

Gov. Carey says hello to a resident at the Staten Island Developmental Center.

S.I. Advance Photo by Barry Schwartz

Politicking Carey promises 300 more jobs at center

By BRUCE ALPERT

Gov. Carey yesterday announced plans to hire 300 employees at the Staten Island Developmental Center to bring the institution for the retarded up to what he said are court-mandated staffing levels.

Capping off a morning of campaign appearances on Staten Island, Carey made the pledge during a speech to center employees in the Willowbrook institution's auditorium.

Earlier, the governor campaigned at the St. George ferry terminal, shaking the hands of hundreds of Manhattanbound commuters and becoming involved in a squabble with Robert Gigante, Democratic candidate for state Senate.

Gigante, who has based a large portion of his campaign on his support for the death penalty, stood near Carey as he told a television reporter that State Sen. John J. Marchi is a man of "unusual courage" for his stand against capital

punishment.

Gigante's face paled as he listened to the remarks by the Democratic governor, who he said had his backing despite their differences on the death penalty. Later Gigante told Carey he was "hurt"