

## NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK

May 7-13, 2023

# Honoring corrections professionals

Since a Presidential Proclamation made it official in 1984, the first week in May has been designated as a time to honor the work and the sacrifices of America's correctional officers and employees. This week, known as National Correction Officers Week, was first created by President Ronald Reagan who said "The professionalism, dedication and courage exhibited by these officers throughout the performance of these demanding and often conflicting roles deserves our utmost respect. The important work of correctional officers often does not receive the recognition from the public it deserves. It is appropriate that we honor the many contributions and accomplishments of these men and women who are a vital component of the field of corrections."

In 1996, Congress expanded National Correction Officers Week to include all correctional employees, giving a long overdue "Thank You" to all the women and men who serve by working in corrections. This is truly a special week to celebrate and bring awareness to the importance and significance of our profession.

In the face of unprecedented challenges, U.S. correctional facilities strive to improve while correctional officers and employees continue to push for balance between rehabilitation and order. This year, we are particularly focused on the physical and mental wellbeing of every correctional officer and employee.

The American Correctional Association proudly calls upon all Americans to join us as we honor our profession and the work of our colleagues around the country during National Correctional Officers and Employees Week from May 7-13, 2023. We will, once again, affirm those who work in the corrections industry who represent a courageous community of American heroes. We will celebrate their work in this special week and carry these thoughts throughout the coming year.

With the highest honor and respect,



Denise M. Robinson  
ACA 108<sup>th</sup> President



James A. Gondles Jr., CAE  
Executive Director