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NEW YORK CITY BOARD OF CORRECTION REGAINS FULL ACCESS TO JAILS VIDEO FOOTAGE SYSTEMS

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New York, NY – The **New York City Board of Correction** (“Board”), the New York City Department of Correction (“DOC”), and the City of New York (“City”) have reached an agreement in the Board’s Article 78 legal proceeding filed on August 9, 2023 in Bronx County Supreme Court. The legal proceeding against DOC and the City sought to restore the Board’s long-standing and unfettered access to DOC’s video footage systems, which DOC terminated on January 9, 2023.

The agreement successfully restores the Board’s historic 24/7 unfettered access to DOC’s video footage systems. The agreement is subject to Board member approval at its upcoming October 17, 2023 public meeting. This agreement confirms the Board’s authority as DOC’s independent oversight agency and reinstates a crucial oversight tool. Direct access to video surveillance footage allows the Board’s small and dedicated staff to monitor the treatment of the most vulnerable populations, conduct daily confidential investigations, and ensure DOC’s compliance with the Board’s minimum standards.

The Board extends its gratitude to its staff for their unwavering commitment to the Board’s mission of safer jails and transparency. The Board also thanks Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP for their vital advocacy and support.

The New York City Board of Correction is a nine-person oversight board that regulates, monitors, and inspects the correctional facilities of the city. The Board of Correction has carried out critical independent oversight for the City of New York since 1957. Our staff are the Board’s “eyes and ears” inside the jails, working to evaluate complaints, review incidents, and make recommendations for compliance with the minimum standards for confinement. The Board sets a baseline for what New York City must provide to people in custody in order to maintain humane jails.

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