



Corrections and Community Supervision

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

DANIEL F. MARTUSCELLO III
Acting Commissioner

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NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION ANNOUNCES GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION INITIATIVE

“Supervision Against Violent Engagement” (SAVE) Program to Intensify Supervision of Individuals Under Parole Supervision at the Highest Level of Risk to Reoffend

Fulfills Governor Hochul’s State of the State Proposal to Focus Preventative Gun Violence Measures in Buffalo, Syracuse, Albany, and Rochester

ALBANY, N.Y. – The New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) today announced the implementation of the “Supervision Against Violent Engagement” (SAVE) program, which aims to increase public safety by reducing gun violence among individuals under parole supervision. The SAVE program, included within Governor Kathy Hochul’s 2023 State of the State proposal, will use enhanced supervision, intelligence and data gathering, and cross-jurisdictional cooperation to prevent gun violence and violent crime among the most high-risk releasees returning to the Cities of Buffalo, Syracuse, Albany, and Rochester.

“Governor Hochul has been aggressive in her approach to combatting gun violence across our State. Gun violence is a scourge upon New York State’s communities and the Department is eager to do our part by taking actionable steps to further reduce violence perpetrated by individuals under community supervision,” **said DOCCS Acting Commissioner Daniel F. Martuscello III.** “Public safety is at the core of DOCCS’ mission, and we will continue to implement policies, programs, and initiatives to that end.”

Suitability for the SAVE program is determined based on a number of factors, including the crime(s) of conviction, a history of the use or sale of a firearm in the commission of a crime, and the individual’s Risk of Violence score based on a risk and needs assessment tool.

Those identified for inclusion on the SAVE caseload will be automatically placed on active GPS monitoring and enrolled under the Community Supervision Operations Center (CSOC) monitoring program, which provides 24-hour monitoring for GPS alerts that indicate a willful disregard for compliance on the part of the releasee.

Additionally, Department staff will be assigned to coordinate with existing gun violence reduction initiatives across the state to bolster the impact of the SAVE program. This includes a Senior Parole Officer to serve as a strategic planning coordinator in each of the Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) initiative jurisdictions, as well as a full-time Senior Investigator within DOCCS’ Office of Special Investigations (OSI) to be embedded into each of the State Police’s gun violence task force jurisdictions.

Individuals on the SAVE caseload will be reviewed after a period of 12 months to evaluate the releasee's adjustment to supervision. Individuals may be considered for removal from the SAVE caseload based upon a review of several factors, including their time under supervision, compliance with the conditions of release, employment status, residential stability, familial support, program completion or participation, drug-free status, and other relevant factors.

New York State Police Acting Superintendent Steven A. Nigrelli said, "I applaud our partners at DOCCS for spearheading the SAVE program and working with law enforcement partners across the state to reduce gun violence and crime in our most dangerous neighborhoods. And I thank Governor Hochul for her continued support of initiatives like this that strengthen and bolster our joint mission to remove illegal guns from our communities, and reduce gun violence statewide."

DCJS Commissioner Rossana Rosado said, "We at DCJS are proud to support the Department's SAVE Program, which helps prevent gun violence through cross-jurisdictional collaboration in our GIVE locations. Governor Hochul introduced this new program in her *State of the State* this year as part of a comprehensive plan for public safety. We thank her for her steadfast leadership and we thank our partners at DOCCS for their efforts to ensure that persons under supervision have the support they need to succeed."

Mayor Byron W. Brown said, "My Administration works tirelessly to address gun violence and the root causes that lead to it. I am grateful for Governor Hochul and her understanding of the severity of the illegal gun crisis in our communities and her willingness to provide the tools necessary to have a positive impact. Commissioner Joseph Gramaglia and the Buffalo Police Department will continue to work collaboratively with our partners in law enforcement to implement the SAVE Program to help provide excellent public safety to our residents."

Chief Joseph Cecile said, "Gun violence and violent crime affects everyone who lives, works and plays in Syracuse. We applaud Governor Hochul and the NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision for their Supervision Against Violent Engagement (SAVE) program. Collaborative, proactive initiatives like SAVE, help drive gun violence and other violent crime down, which in turn improves the overall quality of life for all citizens."

"The Albany Police Department continues to work collaboratively with our law enforcement partners at all levels to help prevent violence in our community and hold offenders accountable," **said Albany Police Chief Hawkins.** "The 'Supervision Against Violent Engagement' (SAVE) program will be another valuable tool in our joint efforts to identify individuals who are likely to re-offend and cause further trauma in our community. I'd like to thank Acting Commissioner Martuscello for his leadership and his entire team at the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision for their continued partnership."

"I want to thank Acting Commissioner Daniel F. Martuscello III and the New York Department of Corrections and Community Supervision for partnering with Rochester and other cities to create the Supervision Against Violent Engagement program," **said Rochester Mayor Malik D. Evans.** "Increased supervision and monitoring of parolees who are most likely to engage in gun violence will go a long way toward helping us reduce shootings and save lives. New York State's support on the critical issue of gun violence will help us create a safe, equitable and prosperous Rochester by inspiring hope and delivering opportunity for everyone."

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