Over the past three years as your Commissioner, I have witnessed first-hand the tremendous change you have been able to create with our Anti-Violence Reform Agenda. As I have always said, “meaningful reform takes time” but you have shown that with your dedication, persistence, and hard work meaningful reform can happen.

In my nearly 50 years in Corrections, I have learned that change is never a short-term goal; it is a long-term commitment and a daily challenge. I believe that thanks to you the Department has begun to change for the better and we have put in place the necessary tools to continue this progress.

To the bold men and women of the DOC, your commitment inspires me every day. In a time of great change, our uniform and non-uniform staff all pulled together and pushed our agenda forward as a team. I am proud to say I was your Commissioner during this period. We are still not at a place where we can slow down, as a lot of hard work remains – but we have made our jails demonstrably safer for you and for those in our custody.

A few weeks ago, I announced my retirement knowing that because of the tireless dedication you have put into our mission, and your diligence in performing your duties in tough conditions every day, that meaningful reform will continue long after I leave.

I cannot thank you enough for the BOLD work you have done to change the way we run our jails. It has been an honor to serve as your Commissioner. Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Joseph Ponte
CO W. Nelson has been with the Department since 1973, but for him it seems just like yesterday.

“My fellow officers and the staff that I work with motivate me to come to work everyday,” Nelson said.

Nelson started off his career at ARDC (C74) and remained there for six years. He moved to the Manhattan Detention Center in 1979 and has been there ever since.

“I liked it so much that I never left. I get to meet and talk with different individuals and attorneys everyday. It’s a challenging and rewarding career,” Nelson said.

Over the years, Nelson has been a mentor and offered advice to new staff, including his own son who recently joined the Department.

“I always tell them to take one day at a time. There are good and bad days,” the sixty-five year old officer said.

So what’s next for DOC’s Oldest Boldest who has been with the Department for 44 years?

“I’m trying to get my ducks in row and when that’s done I’ll retire and let the young folks take over.”
The Manhattan Detention Center (MDC) recently began its transformation into a “model facility,” making it DOC’s first outer borough restarted jail.

Since the launch of the Restart at MDC in April, two model housing areas have already been completed. Assistant Deputy Warden S. Chester, Project Manager at MDC, said the upgrades not only beautify the area but also make it safer for staff and inmates.

“The changes, are in lockstep with the Commissioner’s 14-Point Anti-Violence Reform Agenda, which aims to decrease violence and increase safety in housing areas and throughout the Department,” Chester said.

The changes, which take on average three weeks to implement, have the housing units undergo physical changes and programming changes.

“We try to provide the inmates with five hours of services to cut down on idle time. Everything is done on a time schedule,” Chester added.

MDC is quite different from any other facility in the Department and the team working on the Restart wanted to recognize that by adding their unique spin to the areas. “We created a theme for each housing area. One area has images of all the different train systems that run through NYC and the other shows streets that surround the area to give it a homey feel,” Chester said.

Chester, who has been with the Department for 12 years and has worked on the Restart at AMKC, said his team is more like a small family.

“Everyday we have our daily meeting and everyone branches out and handles their duties. We are a very strong team and I must say I am very proud of what we can accomplish on a daily basis.”

The Operational Management Unit headed by Bureau Chief Mingo, is responsible for leading model facility transformations. MDC is the fourth facility to take part in the Restart program.
Captains: D. Webb (Maintenance/Security), & T. Styles (Staffing & Training)

Correction Officers: J. Cordero (Staffing & Training), J. Douglass (Security), D. Lane (Security), N. Lopez (Communications), S. Marshall (Unit Management), S. Pelaez (Maintenance), L. Santos (Programs), L. Colas (Paint Detail), D. Charles (Paint Detail), & T. Spain (Security)

OMU: Michele Stafford (Unit Management/Staffing & Training), Kyle McDonnell (Maintenance/Programming), & C.O. J. Parjohn (Communications/Security)
When and why did you decide to join the DOC?
It was actually a fluke 😬😬😬. My background is actually in adult learning but I liked it, it’s challenging and so I stayed in it.

