

Fellow Captains, I would like to wish you and your families a happy and healthy New Year. As we enter 2007, I want to express how extremely eager and excited I am to be given the prestigious honor of serving Captains as your new 1st Vice President.

My 25 years of experience working in the jails has given me insight as to how extremely difficult a Captains position is. As your new 1st VP, I am fully released to perform my Union activities. This will allow me to focus my energy 100 percent of the time on helping my fellow Captains. Many of you may not be aware that five of the CCA's Executive Board positions are not on fulltime release and are actually assigned to work in various commands.

Having said that, remember that your entire Executive Board remains fully committed to serving each and every one of you, no matter what. Throughout my years of working with the Union, both Peter and Ronnie have taught me many valuable lessons. I've learned to never stop fighting for a Captain's rights, and that credibility is an extremely important asset. I strongly believe in always telling a Captain the absolute truth, good or bad.

For the past seven and a half years, I've been assisting our Union attorneys at pretrial OATH hearings which stem from a Captain receiving a Memorandum of Complaint. Believe me when I tell you that this is one of the most difficult jobs to achieve without allowing your emotions to get in the way. However, there are times that I must be the voice of reason. My main objective during these proceedings is to ensure that each and every Captain receives full representation, and that at the end of the day, the Captain's job and rank are protected.

Remember, taking care of our families is paramount. Times have changed, and we must never forget that the job is different than it was 10 years ago. Always use your head when engaging in any type of situation during your tour. I also want to remind you of Captain A. Henderson's case and the unnecessary agony the Department and Bronx DA are putting her through. We will continue to fight for her until we are victorious. This Board remains fully committed to each and every Captain.

Sincerely yours,
Patty Ferraiuolo