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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Somerset County Jail Receives 13th Consecutive 100% Compliance with State Inspection Standards

SOMERVILLE - This year, the Somerset County Jail received its 13th consecutive 100% Compliance Certificate from the New Jersey Department of Corrections after a state inspection of the facilities. Mr. Joseph Hartmann, coordinator of County Services for the New Jersey Department of Corrections, presented Sheriff Frank J. Provenzano with the certificate at a recent Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders meeting.

Mr. Hartmann advised the Freeholder Board that the annual inspection conducted in every county adult correctional facility was expanded in 2004 to cover all the requirements of NJAC 10A:31. At that time, the number of standards each facility is required to observe was increased from 226 to 564.

The Somerset County Jail was examined by the state inspection team Jan. 24 - 26, 2007. The inspection process included a review of the physical plant, the policy and procedure manual, staff training, record management, security, emergencies, use of security equipment, food service, sanitation, living conditions, medical/dental/health services, inmate discipline, access and handling of inmate correspondence, visits, classification, recreation, education and various inmate programs and services. At the conclusion of the inspection, it was determined that the facility was in full compliance with all requirements of NJAC 10A:31.

Mr. Hartmann congratulated Sheriff Provenzano on the inspection and noted that the Somerset County Jail has received full compliance inspection ratings for 13 consecutive years. Mr. Hartmann also congratulated and recognized Warden O'Neill and his staff, including Chief Corrections Officer John Niko and Captain Gary Hoats, on this outstanding accomplishment.

Sheriff Provenzano remarked that this accomplishment is one that all the citizens of Somerset County can be proud of. Sheriff Provenzano also thanked the Freeholder Board, County Administrator Richard Williams, Chief Financial Officer Brian Newman and County Engineer Michael Amoroso for the funding, support and services they provide, which is crucial in maintaining the high caliber of performance the jail staff strives for.

For more information, contact Sheriff Frank J. Provenzano at (908) 231-7140.



Mr. Joseph Hartmann (second from right), coordinator of County Services for the New Jersey Department of Corrections, presents Sheriff Frank J. Provenzano, right, with a 100% Compliance Certificate in recognition of a recent State Inspection of the county Jail. Joining Sheriff Provenzano are, from left to right, Deputy Warden Thomas Kelly, Chief Corrections Officer John Niko and Warden Charles O'Neill.