

The Chief



Civil Service LEADER
THE CIVIL EMPLOYEES' WEEKLY

General Display • Schools & Instruction • Legal Services • Legal Notices • Classifieds • Organizations

News of the week February 26, 2010 Search Archives Search

- News of the week
- Editorial
- Editor's "Razzle Dazzle" Column
- Letters to the Editor
- Professionals' Column
- Civil Service Exam Stories
- News Archive
- Services
- Advertiser Index
- Who We Are
- Contact Info
- Email Us
- Subscribe
- Place a Classified
- Advertising Information
- Copyright Notice
- Copyright© 2005-2009
- The Chief Leader All Rights Reserved

ACS Head Won't Cut Field Staff Under DJJ Merger

Hopes to Reduce Confinement
By DAVID SIMS



ONE AGENCY BETTER THAN TWO: Administration for Children's Services Commissioner John B. Mattingly, who assumed control of the Department of Juvenile Justice last month, told the City Council that he hoped the merger of the agencies would expand alternatives to detention for youth offenders. 'By pulling together all our resources, we will build upon our existing system to develop a more comprehensive continuum of supports,' he said.

Administration for Children's Services and Department of Juvenile Justice Commissioner John B. Mattingly told City Council Members Feb. 16 that the merger of his two agencies was proceeding slowly but judiciously, and that cutbacks might occur in the agencies' management branches, but not in the field.

Mr. Mattingly, who was appointed Commissioner of DJJ last month after the resignation of Neil Hernandez, laid out his plans to subsume the agency into ACS, which he has headed since 2004, saying that joining the administrative branches of the two agencies would take approximately 18 months.

'Next Phase' of Juvenile Reform'

He called the merger, which Mayor Bloomberg announced in his Jan. 19 State of the City address, "the next phase of our juvenile justice reform," focusing on "maintaining public safety and reducing recidivism, while providing the best care possible for courtinvolved youth in the least-restrictive setting."

He also promised the Council's General Welfare and Juvenile Justice committees that "we do not, in the field, have any current plans for cutbacks in terms of staff," but admitted that while "we do not anticipate any impact immediately on program staff," after the agencies merge, "one would predict fewer staff."

The ACS/DJJ combination, he said, would "better equip our system to begin long-term planning for young people and their families from the very start of their involvement with us." In his time at ACS, Mr. Mattingly has emphasized family interaction and community intervention over punishment and the withdrawal of children to large facilities.

Although DJJ is geared towards detaining young offenders, Mr. Mattingly said that exploring alternatives would be part of his mandate in taking over the agency if the funding could be found.

'Want Alternatives to Detention'

"We will look to expand alternative to detention options for young people with mental health needs and to provide community-based mental health services to these young people and their families, when possible," he said. "Our goal is to gradually reduce the use of detention and upstate placements."

But he pointed out that the state's system of funding ACS and DJJ had to change to allow for such expansion. "The state budget funds detention, but not alternatives to

AFFORDABLE MASTER'S DEGREE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Center for Integrated Teacher Education
CITE

The Stevel L. Newmon Real Estate Institute
Baruch COLLEGE NY

The Beekman
Fine Food & Spirits
15 BEEKMAN ST.
212-732-7333

THE LAW OFFICE OF STEVEN A. MORELLI
SEVERANCE PACKAGES
DISCRIMINATION AND CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES
ONE OLD COUNTRY ROAD
CARLE PLACE, NY 11514
516-393-8151
WWW.SMORELLI.LAW.COM

SIGN UP FOR NEWS
The Chief
THE CIVIL EMPLOYEES' WEEKLY
UPDATES
ADVERTISE WITH
The Chief
THE CIVIL EMPLOYEES' WEEKLY
ONLINE OR PRINT

CIVIL SERVICE BOOKSHOP
NEW YORK'S HEADQUARTERS FOR TEST PREPARATION BOOKS FOR STUDENTS AND CIVIL SERVICE APPLICANTS.
FEATURING
BARRON'S, THE LEADER IN TEST PREPARATION.
89 WORTH STREET
(212) 226-9506
WE DO NOT ACCEPT CREDIT OR DEBIT CARDS

FREE TAX RETURN FOR 1st YEAR CIVIL SERVICE WORKERS
ALL OTHERS: 50% DISCOUNT
Free list of 75 Job Deductions
IRS ENROLLED AGENT — 30 YRS. EXP.
CIVIL SERVICE TAX SPECIALIST
(516) TAX-SAVE
829-7283
THE CHIEF'S TAX COLUMNIST

SAM Career Center
City Jobs!!!
Wondering how to get a job with New York City? We can help!
Get detailed information on City's hiring practices and procedures • Learn how to fill out an exam application
Receive a copy of job listing schedule • Apply for an exam preparation course
For questions regarding registration and scheduling please contact:
1721 East 128th Street 8th Floor, Brooklyn NY, 11235
718-648-1967
WWW.SAMCAREER.COM

