

**STATEMENT FROM NYSCOPBA PRESIDENT LARRY FLANAGAN, Jr.**

The more than 23,000 men and women who make up NYSCOPBA share Governor Spitzer's goal of ensuring New York State has the safest, most efficient correctional system in the nation.

Now that the Governor has unveiled his Executive Budget proposal, we look forward to working closely with him, as well as the Senate & Assembly to take the necessary steps to not only keep New York's families safe but increase workplace safety and protect the diverse interests of our membership.

The proposal does not call for any immediate prison closures, but for an exhaustive, system-wide review of prison capacity. NYSCOPBA plans to work closely with the commission throughout the process so our views are not only heard, but reflected in any recommendation it makes to the Governor and the Legislature.