



**Commission of
Correction**

**Final Report of the
New York State Commission of Correction:**

In the Matter of the Death of

**James Farley,
an incarcerated individual of the
Gowanda Correctional Facility**

December 21, 2021

**To: Honorable Anthony Annucci
Acting Commissioner
NYS Department of Corrections
And Community Supervision
The Harriman State Campus
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12226**

Allen Riley
Chairman

Thomas J. Loughren
Commissioner

Yolanda Canty
Commissioner

GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, the Medical Review Board has reported to the NYS Commission of Correction pursuant to Correction Law, section 47(1)(d), regarding the death of James Farley who died on August 17, 2019, while an incarcerated individual in the custody of the NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision at the Gowanda Correctional Facility, the Commission has determined that the following final report be issued.

FINDINGS:

1. James Farley was a 63-year-old Caucasian male who died on 8/17/19 from hypertensive and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease while in the custody of New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (NYS DOCCS) at the Gowanda Correctional Facility (CF).
2. Farley was born in Lockport, NY. Farley was survived by a son and a daughter. Farley graduated from high school. There was no further information available for Farley.
3. Farley was serving a first NYS DOCCS incarceration. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] In the instant offense, on 4/1/07, in Lockport NY, Farley engaged in forcible sexual contact with a 12-year-old victim.
4. [REDACTED]
5. [REDACTED]
6. Farley was admitted to NYS DOCCS at Wende CF reception on 11/21/07. Farley was transferred to Elmira CF on 11/26/07. Farley spent time in Attica CF, Clinton CF, and Clinton Annex before being transferred to Gowanda CF. This is where Farley remained until the terminal event.
7. Farley had two Tier 2 infractions throughout the course of the incarceration. In December 2012, Farley received an infraction for Loss/Damage of Property and received 30 days of keeplock, no packages, no commissary, and no phone. Farley received a second infraction in July 2016 for Creating a Disturbance and received 15

days keeplock, no packages, no commissary, and no phone.

8. [REDACTED]

9. [REDACTED]

10. [REDACTED]

11. [REDACTED]

12. [REDACTED]

13. On 7/30/19, Farley was transferred from Clinton Annex to Gowanda CF due to Farley's security classification changing from a Maximum 2 to a Medium 3.

14. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

15.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. The Medical Review Board finds that the review of Farley's medical history upon admission to Gowanda CF was not thoroughly reviewed by the RN or by the facility MD. Additionally, the Board finds that this was not in compliance with the requirements of 9 NYCRR §7651.1 which state:

Adequate health care and health care services shall be provided to all inmates to protect their physical and mental well-being. Such care and services shall promote inmate health through the prevention of disease and disability and the detection, treatment, and management of disease.

16.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The Medical Review Board finds that not receiving Enalapril for seven days for an individual with new onset heart failure, may have contributed to Farley's death.

17.

On 8/17/19 at 5:42 p.m., CO A.G. was assigned as a commissary escort. While monitoring the package room, CO A.G. observed Farley fall face first onto the concrete floor without attempting to break the fall. CO A.G. immediately called a medical emergency response to the package room and EMS was notified. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ACTIONS REQUIRED:TO THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF THE NYS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION, DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES:

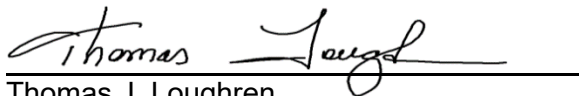
The Deputy Commissioner shall convene a comprehensive quality assurance review on the health care provided to Farley at Attica CF and Gowanda CF with a focus on:

- Why Farley's new cardiac diagnoses were not recorded on the DOCCS records of active and inactive diagnosis's on Farley's problem list?
- Why the facility RN that completed Farley's admission health screen, and documented Farley's admission in the Ambulatory Health Record (AHR) on 7/30/19, did not obtain a set of vital signs on Farley?
- Why the facility RN that completed Farley's admission on 7/30/19, did not list the medications with a route for the administration of the medications, and omitted the dose, route, or time of administration for Farley's Enalapril?
- Why the review of Farley's chart upon admission to Gowanda CF was not thoroughly reviewed by the RN or by the facility MD?
- Why Farley did not receive the Enalapril for at least seven days after Farley's admission to Gowanda CF?
- Why after the admission to Gowanda CF, Farley was not scheduled to see the facility MD sooner than six weeks from the admission especially with Farley's new cardiac findings on the EKG from 4/27/19?

The results of the quality assurance review and any corrective actions taken shall be forwarded to the Medical Review Board upon completion.

In a response to the Commission's preliminary report dated 11/12/21, the Deputy Commissioner of Health Services indicated that the requested reviews were completed.

WITNESS, HONORABLE THOMAS J. LOUGHREN, Commissioner, NYS Commission of Correction, Alfred E. Smith State Office Building, 80 South Swan Street, 12th Floor, in the City of Albany, New York 12210 on this 17th day of December, 2019.



Thomas J. Loughren
Commissioner & Chair
Medical Review Board

TJL:BB:jdb
2019-M-0092
December 2021

cc: Dr. John Morley, Deputy Commissioner Chief Medical Officer
Bryan Hilton, Assistant Commissioner for Mental Health