

From: [Tina J Szpicek](#)
To: [BOC \(BOC\)](#)
Subject: Comment on BOC Rule
Date: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 5:59:08 PM

Dear NYC BOC,

My name is Tina Szpicek and I am a lifelong resident of Brooklyn New York. I am also a current law student at NYU School of Law. I am writing to express concern regarding your proposed rule to end solitary confinement. Despite your promise to end this torture over 9 months ago, you have simply renamed it. Your rule perpetuates extreme forms of isolation. I ask that you amend the rule pursuant to HALT and JAC's proposed guidelines and completely abolish solitary confinement.

Amongst many other issues, your rule creates an extremely restrictive environment, allows people to be held in isolation indefinitely, and fails to provide access to meaningful programming. Just last week, the New York assembly and senate both passed the HALTsolitary Bill, taking a momentous step towards ending the inhumanity that is solitary confinement. I ask that you do the same by amending your proposed rule. In particular, the rule should allow at least 14 hours/ day of out of cell time per day to allow meaningful interactions with others.

The work does not end post the passing of a more robust rule. Working in the legal field prior to law school I saw how facilities fail to implement formal rules. To ensure this doesn't happen, once implemented folks should have access to a lawyer.

Thank you,
Tina Szpicek

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J.D. Candidate | Class of 2023
Pronouns: she/her/hers