



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

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May 13, 2011

Dear Law Enforcement Members,

As you know, as part of the enacted budget for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 the Office of Mental Health will be instituting various ward closures and bed reductions in an effort to achieve cost savings within the agency. On May 11, 2011 we met with the Governor's Staff, to discuss the agency's plans to implement these measures. They provided the highlights of the agency's plans, which can now be viewed on the Office of Mental Health's official website at www.omh.state.ny.us. Briefly, we were informed of the following:

- 1 ward will be closed in each of the following facilities, such closures to take place no sooner than 30 days from May 11, 2011: Bronx Psychiatric; Buffalo Psychiatric; Creedmoor Psychiatric; Binghamton Health Center; Kingsboro Psychiatric; Rockland Psychiatric; and Mid-Hudson Forensic.
- 2 wards will close at Pilgrim Psychiatric.
- Hudson River Psychiatric will be closed, such closer to take place no sooner than 60 days from May 11, 2011, and several of its programs will be merged into Rockland Psychiatric.
- There will be children and youth bed reductions at both Mohawk Valley Psychiatric and Rochester Psychiatric. Specifically, Mohawk Valley will lose 12 such beds and Rochester will lose all of its children and youth beds.

Although the agency is now required by law to post notice of any closure or reduction in services on its website, the Office of Mental Health has not released any information regarding the impact of these initiatives on personnel. The Governor's staff informed us, the agency is still "working through" these issues. On behalf of our members, we will continue to maintain close communication with the Office of Mental Health and the Governor's office and will inform the membership of any new information we receive.

Fraternally,

Donn Rowe