



**Commission of
Correction**

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

In the Matter of the Death of

**Julio Vazquez Jr.,
an incarcerated individual of the
Nassau County Correctional Center**

December 21, 2021

**To: Sheriff James Dzurenda
Nassau County Sheriff's Office
100 Carman Avenue
East Meadow, New York 11554**

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 Julio Vazquez Jr. who died on September 26, 2019 , as a result of circumstances which occurred while an incarcerated individual in the custody of the Nassau County Sheriff at the Nassau County Jail, the Commission has determined that the following final report be issued.

FINDINGS:

1. Julio Vazquez was a 25-year-old Hispanic male who died on 9/26/19 from a cardiac arrest due to a fatal arrhythmia while in the custody of the Nassau County Sheriff at the Nassau County Correction Center. The Medical Review Board has found that Vazquez's death was due an acute cardiac arrest due to pre-existing heart disease.
2. Vazquez was arrested on 9/17/19 by the Nassau County Police Department. Vazquez was arraigned in Nassau County Supreme Court and charged with Burglary 1st Degree with Display of What Appears to be a Weapon, Illegal Entry with Criminal Intent, Robbery 1st Degree with Display of a Firearm, Forcible Robbery with Use of a Weapon, Robbery 2nd Degree-Aided by Another, and Criminal Use of a Firearm 2nd Degree. Bail was set at \$50,000 Bond or \$25,000 cash. Vazquez was to return to court on 10/3/19.
3. Vazquez was admitted into the Nassau County Correction Center at 5:53 p.m. on 9/18/19. Vazquez scored a zero on the Suicide Prevention Screening Guidelines but a referral was made to medical. Vazquez stated to the admitting officer that this was not his first incarceration.

4. 

5. 

6. [REDACTED]
7. On 9/21/19, Vazquez' classification was reviewed, and Vazquez was relocated to the E Building-02-A-20-A which is maximum security for general population.
8. [REDACTED]
9. On 9/26/19, CO E.T. began the 12:00 a.m. to 8:00 am tour on the A Block. As per the Electronic Patrol Records, supervisory tours were made consistently approximately every thirty minutes throughout the shift. At 6:28 a.m., the area supervisor, Cpl. D.L. conducted a standing count of the A and B areas. Per Cpl. D.L.'s written statement, Vazquez was alert and standing for this count. At 6:30 a.m., cells were opened for the breakfast meal. There was no documentation within the record that indicated if Vazquez attended the morning meal.
10. At 6:40 a.m., per CO E.T.'s written statement, incarcerated individuals were instructed to lock into their cells for a count. CO E.T. was notified by an incarcerated individual that Vazquez may be in need of medical attention. CO E.T. documented going immediately to cell 20 and noted Vazquez was on the floor with slight movement and making a grunting noise. CO. E.T. reported to the control room and notified Cpl. D.L. of the findings. Cpl. D.L. and CO E.T. returned to cell 20. Cpl. D.L. activated the body alarm for a medical emergency at 6:44 a.m.
11. Per Cpl. D.L.'s written statement, Vazquez was laying on the floor with his head resting on the shelf of the desk. Cpl. D.L. and responding officers pulled Vazquez away from the desk and noted liquid in Vazquez' mouth. Vazquez was placed on the side with clothing cushioning the head.
12. Health staff arrived at cell 20 at 6:44 a.m. [REDACTED]
13. EMS arrived per their documentation at 7:10 a.m. [REDACTED]
14. [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- 15 Following the transport to the hospital, Sgt. J.M. interviewed the incarcerated individuals in Dorm A. One incarcerated individual stated seeing Vazquez during the standing count and after the count, Vazquez was breathing hard. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A review of the autopsy findings by the Medical Review Board indicated that Vazquez had usual findings of chronic asthma patient but had no mucus plugs present in the microscopic findings which indicates that whatever bronchial plugging was present was mild and insufficient to cause sudden death.

ACTIONS REQUIRED:

To close this case as a natural death.

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 21st day of December, 2021.



Thomas J. Loughren
Commissioner & Chair
Medical Review Board

TJL:ET:jdb
2019-M-0106
December 2021