What are your hobbies outside of work?
I like to travel, weight lift and shop.

What was the best advice you have ever received?
To have integrity, own your work, take responsibility for it and follow up.

What do you want to be remembered for?
Being honest, straightforward, a resource and a mentor.

One thing people may not know about you
I am probably a whole lot more sensitive than they think I am. And that I fight behind the scenes for my people and a lot of times they just don’t know that.
When and why did you decide to become a Correction Officer?
I became a Correction Officer because I was always very interested in law enforcement.

What do you want to be remembered for?
For treating everyone fairly, and really as I would treat myself.

What are your hobbies outside of work?
I like to spend time with my family and crochet.

What is the best advice you have ever received?
To not envy what someone else has because you don't know how they got it. Also, work hard to accomplish your own dreams.

One thing people may not know about you.
I worked as a Gate Agent for Delta Airlines.
Patrina Hall-Madry has been a Correction Officer since 2012 and has been assigned to the Emergency Service Unit for the last two years. By the way, she also happens to be an undefeated boxer for the agency’s boxing team, NYCD Boldest Boxing, with a record of 4-0.

I met with Officer Hall-Madry one afternoon to talk about her careers in DOC and boxing, and the intersections, if any between the two. When asked what brought her to the Department, she stated that she “always wanted to go into law enforcement” and that she loves being a part of ESU. She started boxing in 2016 and had her first fight at Madison Square Garden in June of the same year. I inquired about what led her into the ring, she said that she was asked by Captain Matthews, and before that, had never been interested in boxing and never even watched the sport.

At first glance, one can tell that Officer Hall-Madry is an athlete, tall and lean with a handshake that convinces one of any other thought. My assumptions were correct, she was a runner who always enjoyed the thrill of running and sought out similar challenges in boxing and found them in the training. “The cardio is totally different,” she said. Then there is the sparring, which she found difficult at first. The thought of someone hitting her for sport, how she would react, and remembering that it is just a sport. When asked how the job prepares her for the ring and vice versa, she said “it forces one to be tough, mentally tough.”

Her initial match at Madison Square Garden earned her, her first victory, but also gave her the confidence to move forward and continue with the sport. Since that first fight, boxing has taken her and the DOC team to parts of the United States, as well as England, to box against other agencies. She is currently undefeated and approaching her one year anniversary in the ring and is ready for her next fight.
Soccer star and Olympic gold medalist Mia Hamm once said “I am a member of a team, and I rely on the team, I defer to it and sacrifice for it, because the team, not the individual, is the ultimate champion.”

Hamm happens to be an idol of Correction Officer Monique Jardine. She perfectly embodies the hard work and dedication that Jardine brings to work and play.

Jardine started playing soccer at age 15 and had no intention of stopping. But, when she joined the Department of Correction in 2008, she found there was no women’s soccer team. When the men’s team assembled last year, Jardine vocalized her interest to Head Coach Daniel Lowe.

Although it was a men’s only league, Jardine persisted. “Even if I was not eligible to play, I would be there cheering my team along and playing with them at practice,” said Jardine. She was able to get on the roster as a manager, but wasn’t officially a player.

In 2016, Head Coach Daniel Lowe and Assistant Coach CO Kevin Palulis saw her desire to be on the field not just as a manager, but as a player. They fought for her to become a playing member of Boldest Soccer, and she is part of the Long Island Soccer Football League (LISFL).

She is the first woman to play in the LISFL men’s league since the 1980’s.

“I don’t want players to downplay their skill and treat me any differently because I am a woman,” She says. “Treat me the same. Play against me as an equal. No team existed for me. This is my team, and I am a member. Play me the same way as anyone else.”

Jardine’s goal is to inspire others to break norms, and to show everyone that they can do whatever they set their minds on, no matter the circumstances. She wants colleagues to be pioneers within the Department, even if they are unsure they will succeed.

In the future, this outside midfielder, would love to see the first women’s Boldest soccer team established, but for now she is happy to be part of a team.

