

Patrolmen's Benevolent Association

Of the City of New York Incorporated

40 Fulton Street, New York, N.Y. 10038-1850

Patrick J. Lynch, President

July 11, 2006

Letters Editor
New York Daily News
Via electronic mail

To the Editor:

Once again the Daily News has fallen for Bloomberg's propoganda by accepting the concept that working a longer day or sacrificing sorely needed days off represents productivity (PBA cops out on contract, 7-11-06). True productivity is doing more with less or taking on greater duties and responsibilities. NYC's police officers have done both. With 4,000 fewer police officers, we continue to keep this city safe. But have we shared in the savings generated by doing more with less? No. We have also taken on new duties in the fight against terrorism with all the new dangers, tactics, strategies, equipment and training that it entails. NYC police officers have already given their lives in the fight against terrorism and continue to suffer grave illnesses from their heroics on 9/11. But while other New York State law enforcement agencies have received terrorism pay, the police protecting the number one target in America have not. And while the city has implemented the suggestions of a Mayoral commission to increase educational requirements and age to attract the best candidates to be police officers, they have ignored the same commission's suggestion to substantially increase police pay to attract more and better candidates. We police officers risk our lives for this city every day. But we can't afford to live in the very city we protect and that is an outrage. And as the price of everything continues to go up, Bloomberg wants us to work longer tours and more days to earn more money? That's not a raise, that's overtime. This PBA administration will fight until this city treats its police officers fairly and pays us a living wage for the job we do and the dangers we face. Your editorial implores the PBA to get back to the negotiating table, but we didn't walk away, the city did.

Sincerely
Patrick J. Lynch
President