

# New Directions

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## Basoa Begins 1977 Campaign

I am officially announcing my candidacy for president of your organization, the Correction Officers Benevolent Association (C.O.B.A.). In addition to my candidacy, I am running with individuals whom I consider to be highly competent and very capable people, who reflect the **new perspective** that is vital to direct and motivate our members to participate in decisions that affect their destinies. My slate and I are **committed** to bringing about constructive change for all members in the department.

I am also pledging to maintain a high degree of **campaign ethics**. Neither I, nor any member of my slate, nor any committee working with the Basoa camp, will resort to a **crusade** of character assassination, muckraking, or maliciously defaming any candidate or groups who are competing for C.O.B.A. office. It is our objective to promote **cohesion** and **solidarity**, and repress those disruptive elements that would further separate members of this department.

It is my sincere wish that all candidates who are seeking office will adopt similar guidelines when conducting their campaigns.

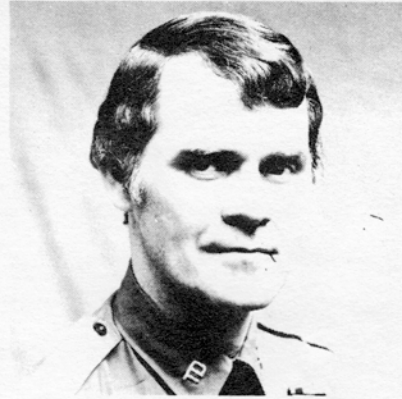
We, the Basoa slate, look forward to a **clean** and **effective** campaign.

Fraternally yours,

Richard Basoa

Endorsed by the Committee to Elect the Basoa Slate.

### COMMENTS FROM



**RICHIE BASOA**

**New Directions** will be the theme of our organization if my slate and I are elected as administrators of the C.O.B.A. We will no longer follow in the shadows of the NYC police department (PBA), instead our goals will be directed towards recognition from the city and state governments, respect from our peers in law enforcement, enhancement of our public image, and defending the contractual rights of every member in the department. The "sweetheart relationship" that exists between management and labor shall cease immediately upon assuming office. My first act as president would be to audit the financial records of the C.O.B.A. and submit a comprehensive report of our financial status. I will seek redress in a court of law to rescind those rules and regulations that violate our constitutional and civil rights. Officers will no longer be **victimized** and inmates **martyrized**. The legal staff representing officers in the C.O.B.A. will be replaced. Officers have been found guilty of specifications in many cases, not due to the validity of evidence against them, but primarily because of inadequate representation by legal counsel of the C.O.B.A.

We will no longer give rubber stamp approval to pre-written contracts secured by other uniform forces. Correction will receive parity items all other uniform forces receive, but we will negotiate and focus on those issues that affect us as components parts of a very complex machinery. In the area of public relations I will utilize the availability of resources within our own ranks. The correction officer. I will send officers into the communities to speak at colleges, civic functions and law enforcement seminars, to remove the stereotyped attitudes of correction officers held by the general public, and members of the media. No longer will the correction officer be a scapegoat for failures of the criminal justice systems. In the area of higher education many officers have acquired degrees in higher education in an effort to upgrade their academic skills and promote professionalization in our department. I will demand that the correction officer be included in ongoing and future therapeutic programs, involving the treatment and rehabilitation of inmates. If the department refuses to utilize the skills of the officer, and fails to involve him as a professional, how can the public's view toward correction personnel change.

The **New Directions** that will be pursued by my administration can only be implemented and accomplished with individuals whose views are in accord with my philosophy. I will shortly make public the names of those individuals who are running for office on the Basoa Slate, whom I urge you to support, so that the much needed change can be brought about.

Select Richie Basoa President of the C.O.B.A.