The team is now open to all uniformed and non-uniformed Department Employees. They appreciate your support and hope to see you in the stands or on the field next season.

Jardine is a shining example of what we should all aspire to be, BOLD.
For all uniform staff, training at the Range is an integral part of the job. The educating of staff starts off with recruits and continues with annual in-service re-qualification. Officer T. Jones who has been with the Department since 1996, is one of the instructors that make up the Firearms & Tactics Unit.

“One of the things I like most about this job is that I am able to help change the negative mindset some people may have about guns and to make the learning process a little more relaxing,” Jones said.

The defensive training which includes marksmanship, gun handling, tactics and scenario based learning is designed to teach correctional staff to protect themselves and members of the community during a deadly-force encounter.

“Owning a firearm comes with a great deal of responsibility, which is why recruit training has increased from five to nine days over the years. My job is to ensure that when you need to, you can operate your weapon safely,” Jones added.

The Firearms and Tactics Unit, a leader in the field, has studied traumatic events that have occurred in the nation to craft their lesson plans. The 18 instructors that make up the team also work hand in hand with NYPD to host work trainings.

“A lot of people may not be aware that we split firearm training work in NYC. DOC handles Homeland Security, ICE, and some small law enforcement counties while NYPD handles MTA police and Military,” Jones said.

The unit also performs inspections on newly acquired firearms, and ensure the proper storage, transfer, disposal, and ownership of departmental weapons.
Department-Wide Trends: Young Adults (FY15 vs FY16)

Incidents involving 18-21 year olds:
- UOF with serious injury down 58%
- UOF with minor injury down 10%
- AOS down 27%

Any assault is one too many and we will continue to prosecute all inmates who harm our staff.
June is Pride month and DOC would like to take the time to recognize one of its new fraternal organizations, the Gay Officer’s Action League, Inc. (GOAL).

While the organization is new to DOC, it has been around for 35 years. It was founded by NYPD Sergeant Charles H. Cochrane, Jr. and NYPD Detective Sam Ciccone as an organization that would represent lesbian and gay members of the criminal justice community through “advocacy, education, intervention and justice.”

DOC’s involvement in the fraternal organization has been sporadic over the years. In the summer of 2016, GOAL was restarted at DOC and has been working ever since to “provide positive role models and have a supportive impact on the lesbian and gay community, the criminal justice system, and society as a whole.

With an increase in membership over the last year, and still growing, it appears that GOAL at DOC is here to stay.
HAPPY 4th of July
FROM THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION
NYCDOC holds 1st graduation at Madison Square Garden, for more than 900 new Correction Officers.

Check out interview with two time 5k winner Rafal Ksepka (EMTC) on our YouTube page.
A LOOK AT WHAT'S HAPPENING AT DOC

DOC HONORS OUR BOLD MEN AND WOMEN DURING NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL WORKERS WEEK

DOC marched in the 2017 March of Dimes March for Babies Walkathon. The event gives hope to the parents of nearly half a million babies that are born prematurely each year.

DOC TAKES PART IN THE ANNUAL Reebok SPARTAN RACE

DOC honored Former DOC Commissioner Col. David “Mickey” Marcus at a memorial service held at West Point Military Academy chapel and cemetery on May 7. Marcus was a WWII hero and a General in the Israeli Defense Force who was killed while serving.

To see the YouTube videos, CHECK US OUT @ NYCDOCTV
## Employee Recognition Program

### APRIL 2017 WINNERS

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Special recognition to ALAINA CHISHOLM, DOC CADET A.M.K.C.

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**TO NOMINATE IN PERSON:** Submit a paper nomination in the orange or black ballot box at each command
The Employee Recognition Program is the acknowledgement of an individual’s behavior, effort, and accomplishments that support the DOC’s goals and values.

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To Nominate Online: DOC Homepage > “Employee Recognition Program" link
ALL THE DOC INFORMATION YOU NEED IN ONE PLACE

DOWNLOAD THE NEW DOC APP TODAY!

my.yapp.us/nycdoc