

Dear Legislator:

I am writing to you today as constituent and a New York State correction officer, deeply committed to the safety of my colleagues, incarcerated individuals, and the communities we serve. I respectfully request that you review NYSCOPBA's official response to the State of New York's Strike Report (NYS Strike Report issued on May 9, 2025), regarding the unsanctioned work strike that took place in DOCCS correctional facilities from February 17, 2025, through March 10, 2025.

NYSCOPBA's response to the State's strike report, dated August 6, 2025, was emailed to your office on August 7<sup>th</sup>. NYSCOPBA's response was prepared to provide critical context and the historical facts and actions – perhaps more importantly, the inactions by the State of New York - in the months and years leading up to the work strike. Something the State's report failed to do. The State's Strike Report outlined the events of the illegal strike but omitted many of the underlying issues that pushed us to the breaking point.

Please take the time to read the entire report. I think it will provide you with some additional historical context and the challenges we have endured. Many we still face today. Though the strike has ended, we are still in a severe staffing crisis and there are many issues that need to be addressed. But those of us remaining are committed to ensuring a safer environment for everyone who enters our facilities. I hope that we can count on you as a partner as we work towards that goal.

Thank you for your service to our State and for considering this matter.