



Philip D. Murphy
Governor

Tahesha L. Way
Lt. Governor

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Celebration of State Employee Recognition Day

TRENTON, NJ – The State of New Jersey and the New Jersey Civil Service Commission celebrated State Employee Recognition Day (SERD) on Wednesday, May 7, 2025. SERD is a day that is dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the hard work and achievements of State employees. Since 1985, the first week of May has been acknowledged as Public Service Recognition Week.

This year, New Jersey Governor Philip D. Murphy signed a proclamation declaring May 4, 2025 through May 10, 2025 as Public Service Recognition Week. According to the proclamation, during this week, State departments and agencies “highlight the accomplishments of New Jersey’s public servants who work tirelessly on behalf of all Americans and rarely get the credit they deserve.”

In observance of SERD, the New Jersey Civil Service Commission hosted its annual awards ceremony at the Patriots Theater at the War Memorial, where hundreds of State employees, colleagues, families, and friends gathered to celebrate this year’s awardees.

Governor Murphy gave his best regards with a congratulatory video message addressed to the award winners and public servants in all levels of government. New Jersey Lieutenant Governor Tahesha L. Way was in attendance and gave warm remarks, while Assemblyman Anthony Verrelli of the 15th Legislative District served as the ceremony’s keynote speaker. Ronald L. Marino, Assistant Commissioner of Income Security at the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development and recipient of New Jersey’s “Longest Serving State Employee” award addressed the audience with remarks about his celebration of 58 years of State service with the State of New Jersey. Dozens of members of the Governor’s Office, New Jersey Cabinet members, and Commissioners also joined the audience to celebrate the accomplishments of New Jersey’s State awardees.

“New Jersey’s dedicated public servants are the backbone of our State, helping to keep it running every single day, and I am thrilled to recognize them on State Employee Recognition Day and every day,” said Lt. Governor Tahesha Way. “Public service is not just a job. It is a calling. It is the commitment to serve, protect, and uplift communities, whether in our offices, on the streets, or behind

the scenes. New Jersey's public servants remind us that government, at its best, is about people helping people. Their contributions make New Jersey stronger, safer, and more resilient."

Allison Chris Myers, Chairwoman and Chief Executive Officer of the New Jersey Civil Service Commission, addressed the award winners and the audience and presented the awards during the ceremony. "I want to sincerely thank all New Jersey State employees for your remarkable efforts, contributions, and achievements," said Chairwoman Myers during her opening remarks. "I'm thrilled that we can all come together to celebrate each other's successes and support our colleagues who have gone above and beyond to make the State of New Jersey a better place to live and work."

Over 550 State employees were nominated by their departments or agencies this year and received Governor's Awards in the following categories:

- **Community Service Award** – Recognizes employees who have made outstanding contributions to the communities in which they live or to the State through organizational activities outside the workplace.
- **New Jersey Award of Heroism** - Recognizes employees who were selfless and successful at saving someone who was in a life-threatening situation.
- **Innovation and Efficiency** – Recognizes employees who have demonstrated a willingness to identify and implement business processes that make services more accessible to clients.
- **Leadership/Professional Achievement** – Recognizes employees who have established a higher standard of work performance by leading by example and demonstrating leadership qualities when presented with challenging assignments.
- **Governor's Team of Excellence Award** – Recognizes individuals and teams that have demonstrated a commitment to public service by leading by example and helping the Governor meet his mission to make New Jersey a fairer and stronger place to live and work.

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