



**NEW YORK CITY  
BOARD OF CORRECTION**

**May 16, 2023 PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

**ATTENDEES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dwayne C. Sampson, Chair  
Dr. Rachael Bedard, Member  
Robert L. Cohen, M.D. Member  
Felipe Franco, Member  
DeAnna Hoskins, Member  
Jacqueline M. Pitts, Member  
Jacqueline Sherman, Member  
Joseph Ramos, Member

Jasmine Georges-Yilla, Esq., Interim Executive Director, General Counsel

**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION**

Lynelle Maginley-Liddie, First Deputy Commissioner  
Kat Thomson, Chief of Staff  
Dr. Robert Gonzalez, Deputy Commissioner of Training & Development  
James N. Saunders, Deputy Commissioner of Health Affairs  
Paul Schectman, Deputy Commissioner of Legal Matters/General Counsel  
Allie Robertson, Executive Director of Intergovernmental Affairs  
Frank Dyer  
Ron Edwards  
Angela Gonzalez  
Michael Howard  
Jeremiah Johnson  
A. Pace  
Mark Pauley

**NYC HEALTH + HOSPITALS—CORRECTIONAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Patsy Yang, DrPH, Senior Vice President  
Bibin Subedi, M.D., Chief Medical Officer

Nancy Arias, Chief Nursing Officer  
Jeanette Merrill, MPH, Director of Communications, and Intergovernmental Affairs  
Carlos Castellanos, Chief Operations Officer  
Nicole Levy, Deputy Director of Communications, and Intergovernmental Affairs

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Ryan Acquotta—Urban Justice Center  
Tahanee Dunn—Bronx Defenders  
Natalie Fiorenzo  
Fran Geteles—CAIC/JAC/PHR  
Diana Griffith—Bronx Defenders  
Michael Klinger—BDS  
Chaplain Dr. Victoria H. Phillips—Jails Action Coalition  
Tashan Rivers—WCJA  
Iman Webb-Smith—WCJA  
Rachel Sznajderman—NYCDS  
Jeffrey Suue  
Keli Young—Vocal-NY

**Board of Correction Opening Remarks**

Chair Sampson called the meeting to order. Chair Sampson held a vote to approve the draft minutes for the March 14, 2023 meeting. Member Bedard moved to approve the minutes. Member Joseph Ramos seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously. Watch this portion of the video [here](#).

The Chair shared his opening remarks. He appointed Member Rachael Bedard, Member DeAnna Hoskins, and Member Jacqueline Pitts to the Woman in the Jails committee. Member Pitts will serve as Committee Chair.

The Chair appointed Member Bedard and Member Pitts to join Member Joseph Ramos on the Jail Death Review Committee. Member Ramos will serve as Committee Chair.

Member Robert Cohen questioned the Chair about why Member Cohen was removed from the Jail Death Review Committee. Member Cohen stated that he would like to remain on the committee and asked if his removal was due to the Chair not being please with his service. The Chair argued that they were looking for new views and that Member Cohen’s removal from the committee had nothing to do with his service. Board Member Cohen stated that he did not understand what new meant. Chair Sampson stated that the change was a done decision and that the action was taken over a month ago. Board Member Cohen stated that Chair Sampson didn’t tell him about the change, he just did it. Chair Sampson argued that Member Cohen should have contacted him before the meeting and moved forward with the agenda. Watch this portion of the video [here](#).

## **Board of Correction Updates**

Interim Executive Director Jasmine Georges-Yilla expressed condolences for deaths of Department of Correction staff since the last meeting.

As of May 15, 2023, the total census of people in custody was 6,049. The census breakdown by facility was as such: AMKC—1,892; Bellevue—50; EMTC—937; GRVC—843; NIC—178; NIC Infirmary—99; RMSC—360; RND—909; VCBC—707; and West Facility—74.

On April 12, 2023, the Board released its findings and recommendations in connection with its investigation concerning the deaths of seven individuals in Department of Correction custody in 2022. Of the individuals covered in this report, three died from suicide, one from acute fentanyl intoxication, one from complications of drowning, and one was still pending further study (as of this meeting) under the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Some of the Board's recommendations in the report to the Department of Correction and Correctional Health Services include ensuring uniform staff relays all relevant information to medical staff, improving information sharing between DOC and CHS, and increasing the number of PACE beds, among others. The full report can be read [here](#).

The BOC Deaths Review Committee is investigating the death of Marvin Pines, the first and only death in custody as of the meeting. Lastly, the Board's second serious injury report is in its final stages and will be published soon. Watch this portion of the video [here](#).

## **Department of Correction Updates**

First Deputy Commissioner Lynelle Maginley-Liddie presented the updates. She echoed the Board's condolences to the family members of those who passed away. The Department continued to onboard outsiders with broad experiences to help manage their facilities. The Deputy Commissioner named several new hires and promotions to Department leadership.

At this point, the live video feed went out. Pursuant to POL sec. 103-a (2), the meeting cannot continue until the video feed returned.

## **Remainder of meeting**

At one point the video feed returned momentarily. First Deputy Commissioner Maginley-Liddie repeated her presentation, but the video feed went out again.

The Department of Correction left the meeting.

Chair Sampson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The majority of the Board did not agree to vote on the motion. Member Jacqueline Sherman urgently noted that there was important business to discuss and that all Board Members were present in person, something which has not occurred for the last few months. Member Sherman argued that the Board should wait until the video feed can be uploaded again.

The Chair asked again for a motion to adjourn. Member Pitts motioned to adjourn. The motion was not seconded.

Chaplain Dr. Victoria A. Phillips of the Jails Action Coalition addressed the Board from the audience. Chair Sampson asked Dr. Phillips to remain orderly, otherwise, she would be removed from the auditorium.

The Board continued to wait for technical improvements.

Dr. Phillips told the Board that there should be no change in the meeting. Chair Sampson requested DCAS Police to remove Dr. Phillips from the auditorium. The police officer reasoned with Dr. Phillips and asked her to tone it down so she might remain in the room. She agreed.

A few moments passed with no progress on the technical difficulties. Dr. Phillips continued speaking to the Board Chair. Chair Sampson again requested for her to be escorted out.

The officer began to physically remove Dr. Phillips, causing the public to become more animated. Members Cohen, Pitts, Sherman, Hoskins, and Bedard left the stage to address the public.

The video and audio were restored. Chair Sampson would not move the meeting forward until Dr. Phillips was removed from the room.

Member Franco submitted a motion for an executive session to talk about the next meeting, technical difficulties, and other legal matters. Chair Sampson denied Member Franco's motion, arguing the security issue with Dr. Phillips must be resolved first. Member Bedard seconded the motion to go into executive session.

Member Hoskins noted that the security issue will "self-regulated if we go into executive session." The discussion continued between Board Members on what was the next best plan of action.

Member Franco again submission a motion to meet as an executive session to discuss legal issues and personnel issues. Member Bedard seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

The Board entered the executive session. Once the executive session, the Board meeting was immediately adjourned.