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**For Immediate Release**

***New York State Correction Officers Union Endorses D. Billy Jones for  
115th Assembly District***

**Albany , NY** – The New York State Correctional Officers and Police Benevolent Association, Inc. (NYSCOPBA) is pleased to announce the endorsement of D. Billy Jones, a NYSCOPBA member running in the North Country's 115th Assembly District.

As a twenty-year state correction officer, a lifelong resident of the North Country and a dedicated public servant and advocate, Billy Jones has a proven track record of standing up for what is right.

In 2014, when Chateaugay Correctional Facility was slated for closure, Billy Jones led the task force charged with keeping the facility open. He was on the front lines working tirelessly to keep the facility operating; not only because he is a correction officer and the former Mayor of the Village of Chateaugay, but because he knew how important the Chateaugay CF was for the local residents, businesses and the positive impact the facility had on the local economy.

Billy Jones made countless trips to Albany during this time to lobby the State Legislature and the Governor's office to save Chateaugay. Although the facility was eventually closed, Billy Jones never wavered in his support of the community.

"NYSCOPBA is proud to support one of our own members, D. Billy Jones, as he seeks to represent the 115th New York State Assembly district," said NYSCOPBA President Michael B. Powers. "I have had the privilege of working with Billy. He is a true professional and a tremendous asset to NYSCOPBA and the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Services. The integrity, passion and work ethic that he has displayed as a correction officer and community leader has prepared him to represent the residents of the 115th Assembly District. I have no doubt that Billy will continue to do what is right, not only for the members of NYSCOPBA, but also for all of the constituents of the district. I wholeheartedly

encourage the voters of the 115th AD to elect D. Billy Jones to the State Assembly so he can continue to be a strong advocate for the North Country.”

D. Billy Jones said, “I am honored and humbled to be receiving the endorsement of my candidacy from my brothers and sisters of NYSCOPBA. The members of NYSCOPBA work in some of the most dangerous working conditions in the country. I understand firsthand the difficult jobs that correction officers carry out on a daily basis and I will continue to bring the message to Albany that the safety and security of our correctional facilities should be of paramount importance. I would like to thank President Powers, the NYSCOPBA Executive Board and all of the members of NYSCOPBA for the confidence that they have instilled in me and I look forward to working with them to address the concerns that they have.”

NYSCOPBA Northern Region Vice President Chris Hansen said, “Billy Jones exemplifies the North Country way of life through his hard work, dedication, and a strong sense of community. Billy’s record and involvement in local and county government speaks for itself. I have all the confidence that Billy will continue to provide the type of leadership that the members of NYSCOPBA and the residents of the 115th Assembly district deserve and can be proud of.”

NYSCOPBA represents over 30,000 New York State employees and retirees from the Security Services Unit. The Union was formed in May 1998 and since that time has provided superior representation to our membership under the independent and democratic model. Our objectives are to improve the terms and conditions of employment, protect our members contractual rights, provide high quality representation in the collective bargaining process, communicate effectively with the membership, achieve legislative gains, and to promote the overall welfare of our members.