State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, the citizens of the Empire State recognize that the highest level of commitment among our State's Department of Correctional Services employees contributes to the steady vigilance, dedication and professionalism that remain core values of DOCS; this important component of our State's law enforcement system is also recognized to be a demanding and challenging line of public service; and

Whereas, thousands of DOCS "citizen soldiers" have and are now serving in the National Guard and Army Reserves, dutifully protecting New Yorkers, Americans and people in other countries of the world, many of them in the Mideast as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

Whereas, hundreds of security employees serving as members of Correctional Emergency Response Teams have participated in homeland protection assignments in the past year, providing additional security along the New York City aqueduct system as well as in and around several governmental buildings in Albany; and

Whereas, thousands of their coworkers have proudly stepped forward to perform additional duties in the absence of these two groups of fellow employees as part of their contribution to the Nation's security; and

Whereas, DOCS employee professionalism has guided more than 51,000 inmates to earn early release under programs established by the Governor, as well as having utilized security measures that have improved prison safety by reducing inmate-on-staff and inmate-on-inmate violence to 22-year lows; and

Whereas, this year, the Department will honor two current employees for meritorious service while observing the memory of 34 employees who gave their lives in the line of duty while serving the people of New York State; in light of the events of September 11, 2001, the citizens of New York are especially grateful to all members of our law enforcement community who have accepted additional responsibilities to ensure the safety of our communities and they continue to meet this vital goal by staunchly upholding the laws of this State and Nation; as the fourth annual ceremony takes place at the DOCS memorial on the grounds of the Albany Training Academy, it is fitting that New Yorkers remember and commend all correctional employees for performing dangerous and challenging duties with the greatest professionalism and attentiveness to public safety;

Now, therefore, I, George E. Pataki, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim June 1-7, 2003 as

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES EMPLOYEE WEEK

in the Empire State.

STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE PRIVY SEAL

Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twentieth day of May in the year two thousand three.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor