



CORRECTION OFFICERS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC.
"PATROLLING THE TOUGHEST PRECINCTS IN NEW YORK"

Press Release

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30-Year Veteran New York City Correction Officer Raul Malave Jr. Among 22 Correction Officers from Across America Honored By CorrectionsUSA for Exhibiting Exemplary Bravery Above and Beyond the Call of Duty

LAS VEGAS, NEV. (FEB. 6, 2019) -- CorrectionsUSA (CUSA), a non-profit advocacy organization representing thousands of correctional officers and staff across the country, today honored 23 recipients of the "CUSA Valor Award" – including 30-year veteran New York City Correction Officer Raul Malave Jr.

"Every year CorrectionsUSA pays tribute to the country's boldest Correction Officers who displayed exemplary bravery both on and off duty," said CorrectionsUSA Chairman Jimmy Baiardi. The valor displayed by this year's 23 outstanding honorees serves as a shining example of the noble service and sacrifices of correction officers in cities and states across the country. They will never get the real recognition they deserve for their role in keeping our communities safe, which makes events like our annual awards gala all that more important."

It's been said that courage involves a deliberate choice in the face of painful or fearful circumstances for the sake of a worthy goal. On October 12, 2018, Raul Malave Jr, a veteran New York City Correction Officer for over 30 years found himself making a deliberate choice in a fearful circumstance, for a very worthy goal indeed.

On that day, at approximately 2:30PM, Officer Malave was waiting in line to deposit a check at a Citi Bank located on Queens BLVD in Queens, NY. As he stood patiently, he quickly noticed a man wearing sunglasses, a trench coat and a hat, pass a note to the bank teller. However, the teller did not understand the note. The man then yelled out, "Give me the money, I have a gun." The would-be bank robber then turned to Officer Malave and asked, "What are you looking at? I have a gun, I'll shoot you." Without any hesitation Officer Malave then unholstered his firearm and yelled, "Police, you're under arrest." The perp then took off running and Officer Malave chased him and a scuffle between the two ensued. The perp broke free and ran out of the bank.

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Officer Malave continued to chase the perp as he fled down several city blocks. His daughter, Tahlia Malave, who was sitting in their car, noticed the commotion and came to assist by following her father into action and calling the police. The perp was no match for Officer Malave's fierce pursuit. Officer Malave chased him into the subway station, where police would eventually arrive and arrest him.

Asked why he risked his life to pursue the bank robber, Officer Malave replied, "Because it was the morally right thing to do. I was not afraid for my safety because I have worked on Rikers Island for 30 years providing care, custody, and control to vicious criminals. However, I did fear for my daughter, Tahlia's safety, because she's my child."

Officer Malave, who became a CO to provide a good life for his family, was assigned to Maritime Facility (MTF), where he spent two years. However, MTF was subsequently shut down and he was then transferred to the Anna M. Kross Center (AMKC), where he currently works. His brother Kelvin Malave recently retired as a CO after serving 28 years on the job.

When asked what he enjoys most about being a CO he said, "I enjoy being a C.O because the inmates rely on me to do my job, which is to provide custody, care and control. I also enjoy being a C.O because I am able to work with fellow co-workers who I now consider family. I've been assaulted by inmates and gotten into fights with inmates while on the job, but have never experienced anything like chasing down and apprehending a wanted bank robber."

"Every day New York City Correction Officers display tremendous bravery and courage in the face of great danger," said Correction Officers' Benevolent Association President Elias Husamudeen. COBA is proud to salute Correction Officer Malave for risking his life to keep the public safe. His courage, bravery, and integrity makes all of us who wear the uniform so very proud. We are also proud to salute all the other brave Correction Officers from around the nation who were honored at CUSA's Annual Valor Awards Dinner."

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