



L TO R: Albert Fusco, Corrections Officer Bennett Okoli, Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr., Jeffrey Howard, Doris Stoeckel

ESSEX COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIVINCENZO RECOGNIZES EMPLOYEES AND VO-TECH STUDENT DURING COUNTY'S MAY TEAMWORK AWARD PROGRAM

Newark, NJ – Entering his second term, Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. changed the format of the monthly Teamwork awards to highlight the academic excellence of a Vocational-Technical School student along with the hard work and dedication of three County employees.

Jeffrey Howard, a senior at the Essex County Vocational School District's West Caldwell Center, is the Student Council President. He helped raise money for senior class activities by working at the concession stand during basketball games and selling T-shirts during Eagle Pride Spirit Week. When T-shirt sales were low, took it upon himself to make a difference. He went to each class encouraging students to buy the T-shirts and due to his efforts sales rose to 80 percent. Jeffrey is a role model to all students because he constantly gives of himself to support others. Jeffrey's humanitarian spirit is felt daily throughout the West Caldwell Campus. When a West Caldwell student was seriously injured in a car accident, never to return to school, Jeffrey spearheaded the project to create a memory book and bulletin board for him and organized trips to the hospital so students could visit.

Albert Fusco joined the Essex County Department of Corrections as a civilian employee in January 2006 and has since become a Records Analyst with the Office of the County Administrator, where he manages the New Essex County Records Facility, which is used by the majority of County departments and the Superior Court. Albert was responsible for the relocation of all files maintained at the old Essex County Hospital Center to the new facility in Belleville. Albert provided insight for the selection of the new location and is now working to improve records management even further, attempting to automate the records management process in the County.

Doris Stoeckel began her career in 1983 with the Essex County Prosecutor's Office, Arson Task Force Division, where she is now a Vehicle Fire Case Specialist. She is responsible for coordinating the Prosecutor's Office grant-funded program to combat insurance fraud related to vehicle arson. She is also the liaison between the Office of Insurance Fraud Prosecutor and the insurance industry, working to maintain up-to-date records for the arson unit. Known as the 'glue that holds the Vehicle Fire Initiative' together, she is an integral part of the unit.

Corrections Officer Bennett Okoli has been an Officer with the Essex County Department of Corrections for 10 years. He is the permanent Relief Officer in the Dorms, having the responsibility to collect all daily paperwork and keys, and overseeing distribution of daily medication. In addition to his responsibilities as Relief Officer, Okoli also oversees the movement of inmate workers going to and from work, court returns and bails, and ensures that inmates do not linger in the hallways. Bennett is an asset to the department, as he often goes above and beyond the call of duty with being asked to do so.