



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; and

Whereas, those qualities among staff have led to significantly enhanced levels of security; last year, the rate of inmate-on-staff assaults was the lowest in 21 years, while the rate of inmate-on-inmate assaults was the lowest in 20 years; and

Whereas, improvements in program delivery have resulted in a 23 percent increase in inmate participation in academic programs since 1995, a 12 percent increase in vocational enrollment over the same period, while the overall inmate population grew by only 5 percent; and

Whereas, enhanced release programs for certain nonviolent offenders have led DOCS to project a 6,600-inmate decline in the inmate population between 2000-02, the first significant drop in the population in more than 30 years; and

Whereas, the resourcefulness and dedication of outstanding Correctional employees will once again be recognized with the annual Medal of Honor and Medal of Merit ceremony, bringing to 111 the number of employees honored since the inception of the awards program in 1984; and

Whereas, this week, the Department will honor the memory of 33 employees who lost their lives in the line of duty while serving the people of New York State at an annual observance to be held at the DOCS memorial which was dedicated in the year 2000 on the grounds of the Albany Academy; it is fitting that New Yorkers remember and commend all Correctional employees carrying out their perilous 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 3-9, 2001 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 fourteenth day of May in the year two
thousand one.

Governor