



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

June 13, 2013

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings and offer my deepest gratitude as you gather for the 14th Annual Memorial Service and Medals Ceremony of the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS).

Today, as is tradition, this solemn ceremony commemorates the dedication and professionalism displayed by individuals of remarkable courage. It is appropriate that we pay tribute to all of the men and women of DOCCS 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 Merit* recipients – Upstate Correctional Facility Deputy Superintendent for Security Donald Uhler, Eastern Correction Officer Scott Stedner, and Altona Correction Officers Joseph Poissant and Mark Dubrey – for a job well done. As a unified team of colleagues and as individuals, these four men are shining examples of the excellence for which New York State's entire law enforcement community is known. In addition, we solemnly pay tribute to Casamiro Pomales, whose name is being added to the memorial that bears the names of others who made the ultimate sacrifice while protecting the people of our state.

This year's honorees are outstanding representatives of the more than 29,000 employees at DOCCS, which is recognized nationwide as a leader in corrections and community supervision. I thank everyone at the Department for upholding high standards of public service to New York State.

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

Sincerely,

ANDREW M. CUOMO

