

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

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## Dear members:

As you may be aware, the "clear lunch bag" issue has been a bone of contention for some time now. The negotiated agreement between NYSCOPBA and the State of New York provided that a larger clear lunch bag would be agreed upon. DOCCS interpreted that to mean that a single clear lunch bag of a specific size would be approved.

After several rounds of negotiations on the issue, NYSCOPBA presented a clear bag that was the largest lunch style bag that we could find. The dimensions of the bag presented were 13"x13"x9" (1,521 cubic inches). We expressed to DOCCS that our members should be allowed any clear lunch style bag up to and including the size that we presented. DOCCS was insistent upon the approval of the specific bag that we presented. DOCCS further insisted that the bag must be purchased from the vendor that they chose and that no variation of that bag would be authorized.

After several months of communication with the department, they have finally agreed to our demands. Members will now be allowed to purchase any clear lunch style bag, with black straps and a black shoulder strap, up to and including 1,521 cubic inches in size.

We ask that all members who choose the option of purchasing their clear bag remain within the size and strap color restrictions that have been agreed to since any other type of bag will not be allowed.

Sincerely,

Michael B. Powers

President

## Agency-Level Labor Management Agreement

## Clear Bag

The Employer (New York State Department of Corrections & Community Supervision) and the Union (New York State Correction Officer & Police Benevolent Association, Inc. have entered into Agency-level discussions, consistent with terms and conditions outlined in the 2016-2023 collective bargaining agreement. The Parties have met in the Labor Management forum and agreed on a limited set of options for acceptable clear bags, of a larger size. In addition to the two clear bags currently distributed by the Employer to its employees, the parties agree to utilize optional lunch style bags at the expense of the NYSCOPBA represented employees, or the Union should it opt to underwrite such costs, as follows:

- 1. Lunch style bags will be clear, not to exceed 1,521 square inches, with black nylon edging, and one black carry strap/handle.
- 2. The Employer agrees to revise Directive #4936 "Search of DOCCS Employees" shortly after signing this agreement, consistent with the provisions herein.

This agreement shall sunset close of business March 31, 2023. The Parties may agree to continue this agreement or terminate the agreement at that time.

John Shipley, Directol

Bureau of Labor Relations

DOCCS

Date

Michael B. Powers

President, **NYSCOPBA**  Date