

Six Puppies Given To War Veterans at Puppies Behind Bars Graduation

January 5, 2016

Three Marines and three Army veterans recently received service dogs at the Puppies Behind Bars (PBB) graduation ceremony held at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility in December. The six veterans, five from out of state, arrived in at Bedford Hills in early December to spend several weeks being paired with their service dog learning how to work with their dog in order to lessen the impact of their PTSD and TBI.

Inmates at Bedford Hills, part of the Puppies Behind Bars program, trained the six Labrador retriever puppies as service dogs for the wounded veterans.

PBB, a nationally recognized privately funded non-profit organization, pays all puppy training and veteran's expenses. The organization began operations in July of 1997 at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility and the program has expanded to include male inmates at Otisville, Fishkill and Downstate Correctional Facilities.

DOCCS Acting Commissioner, Anthony J. Annucci, and Major General Patrick Murphy, the Adjutant General of New York, attended and spoke at the ceremony.

