



**Department Awards Four Medals of Honor and Three Medals of Merit to
Employees for Heroic Actions**

October 27, 2015

Acting Commissioner Anthony J. Annucci handed out Medals of Honor and Medals of Merit to seven Department employees for their courageous actions in 2014 today at the Albany Training Academy. Upon the conclusion of today's ceremony, DOCCS' has awarded 52 Medals of Honor and 121 Medals of Merit since the awards program began in 1984.

In a letter sent to attendees of the ceremony, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo said "This year's honorees reflect the commitment and character of nearly 29,000 DOCCS employees across New York State, and I would like to thank all for maintaining such high standards of public service."

Medal of Honor

Four Community Supervision staff from the Brooklyn Region (Kings County) witnessed and helped to subdue two men fighting over a gun, an incident that led to the discharge of a bullet striking one suspect.

- Bureau Chief Nigel Joseph
- Parole Officer Anne Gould
- Parole Officer David Fernandez
- Institution Safety Officer Michael Rodd

Medal of Merit

Parole Officer Dalton Bolden from the Brooklyn Region (Kings County) earned the Medal of Merit for stopping a man from beating and dragging a woman in the street.

Correction Officer T.J. Strack from Clinton Correctional Facility (Clinton County) earned the Medal of Merit for performing life saving measures on a fellow officer following an assault on staff.

Correction Officer Lori Brown from Sullivan Correctional Facility (Sullivan County) earned the Medal of Merit for stopping an inmate from choking a fellow officer.

"It is my honor every year to take time and recognize the heroic actions of the men and women who so greatly serve our Department each and everyday. I am thankful for their service and hard work on a daily basis and am proud when employees, such as the ones we recognized today, go above and beyond to protect the people of this state," said Acting Commissioner Anthony J. Annucci. Photos will be available on the Department's [Facebook](#) page later this afternoon and the coming days.