



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

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Brothers and Sisters,

The Veterans committee is honored to report that the SMGA **Wounded Warrior** golf event took place on September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 in Malone. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> year NYSCOPBA's has been a platinum sponsor of the event. I was honored to speak to many of the warriors who thanked us whole heartily for our contribution at this event. Specifically Brien Durkee, C CPT MIL USA USARC, who was a warrior that participated in the event. He was a Correction Officer in Massachusetts for 14 years prior to being injured in an explosion while fighting for us in Afghanistan. He had recently undergone his 8<sup>th</sup> surgery to treat and repair the injuries he received in action and had to limit his play in the event. He asked me to let all of his Brothers and Sisters in NY know how much he appreciated our participation in the event. He expressed how great this program is for the individuals involved and how much the SMGA program helps individuals returning with injuries received in defense of our freedom.

I tried to relay to him our thanks to him personally, along with the rest of the warriors who benefited from this and all "Wounded Warrior" events. I tried to thank them for their willingness to fight for the freedoms that we enjoy everyday and for the sacrifices they have all made in support of our country. I urge any member that can support the SMGA or any Wounded Warrior event to do so. The Veterans Committee and I will continue to support this event as long as we have the ability to.

I am going to forward this letter to Brien to again thank him for his service and sacrifices to our country, and to the SMGA for giving us the ability to help in such a noble cause.

Fraternally,

John Gavin

NYSCOPBA's Veterans Committee