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April 9, 2011

Hon. Christina W. Bove, Chair
Public Safety Committee
The Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street - 4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

Via e-mail

Dear Legislator Bove and committee members:

It has come to my attention that the Public Safety Committee will be appointing an additional member to the *Erie County Community Corrections Advisory Board*. I wish to be considered for that seat.

Broad experience in the criminal justice field and public service in Erie County for most of my adult life will allow me to make a significant contribution to the board's deliberations and ultimate objective of recommending measures aimed at creating a safer, fairer, and more secure environment for both inmates and staff at our detention and correctional facilities.

I want to indicate my interest quickly, so in lieu of a formal resume, please consider, for now, the following relevant credentials and experiences:

- Appointment by NYS Department of Correctional Services Commissioner Thomas Coughlin to the Collins Correctional Facility Community Advisory Board and Task Force for Expansion.
- Appointment by County Executive Edward Rutkowski to the Erie County Correctional Facility Advisory Board.
- Former Erie County Deputy Sheriff-clerk, assigned to Identification Bureau at the Holding Center. Late uncle and cousin also worked there.
- Thirteen years of honorable service as a NYS Correction Officer; held armed and other important posts, including that of law library supervisor at two facilities, where inmates gained access to the courts and legal redress of grievances. Received two letters of commendation from DOCS Commissioner Phillip Coombe for service as a recruit counselor/instructor at the Penn Yan and Harriman training academies.
- Town Councilman and Village Trustee in North Collins for eight years; chair of Public Safety Committee; oversaw police department.

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- Master of Urban and Regional Planning; Bachelor of Science in Government, with minor in Criminal Justice.
- Author of articles on law enforcement and C.J. issues appearing on op-ed pages of *Buffalo News*.
- Currently certified by NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services as Security Guard School Director and Instructor.
- Former NYS Assembly staff member.
- Policy analyst with interest in public safety; current member of the Buffalo Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Board; arranged for cooperation with BPD Traffic captain.
- Long history of positive, collaborative relationships with E.C.S.D. when growing up and managing a family-owned business in North Collins.
- Former board member of Community Action Organization of Erie County and volunteer for other human service agencies helping urban communities.

I believe the breadth and depth of these various exposures and expertise would provide both inside and big-picture; city and rural; policy maker and service provider's perspectives to the issues that are before the board. I would carry out my duties in an objective and highly ethical manner, without fear or favor, and irrespective of class or other distinctions in order to help the board make recommendations to the Legislature and Sheriff's Office that would ultimately serve *all of the citizens* of Erie County.

I look forward to answering any questions committee members might have or supplying additional information you might need to strongly consider my ability to honorably serve as your appointment to this important panel.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Taczowski

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Cc:
Honorable
Lynne M. Dixon
Daniel M. Kozub
John J. Mills
Timothy J. Whalen