WHY POLICE & CORRECTIONS SHOULD COME TO TAX CITY
American Law Enforcement
Your job requires exceptional skill and commitment to the public. So does ours. Serving police & correction officers for more than 50 years. We've earned our badge for savings.
Tax City (718) 859-4555
www.taxcity.com
1625 Parkside Ave. 10th Fl. 10014
Hours: Daily 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. 7 to 9 P.M. EVERY ALL YEAR ROUND

ROBERT LIGANSKY
A Former Attorney for The City of New York Will Represent YOU in the Following Matters:
• CIVIL SERVICE CLAIMS • USI AND EXAMINATION DISPUTES • CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION HEARINGS • CHARACTER AND MEDICAL DISQUALIFICATION • PERMANENT EMPLOYEE TERMINATIONS • PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEE TERMINATIONS • DISCRETIONARY REWARDS • PERSONAL QUERIES • SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY
Call or send for my guide to the NYS Civil Service Low-Cost \$20.
80 Maiden Lane, Suite 507
New York, New York 10038
212-566-6880

With services by Newspaper web site content management software and services
DMCA Notices

detention next year," he said, explaining that the state Office of Children and Family Services is given disproportionate amounts compared to city agencies, and that the formula should be adjusted to account for the amount of care actually provided.

District Council 37 Local 371 President Local 371 President Faye Moore, who represents ACS and DJJ workers, said in a phone interview that "ACS taking over this agency is a good idea as long as everybody is clear on getting positive outcomes for these kids."

Ms. Moore, who has criticized Mr. Mattingly's management of ACS in the past, said that she "appreciated his honesty to the Council in saying that he was still looking at everything, as this is not something that should be taken lightly."

'City Needs Time to Decide'

But she criticized the testimony of various non-profit groups at the Council hearing, saying that anyone asking for new programs or funding from the merged agencies was acting too quickly.

"It was a little disturbing for me for people outside of government to start making proclamations of what ACS should do, without demonstrating to me that they knew enough about both agencies," she said. "I'm not sure people understand the difference in these populations. . . they need to give the city more time to figure out what's going on in both agencies before they start making demands on the system."

'Need Resources'

Public Advocate Bill de Blasio, who headed the General Welfare committee for eight years as a Councilman, said, "I felt good about this merger from the moment it was announced because of the concept of treating children fairly." He cautioned, however, "the resources have to be there and the oversight has to be there, and the first few years will be the hardest, especially during tough budget times."

Juvenile Justice committee chair Sara Gonzalez of Brooklyn pressed Mr. Mattingly to pursue alternatives to detention in DJJ. "Detaining youth, even for a short period of time, can have an intense impact," she said. "It increases the likelihood that the youth will recidivate."

General Welfare committee chair Annabel Palma of The Bronx said that while "in theory, the merger appears to make a lot of sense," she was skeptical of "how ACS will take on the mandate of DJJ without compromising current services."

Ads by Yahoo!

[ACS Driver Downloads](#)
Free ACS Driver Downloads. Update Your ACS Drivers Now.
DriverDownloadFil

[Www Acs Org](#)
Find Your Soulmate & True Love. Get Matched on Compatibility Profile.
Singles-Date.com

[Travel Leaders 1-800-838-8747](#)
Vacation Planning? Get the expert personal attention you deserve.
TravelLeaders.com

[Nyc Full Service Beauty Salon](#)
Womens & mens haircut, hair color, facials, waxing, manicure & pedicure
salonvitalchairs

ELECTRICAL TRAINING COURSE
32 East 31st Street NY, NY 10016
212-684-5350 Fax: 212-545-7269
www.Electricaltraining.com

NYC Master Electrician Licensing Examination
Classes Start January 11, 2010

City of New York Electrician's and Electrician Helper's Examination Preparation Course
Will you be ready for the NEXT EXAM?

Classes Start April 1, 2010 - Thursday 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.
1 & 2 Family Drawings - Starts January 14, 2010
Thursday 6:00 to 9:00 P.M.
Grounding and Bonding - Starts February 4, 2010
Thursday 6:00 to 9:00 P.M.
Electrical Calculations - Starts February 25, 2010
Thursday 6:00 to 9:00 P.M.

3 Licenses 1 Course
* New Jersey, Connecticut, Westchester Licenses
*Only five years experience required for License
DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!



Chet Lukaszewski, P.C.
ATTORNEY AT LAW

Success Through Knowledge, Experience and Litigation Prowess

3000 Marcus Ave. Suite 1E5
Lake Success, NY 11042
Tel 516-775-4725
www.Chetlaw.com

Accident disability pensions, social security disability, candidate disqualifications, pension article 78's & appeals, and personal injury law

Please click here for our [Copyright Notice](#).