



Mikie Sherrill
Governor

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Mary Cruz
Acting Chair/Chief Executive Officer

Dr. Dale G. Caldwell
Lt. Governor

Media Contact:

Alyssa Johnson-Mims

CSCCommunications@csc.nj.gov

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Governor Sherrill, NJ Civil Service Commission, and State Departments and Agencies Celebrate 'State Employee Recognition Day' with Award Ceremony

TRENTON, NJ – Governor Mikie Sherrill joined the New Jersey Civil Service Commission (CSC) and other State departments and agencies at the State Employee Recognition Day (SERD) award ceremony on Wednesday, May 6, 2026. SERD recognizes and celebrates the hard work, dedication, and achievements of State employees across all departments and agencies, and the CSC hosts a statewide award ceremony that honors the outstanding contributions of New Jersey's public workforce.

The ceremony was held at the Patriots Theater at the War Memorial, where hundreds of State employees, colleagues, families, and friends gathered to celebrate this year's honorees. Governor Sherrill delivered keynote remarks recognizing the impact and dedication of public servants, alongside distinguished guests including Cabinet members, Chiefs of Staff, and representatives from across State government.

"New Jersey's public servants represent the very best of our State-dedicated, innovative, and deeply committed to serving others," said **Governor Sherrill**. "Whether they are on the front lines or working behind the scenes, their efforts ensure that our government operates with transparency, accountability, and efficiency. It is an honor to recognize their contributions and celebrate the difference they make in the lives of our residents every day."

Mary Cruz, the CSC's Acting Chair and Chief Executive Officer, served as the event's master of ceremonies, delivering opening and closing remarks and presenting awards to this year's recipients.

"This ceremony is a powerful reminder of the extraordinary talent and commitment that exists within New Jersey's workforce," said **Acting Chair Cruz**. "Our State employees

consistently go above and beyond in service to the public, and it is a privilege to recognize their achievements and celebrate the meaningful impact they have on our communities.”

Over 200 State employees were nominated by their departments and agencies this year and received Governor’s Awards in the following categories:

- **Heroism Award** – Awarded to employees who perform acts of exceptional bravery or personal sacrifice involving life-threatening circumstances.
- **Exceptional Service Award** – Recognizes employees who demonstrate outstanding public service beyond the scope of their regular duties, such as effective responses to crisis or emergencies, and whose actions reflect credit upon the State of New Jersey.
- **Professional Achievement Award** – Recognizes employees for meritorious or distinguished accomplishments that extend beyond their normal job responsibilities, such as initiating and successfully implementing innovative methods, practices, plans, or designs in their fields.
- **Community Service Award** – Recognizes employees who have made significant contributions to their communities or the State through service outside the workplace.

For more information about the New Jersey Civil Service Commission, please visit: www.nj.gov/csc.