



# Press RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Benny Boscio Jr.**  
President

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

January 7, 2022

## **COBA President Benny Boscio Blasts the Litany of Lies Presented by the City Council Members Who Toured Rikers Yesterday and by Former Inmate Darren Mack of the Freedom Agenda**

“Earlier today, several City Council Members including Tiffany Caban, whose district includes Rikers Island, recounted their experiences during their tour of Rikers Island yesterday. They frequently referred to their constituents whom they spoke with, the inmates. Not once did they speak with a single Correction Officer, who, whether they like it or not, are their constituents too. They often referred to punitive segregation as torture, yet not once did they witness any inmates being tortured. They often referred to the inmate population being comprised of those facing misdemeanors, while in fact 70% of the inmates are facing felony charges and violent gang members are driving the slashings, stabbings, and assaults that occur daily. It is this litany of lies that continues to misrepresent the reality so many of us face. Our members are currently working 12 hour and even 24 hour tours, ensuring inmates get every service and program they are entitled to and we are performing those essential services, while working in one of the most dangerous environments imaginable. We will never allow anyone to treat our members as if we are invisible or misrepresent the realities we face every day. We have witnessed correction policies driven by activism for the past eight years. It’s time for safety and security to return to the nation’s second-largest jail system. The truth matters.”

Benny Boscio  
COBA President

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