



BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Frederick J. Akshar II

Undersheriff Sammy L. Davis

155 Lt. Van Winkle Drive, Binghamton, NY 13905

For Immediate Release:
March 20, 2023

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BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SWEARS IN TWENTY-SEVEN NEW CORRECTIONS OFFICERS

Largest and most diverse class of new Corrections Officers in BCSO history

(TOWN OF DICKINSON, NY) On Monday, the Broome County Sheriff's Office added 27 new corrections officers to their ranks as part of an ongoing initiative to address the staffing shortage crisis at the Broome County Correctional Facility.

The new hires will help fill the critical staffing deficit of nearly 40 corrections officers inherited by the new Sheriff administration.

Sheriff Fred Akshar said, "These outstanding men and women represent a renewed commitment to excellence in the Broome County Corrections Division, a renewed commitment to the safety and well-being of our incarcerated individuals and those charged in their care, and a welcome respite for the hardworking men and women of Corrections who have been short-staffed and over-extended for so long."

The incoming class also represents the largest and most diverse group of new corrections officers in Broome County history, with 36% of new officers representing people of color and 7 female officers, three of which representing the first black female sworn officers hired by any law enforcement agency in Broome County.

Sheriff Akshar credits the large number and quality of the incoming corrections officers with the aggressive recruitment effort launched in January by the Broome County Sheriff's Office in partnership with the Broome County Executive and Broome County Legislature. The effort included hiring a former Binghamton Police Department recruiter Charles Woody as Director of Recruiting and Community Engagement, removing the college requirement for new applicants, introducing a financial incentive for certified corrections officers transferring in from around the state and most importantly, the active and enthusiastic participation from current members of the Corrections and Law Enforcement divisions to find and recruit quality candidates.

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The vast majority of the new recruits have been hired provisionally in coordination with the Broome County Personnel Department. Over the next several weeks, the new hires will undergo intensive field training and education before filling shifts at the Correctional Facility. Later this year, the new officers will complete a Training & Experience Civil Service Test along with a full Corrections Academy hosted by the Broome County Sheriff's Office to complete their training.

Undersheriff Sam Davis said, "Adding 27 new members to our team provides an opportunity to turn the corner on a staffing crisis that has not only taken a toll on our current corrections officers, but also limited the programming and visitation hours available for our incarcerated individuals and their families. With the opportunity to bring about positive change comes an immense responsibility, and the Broome County Sheriff's Office will do everything we can to make sure our newest officers have the tools they need to be successful in their new roles. Their success means better conditions for their fellow corrections officers and for the incarcerated individuals in their care."

Undersheriff Davis performed the swearing-in ceremony on the Campus of SUNY Broome to accommodate the large number of new recruits and their families.

"From Day One, it's been our priority to address this crisis," said Sheriff Fred Akshar. "I'm incredibly proud of how the men and women of the Sheriff's Office from both the Corrections and Law Enforcement divisions stepped up and worked together as one team to help find and vet quality candidates to fill a dire need. Our collective success has a direct impact on our community, because the more dedicated, hardworking and community-minded people we have in the Correctional Facility, the better, stronger and safer our community as a whole will be."

"Congratulations to our newest corrections officers on all their hard work that has gotten them to this exciting new chapter in their careers," said County Executive Jason Garnar. "This new group of officers will help improve operations at the jail, allowing the Sheriff's Office to expand visitation and programming. Thank you to the men and women who have stepped up to serve as Corrections Officers and thank you to the Sheriff and his entire team for their commitment to Broome County."

"We're proud to welcome in 27 new Corrections Officers at the Sheriff's Office," said Broome County Legislature Chairman & 5th District Legislator Dan J. Reynolds. "These much needed additions will help address the staffing crisis at the jail and alleviate the pressure for those who are working around the clock to serve our community and the correctional facility."

Members of the Broome County Sheriff's Office Corrections Division oversee the Broome County Correctional Facility through a variety of specialized roles, including Investigations, Classifications, Field Training & Instruction, Sheriff's Emergency Response Team (SERT) and many more.

Positions are still available for qualified candidates in the Corrections Division. Anyone seeking more information on employment opportunities with the Broome County Sheriff's Office is urged to email JoinBCSO@broomecountyny.gov.

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