



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Joseph A. Griffo

Griffo, Miller and Buttenschon host DOCCS Commissioner Martuscello

JOSEPH A. GRIFFO October 1, 2024

| ISSUE: **PRISONS; CORRECTIONS OFFICERS; DOCCS;**



New York State Sen. Joseph Griffo, R-C- Rome, Assemblyman Brian Miller, R-C-New Hartford, and Assemblywoman Marianne Buttenschon, D-C-Marcy, were joined today by state Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) Commissioner Daniel F. Martuscello, department staff and NYSCOPBA members for a tour of Mohawk Correctional Facility in Rome and Mid-State Correctional Facility in Marcy.

The group also had the opportunity to learn more about DOCCS' K9s Behind the Wall program, which helps train K9 handlers for DOCCS and law enforcement agencies around New York State

and the country.

Commissioner Martuscello was invited to the region by Sen. Griffo, Assemblyman Miller and Assemblywoman Buttenschon as part of their ongoing efforts to raise awareness about safety, recruitment and other challenges that corrections officers and civilian staff face in facilities across the state.

“I appreciate DOCCS Commissioner Martuscello’s willingness to visit the 53rd Senate District to tour correctional facilities and to hear concerns from employees that work at these sites,” **Sen. Griffo said.** “The hardworking men and women employed at correctional facilities in my district and across the state should not have to live in fear every time they go to work. They need the resources and support that will help them do their jobs safely. I have made it a priority to support corrections officers and civilian staff and will continue to be an active and engaged voice for them in Albany.”

“Today’s tours were very productive with Commissioner Martuscello,” **Assemblywoman Buttenschon said.** “We met and heard from many correction officers and staff members. Members of DOCCS and other support agencies deserve to be safe when they go to work in our correctional facilities. I will continue to introduce and support legislation that provides for this as they are an essential element of public safety and will share the concerns that were expressed today with my colleagues.”

“I want to extend my sincere thanks to Commissioner Martuscello for taking the time to visit and tour these correctional facilities with us today,” **Assemblyman Miller said.** “His commitment to understanding the needs of both the officers and inmates is truly commendable. Safety remains a top priority. Ensuring that our corrections workforce have the resources they need to protect themselves and others is crucial. Safety is vital to the recruitment and retention of a strong workforce. I am committed to continuing to advocate for the necessary support and incentives to keep our facilities well-staffed and safe.”