

STATE OF ALASKA



Executive Proclamation by Governor Bill Walker

WHEREAS, correctional officers are responsible to provide humane conditions of confinement, while ensuring security for both offenders and staff, and contributing to offender rehabilitation. Correctional officers work tirelessly to protect the public and to offer measures of hope to offenders through education, vocational training, counseling, and treatment; and

WHEREAS, Alaska's correctional officers often act as communicators and experts at crisis management, while working to resolve conflicts and to restrain offenders who may present a danger to themselves or others. There are many instances where correctional officers have stepped up to stop an inmate suicide or put themselves in harm's way to stop an assault or break up a fight; and

WHEREAS, correctional officers often perform their work in an environment which poses a potential risk to personal safety, while continuing to meet the high standards set by their profession and expectations of the public, as well as carrying out the mandates of the Legislature and Judiciary; and

WHEREAS, on May 5, 1984, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the first ever National Correctional Officers Week, declaring, "The professionalism, dedication and courage exhibited by these officers throughout the performance of these demanding and often conflicting roles deserve our utmost respect."

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Walker, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim May 3 – 9, 2015 as:

Correctional Officers Week

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to recognize these dedicated public servants who strive to maintain a safe working and living environment in correctional facilities around the state.

Dated: May 6, 2015



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Walker".

*Bill Walker, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to
be affixed to this proclamation.*