



New York State
**PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
FEDERATION AFL-CIO**

1168-70 Troy-Schenectady Road
P.O. Box 12414
Albany, NY 12212-2414

(518) 785-1900
(800) 342-4306
Fax (518) 785-1814

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OFFICERS:

Kenneth Brynien
President

Arlea Gabe Igoe
Secretary-Treasurer

Patricia Baker
Tom Comanzo
Joe Fox
Vice Presidents

Chief Margaret Ryan, President
New York State Association of Chiefs of Police Inc
Dryden Police Department
16 South St, PO Box 820
Dryden, NY 13053

Dear Ms. Ryan:

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I am writing to request your assistance in getting the word out to all Police Chiefs about the newly enacted "Violence Against Nurses" law. This law went into effect on November 1, 2010. The law amended subdivisions 3 and 11 of section 120.05 of the Penal Law by adding Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses to the listed occupations.

It is my understanding that cases that were previously charged as Assault 3rd degree misdemeanors should now all be charged as D felonies, which may carry a sentence of 2 and 1/3 to 7 years in prison. We realize that all cases must be evaluated on a case by case basis.

In advocating for nurses who have been assaulted while performing their lawful duties in state facilities, we have learned that many District Attorneys and police are not familiar with the new law. This has resulted in some errors and inconsistencies in police reports and criminal charges.

We appreciate the work of the state's Police Departments and their important role in community safety. Thank you in advance for getting this information out to the Police Chiefs.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Brynien, President

TRUSTEES:

Gail Noble
Adam Sumlin
Olubiyi Sehindemi



cc: Pat Baker, PEF Vice-President
Jonathan Rosen, Director, Occupational Safety & Health Department