



*To pursue, preserve and promote the history of correctional services in the city and state of New York.*

Correction \* Probation \* Juvenile Justice \* Youth Services \* Parole Incarceration Alternatives \* Post Release Support

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### On the Inside:

The first of a series of Appreciation articles that acknowledge important roles played by the founding officers, board trustees, and others in NYCHS work.  
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Manhattan's official Borough Historian "Cal" Jones and his community historians check cells on NYCHS tour of landmark Harlem Courthouse's jail.

**Croce** as president, **Brian Fischer** as vice present, and **Ronald G. Spike** as executive committee member at-large.

They are, respectively, NYC DOC Commissioner, chairman of the State Commission of Correction, NYS DOCS Regional Supervising Superintendent for the NYC area, and president of the NYS Sheriffs Association.

The outgoing officers, **Bernard B. Kerik** as board chairman, **Michael P. Jacobson** as president, and **Gerard O'Gara** as vice president, remain as board members.

FULTON COMMUNITY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY



25 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE IN THE BRONX

Cover of booklet celebrating the 25th anniversary of the DOCS Fulton Correctional Facility in the Bronx. A complete web version appears on the NYCHS site with its own accessing icon at [www.correctionhistory.org](http://www.correctionhistory.org)

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## New Phase Opens At Annual Meeting

A new phrase with different facets opened for the New York Correction History Society at the annual meeting held Jan. 22, 2001, in the NYC DOC Headquarters main conference room. One facet was a change in the top leadership with the

election of **William J. Fraser** as board chairman, **Alan J.**



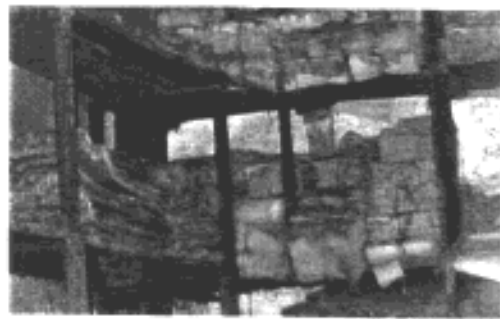
William J. Fraser shows DOC Commissioner shield as predecessor Bernard B. Kerik, now NYPD Commissioner, joins him after appointment announcement. (Photo by C.O. Ralph Smith)

### Deja Vu at NYPD & DOC

Last Nov. 9 Mayor Giuliani announced appointment of Chief of Dept. William J. Fraser as DOC Commissioner, succeeding Bernard B. Kerik named to head NYPD. Commissioner The appointment came a month after the swear-in of NYPD Commissioner Kerik. For only the second time in NYC DOC's 105-year history has its highest ranking uniformed officer been named Correction Commissioner succeeding one appointed Police Commissioner. On

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Old records found in a long-forgotten attic area of the 1892 courthouse jail.

## Deja Vu at NYPD & DOC

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Jan. 1, 1984, then Chief of Department Jacqueline McMickens became Commissioner, succeeding Benjamin Ward named to head NYPD.

Fraser is the first member of DOC to rise through each one of the existing uniformed ranks to head the agency.

McMickens, now a practicing attorney in Brooklyn, was the first member of DOC to rise through the ranks to become Chief of Dept. and later Commissioner without "Acting" in front of the latter title. In her rise, she skipped over one rung in the ladder of uniformed advancement: warden.



Roosevelt Island Historical Society president Judy Berdy presents a wrapped stone from the foundation of the original NYC Penitentiary. Accepting it on behalf of NYCHS is its general secretary, Thomas McCarthy.

# New Phase Commences for NYCHS at Annual Meeting

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are, respectively, Chief of Dept. and the Deputy Commissioner for Public Information, both NYC DOC, and Westchester Community College police/correction curriculum chair.

Another facet of the new phase for NYCHS is its moving away from the informal ad hoc operating style of its early organizing activities. The notice announcing the meeting noted NYCHS had adopted its constitution and bylaws 17 months ago *"with the understanding there would be an initial grace period allowing wide flexibility in applying those governing guidelines."*

*"That start-up phase is now drawing to a close. The constitution's detailed provisions will apply for the next annual meeting."*

Still another facet of NYCHS' new phase is its positioning to step up outreach to correctional agencies and organizations in the state's 57 counties outside New York City. Both SCOC chairman Croce and NYS Sheriffs Association president Spike, in accepting nomination as NYCHS officers, indicated interest in such outreach.

Another initiative introduced at the meeting was a proposal the board consider starting an advisory council to automatically include future former board members.



During a fall NYCHS tour of historic Harlem courthouse and jail, Manhattan borough historian Jones (top left) and community historians, look over some early 1900s record books salvaged from the forgotten attic storage area by David Bedrin (right) of Harlem Community Justice Center. NYCHS is working with the center and the Municipal Archives to rescue the remaining records from the pigeon-roost attic.

## A Word or Two of Appreciation

A word or two of appreciation seems appropriate as NYCHS moves into its next phrase of development.

Former Commissioner **Michael P. Jacobson** had agreed to serve as president our first year but has generously gone way beyond that by serving the past 17 months since the organizational meeting. Without his approval as DOC Commissioner, the initial effort to establish a correctional history society would not have gotten off the ground. Likewise, a key early player was **Gerard O'Gara** whose more recent expanded duties as Bronx jail warden have prompted him to step down as vice president. Broadening of NYCHS scope to embrace correctional history throughout the state would not have been possible without the support of then DOC Commissioner **Bernard B. Kerik**, now stepping down as board chairman in the wake of becoming NYPD Commissioner. Their past services as officers and continued services as trustees are deeply appreciated.

Similarly, our new chairman, DOC Commissioner **William J. Fraser**, has been a NYCHS supporter from its earliest days as has DOC First Deputy Commissioner **Gary M. Lanigan**. Both are founding members of the board of trustees.

The above named made available the good offices of DOC and thus made possible NYCHS emergence and continuance.

The active support of founding trustee **Glenn S. Goord**, DOCS Commissioner, has been a major factor in NYCHS development beyond NYC. Similarly so have been the founding board memberships of our new president, SCOC chairman **Alan J. Croce**, and DCJS Commissioner **Katherine N. Lapp**.

Each officer's participation has been essential to our success so far. To each: deep thanks. Since space has run out, our next issue will give additional individual citations and details.