



CHAIRMAN'S MEMORANDUM

NO. 7-2004

August 2, 2004

**TO: SHERIFFS, JAIL ADMINISTRATORS, COMMISSIONERS OF CORRECTION,
TRAINING COORDINATORS, SUPERINTENDENTS, JUVENILE SECURE
CENTER DIRECTORS, NEW YORK CITY WARDENS**

RE: NEW ADDITIONS TO THE COMMISSION'S FIELD STAFF

The Commission is pleased to announce the appointment of two new staff members to the Bureau of Field Operations. Both were carefully recruited and screened for their experience, their exceptional skills and their ability to work smoothly with correctional and juvenile justice executives and staff throughout New York State. The Commission believes that they will be an excellent resource for New York's correctional establishment for many years to come.

Russell Blair, RN, Ph.D

Russell Blair began his criminal justice medical career at Great Meadow Correctional Facility where he served as a registered professional nurse in the Medical Department from 1985 - 1988. After a number of years in hospital and private clinic practice, Russ returned to corrections at Washington Correctional Facility from 1995 - 2002. Russ was promoted and appointed the Nurse Administrator of Mid-Orange Correctional Facility in 2002. He is the author of *Caring Behind the Wall: Introduction to Correctional Nursing*, published in 2002. He is a graduate of the State University of New York and of the California College of Life Sciences. Russell Blair is presently assigned to the Commission's Forensic Medical Unit, Upstate Team.

John F. Pecora

John Pecora comes to the Commission from Montgomery County Correctional Facility, where he served as the Jail Administrator. His correctional experience dates to 1986, all of it in progressively responsible roles as a public information officer, court division officer and investigator in the New York City Department of Correction. He was a member of the elite NYCDOC Emergency Service Unit where he served as a Team Commander and SWAT Instructor. He is active in sports, having been a Golden Glove and professional boxer. He is an expert on youth and college football, having played for Colorado and Montclair State University. He served as a high school head football coach and as Governor, Heisman Memorial Trophy Trust and Downtown Athletic Club.

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Please join me in welcoming these two talented professionals to our field.

Alan J. Croce, Chairman/Commissioner

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Alan J. Croce, Chairman/Commissioner

**Frederick C. Lamy, Commissioner
Frances T. Sullivan, Commissioner**