



## \$12M in Attica pact

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ALBANY - Gov. George Pataki has reached a \$12-million settlement with the surviving state workers and the relatives of employees killed during the 1971 riot at Attica state prison, administration sources indicated last night.

A \$2-million payment would be included in the settlement for the survivors' group, the Forgotten Victims of Attica, with the allocation of \$10 million more over the next five years to the state employees or their survivors involved in the riot, sources speaking on condition of anonymity confirmed.

Pataki will include the proposal in the 2005-06 executive budget he will propose to the State Legislature on Tuesday. It is subject to approval by state lawmakers.

The money will be distributed according to the dictates of a referee agreeable to Pataki, the State Legislature and the Forgotten Victims of Attica, sources said. One name that appeared to be acceptable to all the sides in the negotiations is federal Judge Michael Telesca, who issued a ruling in 2000 directing the state to distribute \$12 million to the inmate victims of the riot.

That became \$8 million, following the deduction of legal fees, for 502 inmates or their families victimized by the riot.

Administration sources said the cost of counseling to the Attica victims or their families would be paid through the awards.

They said the question of a state apology to the victims or of special access to state records accumulated during the investigation of the riot and of Attica's retaking were still being worked out. Both have been a sticking point.

The Attica prison riot claimed the lives of 32 inmates and 11 hostages.

The state-employee victims of the riot and their survivors have argued they deserve greater compensation because they were victimized by a chain of events started when inmates began rioting. Inmates said they were subject to excessive use of force during the retaking and of brutality afterward.