

## **CUSA E-newsletter, October, 2007**

### **CUSA joins IAWIC in Calling NY's Training Manual For Female Correctional Officers Garbage; Commissioner Pulls Booklet From Training Program**

Today, the New York State Department of Correctional Services informed IAWIC and CUSA that the booklet entitled the "Orientation Handbook for Female Officers Graduating from the New York Department of Correctional Services Academy" is no longer being used in the State's training program.

Here is a sampling of the advice the booklet offered female correctional officers:

- Women should avoid gossiping at work, being too bossy at home, and should eat ice cream to avoid burnout
- Women shouldn't use profanity "to be one of the boys."
- "The strong assertive role you play at work may not be appreciated by your friends or spouse."
- "Monitor your own behavior and eliminate flirtatious mannerisms while on the job."

CUSA Chairman Jim Baiardi joined IAWIC President Tamara Bartel: "These booklets are nothing short of an outrage and it is a slap to the face of every female officer in the world that New York's Department of Correctional Services was distributing this garbage to women who risk their lives to keep the public safe from criminals."

Female correctional officers, like all correctional officers, work in an extremely dangerous environment that is understaffed and overcrowded. Added to the stress of being underpaid, overworked, assaulted by inmates with prison made weapons, and gassed routinely, female officers are subjected to poor management practices, discrimination, and harassment.

CUSA is committed to doing everything possible to support female correctional officers. For more information on the International Association Of Women In Corrections, please visit their website: [www.iawic.org](http://www.iawic.org) <<http://www.iawic.org/>> .