



STATE OF NEW YORK  
**EXECUTIVE CHAMBER**

ALBANY 12224

**ANDREW M. CUOMO**  
GOVERNOR

June 14, 2012

Dear Friends:

Please accept my greetings and deepest gratitude as you gather for the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Service and Medals Ceremony of the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision.

Today, as in years past, this solemn ceremony commemorates the dedication and professionalism exhibited by individuals of extraordinary courage. It is appropriate that we pay tribute to all of the dedicated men and women at the Department who serve our state's residents and ensure the safety and security of our communities.

I am proud to join in congratulating this year's Medal of Honor recipient, Senior Parole Officer Karen Gormley and the four Medal of Merit recipients – Lieutenant Robert Shields and Correction Officers John Iocovello, William Tolli and Michael Cassidy – for a job well done. Individually and as part of the Department's tremendous workforce, they exemplify the courage and professionalism of our state's entire law enforcement community. We will never forget those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in carrying out their duties, providing protection for our state's law abiding citizens and upholding an honorable tradition of public service.

This year's honorees are outstanding representatives of the over 30,000 employees of the Department, which continues to lead the nation in innovative and progressive corrections and community supervision programs and policies. I thank all of the employees of the Department who maintain outstanding standards of service to all New Yorkers.

With my warmest regards and best wishes to all of you and your loved ones.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrew M. Cuomo". The signature is stylized and fluid.

ANDREW M. CUOMO

