



New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association, Inc.

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July 18, 2018

NYSCOPBA Union Members:

It has come to my attention that a special interest group has sent a solicitous email to employees of DOCCS and Law Enforcement Agencies that have a state domain email address in an attempt to dismantle our union. First and foremost, NYSCOPBA will always protect your personal information. Additionally, there is an Executive Order in place that prohibits distribution of personal information as a result of a FOIL request but it does not address work related information. We are currently investigating how the organization was able to obtain these state email addresses.

Be aware that this will **not** be the only attempt made to weaken or bust our union. Unionization has long been seen as a nuisance, or downright enemy, to management. We know the truth. This union fights for the rights and fair treatment of our members, has provided the means for one of the highest pay rates in our profession, and provides financial benefits and insurance policies that protect our members and their families. It is no wonder that big business and special interest groups, backed by the Koch brothers and others, seek to dissolve unions.

I know how important this union is to each and every member, which is why the Executive Board continues to ensure NYSCOPBA remains the strong union it is. During this past legislative session NYSCOPBA spearheaded efforts to amend the Taylor Law in an effort to protect our dues paying members. This amendment, which became law, ensures that NYSCOPBA has no obligation to provide any representation or non-contractual financial benefit to those who decide they do not want to be a member of NYSCOPBA. This amendment protects YOU, as a member of NYSCOPBA, ensuring your hard-earned dues do not have to be used for non-members.

REMEMBER

As a member of NYSCOPBA, you have access to 24/7 union representation and legal advice and representation. As a member, your union provides support, administration and filing of grievances, disciplinary matters, health insurance, workers compensation, retirement, and member services. Additionally, as a member, you are entitled to the following benefits:

- union representation during interrogations, Q&A's, interviews, arbitration, reviews, or any discipline related issues.
- access to the Rainy Day Fund for supplemental income
- access to the Legal Defense Fund
- hostage insurance
- \$30,000 Death Benefit
- \$30,000 in Accidental Death & Dismemberment Benefit
- access to 24/7 legal representation
- large-group rate discount for optional insurance policies through Norvest and AFLAC
- Catastrophic Assistance

- Dependent Scholarship Benefits
- Member Assistance Program through Catch a Falling Star
- retiree chapter and all benefits associated with the retiree chapter

Non-members will receive none of the above except what is contractually obligated.

Together we accomplish a safer work environment. Together we fight for fair treatment and better quality of work life. Together we achieve the best possible contract and fair compensation for the dangerous and often unrecognized jobs we do every day. Together we are union strong.

In unity,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael B. Powers".

Michael B. Powers