

## Letter to the Editors

*Jane LaTour, author of Sisters in the Brotherhoods*

I am writing to comment on [the review of my book, \*Sisters in the Brotherhoods\*, by Nolan Reilly](#). First of all, thank you for the fine review! I especially appreciate your calling attention to the [wonderful website prepared for the book by the History Department at SUNY Albany](#). It makes teaching the book an absolute joy!

I would just like to make a couple of corrections; In the chapter on the Fire Department, the quote that is attributed to [JoAnn Jacobs](#) is actually a quote from [Brenda Berkman](#). Second, as I developed the chapter, it was interesting that JoAnn's experience, as an African American woman, was so much more positive than that of Brenda Berkman's. As I show, the leadership was quite different within the department and it made all the difference for the women depending on where they were based. Lax leadership led to an excess of harassment, while strong leadership, such as that in JoAnn's firehouse, didn't tolerate (or encourage!) harassment.

Once again, thanks so much for the review!