



**Commission of  
Correction**

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

**In the Matter of the Death of**

**Isaac Rodriguez-Quinones (18A0009),  
an incarcerated individual of the  
Elmira Correctional Facility**

**June 28, 2023**

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

**Allen Riley**  
*Chairman*

**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 Isaac Rodriguez-Quinones who died on August 14, 2020, while an incarcerated individual in the custody of the NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision at the Elmira Correctional Facility, the Commission has determined that the following final report be issued.

FINDINGS:

1. Isaac Rodriguez-Quinones was a 39-year-old Hispanic male who died on 8/14/20 from a homicide stabbing from another incarcerated individual that occurred on 8/11/20 while in the custody of the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) at the Elmira Correctional Facility (CF).

2. Rodriguez-Quinones was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico. Rodriguez-Quinones dropped out of school in Puerto Rico in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and had an 8<sup>th</sup> grade education. Rodriguez-Quinones was single with no children. Rodriguez-Quinones was unemployed at the time of his most recent arrest. Records indicate that prior to Rodriguez-Quinones's incarceration in 2010, he was previously employed as a factory worker for a cookie company. Rodriguez-Quinones claimed that he had no gang affiliations. The exact date Rodriguez-Quinones came to the United States is unknown. Rodriguez-Quinones's father was deceased, and he was survived by four brothers and two sisters.

3. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]. In the instant offense, Rodriguez-Quinones was arrested for knowingly and unlawfully entering a residence and stealing cash on 7/9/16, for entering a residence and stealing \$2,000 dollars in property on 7/16/16, for entering a deli with the intent to commit an offense on 8/2/16, for entering a church with the intent to commit a crime between 9/12/16 and 9/13/16, and for knowingly and unlawfully entering a department store and removed currency on 10/2/16. Rodriguez-Quinones was eventually convicted of two counts of Burglary 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and one count of Burglary 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree and sentenced to his second NYS DOCCS sentence of 8 ½ to 10 years. Rodriguez-Quinones claims that prior to his arrests, he had lost his employment, apartment and vehicle [REDACTED] on [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Rodriguez-Quinones motives for the pattern of larcenous offenses was monetary gain [REDACTED]. On 2/28/17, while confined at the Nassau County Jail, Rodriguez-Quinones did knowingly and unlawfully possess a sharp metal object.

4. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5. [REDACTED]

6. Rodriguez-Quinones was originally received by NYS DOCCS on 1/2/18. Rodriguez-Quinones was received at Elmira CF on 5/7/19. Rodriguez-Quinones remained at Elmira CF and was housed in general population at the time of the stabbing.

7. On 8/11/20 at 6:50 p.m., per officer logs, G-Block went out to recreation. At 7:05 p.m., Rodriguez-Quinones was in the Gymnasium with 65 other incarcerated individuals (II) for evening recreation. Correction Officer (CO) B.M. observed a fight between II [REDACTED], and II [REDACTED]. and called a response over his two-way radio. COs K.R., S.H., S.C. and R.S. responded. Orders were given to the IIs to stop fighting and to get on the floor. Both II [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. complied but then stood again to re-engage in the fight. II [REDACTED]. and II [REDACTED] were again given orders to get on the floor and complied. CO S.H. recovered a weapon fashioned from a toothbrush from under II [REDACTED]. while he was laying on the gym floor. The toothbrush shank measured 4.75 inches long by 0.25 inches wide. During this fight, II [REDACTED]. was observed using a weapon against II [REDACTED].

8. During the altercation between II [REDACTED]. and II [REDACTED]., video footage showed that II [REDACTED]. made a stabbing motion toward Rodriguez-Quinones' neck and then fled to a corner of the gym. Rodriguez-Quinones can be seen first chasing after II [REDACTED] but then abandoned the chase to seek help for his neck injury. After the scene was secured, CO K.R. recovered a plastic shank type weapon measuring 5.5 inches long by 1 inch wide from the corner of the gymnasium. The weapon was sharpened to a point on one end and had tape around the handle end with a shoestring lanyard. The weapon had blood on the handle and was consistent with the injury to Rodriguez-Quinones's neck.

9. CO R.S. noticed Rodriguez-Quinones bleeding from his right neck and immediately escorted Rodriguez-Quinones to the infirmary for medical treatment. Sergeant (Sgt.) W.H. was in the area and responded. Erway Ambulance was called by watch commander Lieutenant (Lt.) E.W.

10. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

11. At 7:15 p.m., CO S.C. performed a pat frisk of II [REDACTED] after the incident and recovered a weapon fashioned from a black toothbrush sharpened to a point at one end with cellophane wrapped around the handle end. The weapon measured 4.5 inches long by 0.25 inches wide. II [REDACTED] had a sheath made of tape in his boot that was holding the weapon.

