

PRESS  
RELEASE



The New York City Department of Correction

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

CONTACT: Jack Ryan, [john.ryan@doc.nyc.gov](mailto:john.ryan@doc.nyc.gov) (718) 546-0921

November 17, 2014

### **CORRECTION COMMISSIONER PONTE NAMES VETERAN**

### **POLICY ADVISOR JEFF THAMKITTIKASEM CHIEF OF STAFF**

East Elmhurst, NY – New York City Department of Correction (DOC) Commissioner Joe Ponte today announced the appointment of Jeff Thamkittikasem to the position of Chief of Staff.

“Jeff joins our management team at a crucial moment for this department,” said Commissioner Ponte. “With his impressive resume, including his service as an advisor to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and his experience providing strategic and operational advice to government agencies at all levels, I expect him to play a key role as we create meaningful reform at the Department of Correction.”

“Jeff’s experience in managing high priority projects, delivering substantive policy guidance, and his expertise in data analytics will help this Department dramatically reform our organizational structure, streamline DOC’s policies and practices, and significantly upgrade the agency’s technical capabilities,” continued the Commissioner.

In his role as Chief of Staff, Mr. Thamkittikasem will act as the Commissioner’s representative to the uniformed Command Staff, the members of DOC’s executive staff and to external stakeholders. He will advise the Commissioner on program and policy matters, manage high priority projects, and oversee day-to-day operations of the Office of the Commissioner.

Mr. Thamkittikasem will report directly to Commissioner Ponte.

“I’m honored to have this opportunity to serve the city of New York and advise Commissioner Ponte as he continues to institute reform,” Thamkittikasem said. “I believe in the Commissioner’s vision and look forward to working with him to make it a reality.”

Among his many accomplishments during his time in Washington, Mr. Thamkittikasem headed a transition team charged with creating a new Office of Intelligence and Operations at U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and assisted CBP with the development of risk-assessment models and intelligence-driven initiatives that have helped to better identify and counter the illegal movement of narcotics, money, and other illicit goods.

As a Senior Policy Advisor to CBP Commissioner Robert Bonner and Chief of Staff for his Office of Anti-Terrorism, Mr. Thamkittikasem provided policy guidance in the development of programs of national importance including counterterrorism, and immigration.

Mr. Thamkittikasem founded and served as President of Sentinel Strategy and Policy Consulting, a firm that specializes in advising public sector agencies at the international, federal, state, and municipal level. The firm's clients included the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Transportation Security Administration.

Mr. Thamkittikasem received an MPA from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs in 2003, and an MA in Sociology from Stanford University in 1998.

#### About the New York City Department of Correction

The New York City Department of Correction (DOC) manages the jail system for New York City. It operates Rikers Island, which houses 10 individual facilities, four borough-based jails and two hospital prison wards, as well as court pens in all five boroughs. In FY 2014, DOC had 77,141 admissions involving 56,218 individuals. Its Average Daily Population is approximately 11,400, over 80 percent of whom are housed on Rikers Island. Most of the inmates in DOC custody are being detained pending the resolution of charges against them; approximately 15 percent are city-sentenced inmates who are serving sentences of one year or less.