



# New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association, Inc.



## Veterans Committee

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### **Veteran's Committee Report Executive Assembly Report, June 2006** 6/23/2006

The committee has met monthly since last years elections. At that time we began bringing ourselves up to speed on the current issues which include,

- ❖ 10 Day Bill introduced to the Legislature by the previous committee and currently waiting for action.
- ❖ Article 20 buy back denials which have been addressed and resolved by our law firm.
- ❖ Public Officers Law 63 problems addressed thru face to face meetings between Executive Board members and Bldg 2
- ❖ Retirement service credit for deployed members, The retirement systems position was sought by the committee though the law firm and a position which benefits our members was received from the Comptrollers office.
- ❖ We solicited funds for care packages in August of last year and are in the process of compiling a list of deployed members who could receive those packages. Albany has not been able to provide us with an updated list. I'm asking all chiefs to provide a point of contact from their sector to help us come up with an accurate list. A form is being passed around for this. You should fill this out and get it back to us today. All POC's will be provided with an information packet and contact sheet for the committee members, to assist them at their facilities. We have also included on the web site a deployment form for those members to fill out before they deploy.
- ❖ The committee also requested funding from the union and was granted a sector account. This will enable the committee to provide these care packages without soliciting money from outside sources. It will also allow this committee to expand some of the benefits it provides to it's members with some type of relief and respite program for their family members who are separated from their loved ones due to overseas deployment. The committee will be working on a proposal for this program in the near future.
- ❖ We have also put together manuals for committee members to use in answering questions that come up. These manuals will remain property of the Committee and be updated as needed. The information in the manuals has been included in the disc you all receive at the EA.

- ❖ Information packets were sent to all sectors in a sector mailing if anyone needs more they are available.
- ❖ The office was moved from Albany to the Central Region office to keep travel costs down. There are new numbers available for this office if anyone does not have them see me after.
- ❖ The veterans committee was involved in providing veteran members for NYSCOPBA's commercial spot which aired in the Albany area during the Olympics and then state wide after wards.
- ❖ In March the committee generated a letter to be included in the Legislative Gazette introducing our members to State policy makers.
- ❖ We are continuing to try and keep our web page updated. Two new additions include a warning about the recent VA theft of personal information and a posting of hours when the Central Region information number is manned. If anyone sees anything on there they have a question on call the committee and we will look into it.
- ❖ A registration sheet and contact card is also being sent to the training academy for new members. This will help the committee identify new veteran members.
- ❖ There are some grievances in the works right now. These include service credit and promotion longevity. As they are resolved we will update those who are affected directly.
- ❖ Lastly although the committee has received funding the cost of the care packages can be considerable, to supplement this we are carrying out a fund raiser which involves selling tickets at your sectors. The tickets were handed out when you signed in. The cover sheet included should answer any questions.

Tom Fleming, Chairman Veteran's Committee