12. At 7:28 p.m., all the IIs in the gym were moved to facility mess halls and gym yard by gallery and identified individually by a review of the video recording. All of the IIs from the gym were pat frisked, hand wanded, and sent through a walk-through metal detector. No contraband was recovered. The IIs from the gym were returned to their cells. The gymnasium was secured as a possible crime scene by CO M.B. The New York State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) was notified of a possible crime.

13. [REDACTED]

14. On 8/12/20 at 12:25 a.m., BCI released the gym from crime scene status. IIs [REDACTED], [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] were escorted to the infirmary [REDACTED] [REDACTED] II [REDACTED] and II [REDACTED]. refused protective custody (PC) and were returned to their cells on keeplock status pending disciplinary action. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] II [REDACTED] and II [REDACTED]. refused PC and were placed on keeplock pending investigation. II [REDACTED]. refused PC and was [REDACTED] W. While in the holding cell, security staff noticed blood on II [REDACTED]'s shirt. The shirt was taken and turned over to BCI. All three weapons that were recovered were turned over to BCI.

15. [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
16. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED].
17. DOCCS security staff, BCI and OSI reviewed the video footage from the gym. Video evidence showed that a meeting in the gym occurred between IIs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Directly following the meeting, II [REDACTED] engaged II [REDACTED] in a fight. II [REDACTED] was observed using a weapon against II [REDACTED]. During the fight between II [REDACTED] and II [REDACTED], the video showed II [REDACTED] removed an item from his front pants pocket and make a stabbing motion to the right neck of Rodriguez-Quinones. Rodriguez-Quinones had been watching the fight between II [REDACTED] and II [REDACTED] when he was stabbed. Rodriguez-Quinones chased after II [REDACTED] after being stabbed but then abandoned the chase to seek help from security staff.
18. Initially, II [REDACTED] admitted that he facilitated a 1 on 1 fight prior to the attack on Rodriguez-Quinones as a diversion. However, II [REDACTED] later gave a different statement to BCI claiming that he did not facilitate a diversion fight and that II [REDACTED] and II [REDACTED] planned to fight because they had "beef". II [REDACTED] told BCI that Rodriguez-Quinones was cut because he didn't help or stand up for his people when he was housed at Five Points CF.
19. II [REDACTED] claimed that he was friends with Rodriguez-Quinones and that on 8/10/20, he had some problems with II [REDACTED] and that Rodriguez-Quinones had his back. II [REDACTED] claimed he and II [REDACTED] were involved in a fight and he did not see Rodriguez-Quinones get stabbed. II [REDACTED] claimed that he was not in possession of a weapon and that all he knew about the II [REDACTED] was that he was involved in the Blood Gang. II [REDACTED] indicated that a week earlier, he was approached by II [REDACTED] in the shower who told him to give II [REDACTED] his necklace. II [REDACTED] stated that he walked away from II [REDACTED] and did not give him the necklace. II [REDACTED] indicated that two days prior to the fight in the gym, he was walking with Rodriguez-Quinones outside when II [REDACTED] approached II [REDACTED] again and said to give him the necklace. II [REDACTED] stated that Rodriguez-Quinones spoke up and told II [REDACTED] to leave II [REDACTED] alone and that he was not getting the necklace. II [REDACTED] said on 8/10/20, he told others that he was going to fight II [REDACTED] over the necklace conflict. II [REDACTED] tried to stop the fight in order to prevent further problems between the "Hispanics" and the "Bloods". II [REDACTED] said that he had to fight II [REDACTED] because the Hispanics population was being overrun and being mistreated by the Bloods and that he was fearful for his safety.
20. On 2/2/21, II [REDACTED] was indicted on the charges of Murder 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and Promoting Prison Contraband 1<sup>st</sup> Degree. On 11/8/21, II [REDACTED] plead guilty to Murder 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and was sentenced to 18 years to Life.

#### ACTIONS REQUIRED:

That this case be closed as a homicide.

WITNESS, HONORABLE ALLEN RILEY, Chairman, NYS Commission of Correction, Alfred E. Smith State Office Building, 80 South Swan Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, in the City of Albany, New York 12210 on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.



Allen Riley  
Chairman  
Commission of Correction

AR:JW :jdb  
2020-M-0088  
June 2023

cc: Dr. Carol Moores, Deputy Commissioner Chief Medical Officer  
Bryan Hilton, Assistant Commissioner for Mental Health  
Superintendent James Donahue, Elmira CF