



L TO R: Detective Deborah McCoy, Sgt. Taisha Williams, Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr., Mayra Batista and Marvin Goodson

ESSEX COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIVINCENZO RECOGNIZES EMPLOYEES DURING COUNTY'S NOVEMBER TEAMWORK AWARD PROGRAM

Newark, NJ – Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. presented the monthly Essex County Teamwork Awards to three Essex County employees and one student attending the Essex County Vocational Technical School District. Teamwork Awards recognize employees for their hard work, dedication and willingness to provide quality service and highlights the achievements of students attending the County's Vocational Schools.

Mayra Batista, a senior at Essex County West Caldwell Tech, ranked third in her class, is a model student and role model for her peers. Mayra has been on the Honor Roll every semester for her entire high school career and has earned a 3.5 Grade Point Average. In addition to her school activities, Mayra is very active as a volunteer in her church's youth group. She often visits the elderly, distributes food to families in need and has raised funds and collected clothing to send to children in economically-disadvantaged foreign nations. Mayra plans to pursue her Bachelor's Degree next fall, but is still deciding between schools she would like to attend.

Sgt. Taisha Williams joined the Essex County Department of Corrections after graduating from Rutgers-Newark in 1995 and completing her training at the Essex County Police Academy as a member of the class of 97-03. During her 14 years with the department, she has worked in virtually every area of the correctional facility from Intake to General Custody and has even served as an Emergency Medical Technician. In 2007, in recognition of her exemplary skills and professional demeanor, she was promoted to Sergeant. One of her outstanding qualities is the ability to interact with her fellow officers, they know that she is always working to make the job safer for everyone, and rely on her dedication and commitment.

Marvin Goodson joined the Essex County Department of Citizen Services, Division of Community Action in June of 2008 as a Case Manager in the Homelessness Prevention Unit, where he counseled clients seeking rental and utility assistance, relocation and re-housing services. Marvin's responsibilities include inspecting housing units, processing tenant applications and invoices, and communicating with both tenants and landlords. In addition, he is now coordinating the new Almost Home program for disabled youth and installs and troubleshoots the computer equipment in the office.

Detective Deborah McCoy is a 14-year veteran of the Essex County Sheriff's Office. Currently, she processes all of the non-support arrests at Gibraltar and at the end of her shift, walks to the Detective Bureau to close out the paperwork on her cases, often long after all other day-shift detectives are gone. Earlier in her career, Detective McCoy was an outstanding street cop, assigned to many high-profile criminal details. As a former high school sprinter, she proved that drug-dealers, gang members and other violent criminals could not outrun her when she was assigned to those high-profile crime details. In addition to her responsibilities she frequently leads the Essex County Sheriff's Office in prayer during National Police Week. Detective McCoy is