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NJDOC WELCOMES LATEST CLASS OF STATE CORRECTIONAL POLICE OFFICERS

TRENTON, NJ—December 9, 2020 -- The New Jersey Department of Corrections (NJDOC) today held a graduation ceremony for trainees who've completed the State Basic Course for Correctional Police Officers, Class 249, at the Correctional Staff Training Academy, located on the grounds of the National Guard Training Center, in Sea Girt.

The class is composed of 63 trainees, including three veterans, representing the Army and the National Guard. Additionally, almost half of the members of Class 249 come from families with a strong tradition in law enforcement.

Class 249 represents 13 counties of New Jersey, with members from Bergen (four), Burlington (three), Essex (13), Gloucester (two), Hudson (five), Mercer (one), Middlesex (six), Monmouth (five), Morris (three), Ocean (eight), Passaic (six), Somerset (two) and Union (five).

In order to minimize the risk of exposure to COVID-19, the Training Academy implemented an innovative residential cycle over the course of 15 weeks: unlike previous classes, trainees resided at the Academy for 12 consecutive days followed by two days off, effectively reducing their community contact and decreasing their odds of Covid-19 exposure. Also, in addition to social distancing practices and the use of PPE, Class 249 was tested weekly throughout the duration of the cycle.

"I am honored to welcome Class 249 to the New Jersey Department of Corrections and commend their unwavering commitment to the Garden State and its citizens," said NJDOC Commissioner Marcus O. Hicks, Esq. "As a law enforcement agency, we are held to the highest

professional standards and I am extremely proud of the proficiency with which the Training Academy has met the challenges of properly training these exemplary officers under unique and difficult circumstances.”

A total of 912 trainees have graduated since Governor Murphy took office in January 2018. To learn more about the New Jersey Department of Corrections, visit www.njdoc.gov.



Caption: Members of NJDOC's Class 249 saluting during opening graduation ceremony activities.

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