



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, the citizens of the Empire State recognize that the highest level of commitment shown by our State's Department of Correctional Services employees contributes to the steady vigilance, dedication and professionalism which remain core values of DOCS; and

Whereas, with consummate professionalism and commitment, these employees work to ensure public safety and their efforts have resulted in the lowest rate of incidents involving inmate-on-inmate violence and inmate-on-staff violence in a quarter of a century; and

Whereas, the Department of Correctional Services discharges approximately 26,000 inmates from its custody each year, and the Department further strives to reinforce its commitment to broadening and improving reentry programs by working with inmate families, religious communities, the Division of Parole, the Office of Mental Health, community resources and local governments to facilitate a seamless transition back into society and therefore enhance their ability to live as productive members of society, free of criminal behavior; and

Whereas, the number of imprisoned individuals requiring mental healthcare and treatment has increased over the years, the New York State Department of Correctional Services and Office of Mental Health have joined together to provide additional resources and services for inmates entering the correctional system, and to expand and establish new programs and services, including housing, for the population with mental health needs; and

Whereas, this year, the Department will award one Medal of Honor and three Medals of Merit to distinguished employees while paying tribute to the memory of 35 employees who gave their lives in the line of duty as a result of inmate actions; and

Whereas, in light of the tremendous dangers faced by these brave individuals and others every day while serving the people of New York State, and as the eighth annual ceremony takes place at the DOCS memorial on the grounds of the Albany Training Academy, it is fitting that the citizens of this state remember and commend all correctional employees for performing such perilous and challenging tasks;

Now, Therefore, I, Eliot Spitzer, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim June 3-9, 2007 as

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES EMPLOYEE WEEK

in the Empire State.



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

Governor

Richard Bruner
Secretary to the Governor