The Department of Correction continues to be a strong partner as we work to make all of our agencies as diverse as the city we serve," said First Lady Chirlane McCray, Honorary Chair of the Commission on Gender Equity. "The DOC proves every day that women can do the toughest jobs – and do them well. I'm so honored to receive this award."

Two other current DOC leaders honored at the event included:

- Assistant Commissioner Francis Torres
- Warden Maxsolaine Mingo

The numbers speak for themselves. Currently at DOC:

55% of the Wardens are women;

40 % of the Deputy Wardens in Command are women;

44% of the Deputy Wardens are women;

57% of the Captains are women;

43% of all Correction Officers are women.



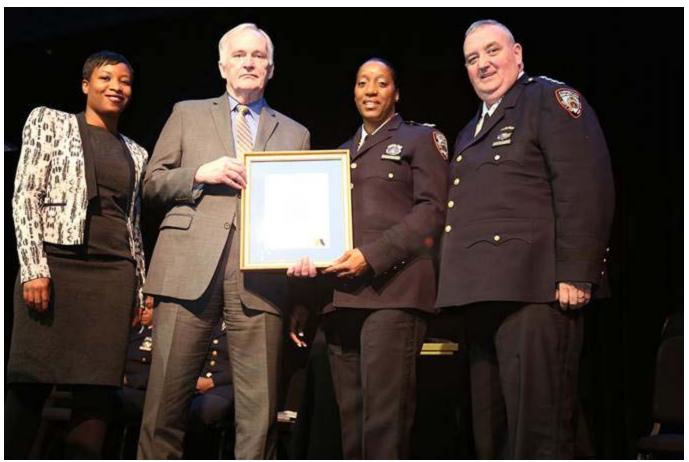
PHOTOS: Ed Reed, Mayoral Photography Office, or Courtesy of DOC (if not Ed Reed photos):



From left to right: DOC Commissioner Joseph Ponte, DOC First Deputy Commissioner Dina Simon, NYC First Lady Chirlane McCray, and DOC Chief of Department Martin J. Murphy.



NYC First Lady Chirlane McCray at DOC's Women's Herstory Celebration, celebrating women leaders.



From left to right: DOC First Deputy Commissioner Dina Simon, DOC Commissioner Joseph Ponte, DOC Assistant Chief Karen Collins, and DOC Chief of Department Martin J. Murphy.



From left to right: DOC First Deputy Commissioner Dina Simon, DOC Commissioner Joseph Ponte, DOC Warden Maxsolaine Mingo, and DOC Chief of Department Martin J. Murphy.