



**Commission of
Correction**

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

In the Matter of the Death of

**Andre Jones (15A0855),
an incarcerated individual of the
Elmira Correctional Facility**

March 22, 2023

**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 Andre Jones who died on September 4, 2019, 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 preliminary report be issued.

FINDINGS:

1. Andre Jones was a 29-year-old black male who died on 9/4/19 at 4:41 p.m. at Arnot Ogden Medical Center ER after a suicide attempt while in the custody of New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) at Elmira Correctional Facility (CF).
2. Jones came to the United States at age 5. Jones lived in Bronx, NY with his mother. Jones's father remained in Jamaica. The last grade that Jones attended was the 11th grade. Jones got his GED in 2015. Jones was single and had one child. There was no documentation found about Jones's childhood or his relationship with his child or child's mother. Jones was a reported member of the Bloods gang. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Jones was survived by his parents, child, a brother, and a sister.
3. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. In the instant offense, on 4/19/13, Jones acting in concert with another and robbed a male at gunpoint of his currency and property. Over the next 8 hours, Jones forced the victim to drive to various banks and bodegas withdrawing money and giving it to Jones. The victim's life was threatened. Jones's apparent motive was monetary gain. Jones was convicted of Kidnapping 2nd Degree Robbery 1st Degree, and Robbery 2nd Degree. Jones was sentenced to 20 years. Jones was received into the correctional system on 3/3/15.
4. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].
5. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].
6. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

7. On 9/3/19 at 8:20 p.m., Jones was involved in a fight with another Incarcerated Individual (I.I.) in the ballpark. Jones and the other I.I. were observed exchanging closed fist punches then fell to the ground together and continued fighting. When responding staff gave orders to stop, both Jones and the other I.I. complied. A weapon was found on the ground under Jones's body. It was made from a white toilet brush handle and was approximately 6 inches long by 3/4 inch wide and was melted to a point at one end. When interviewed by staff, Jones claimed that he did not know what the fight was about. The other I.I. claimed that the fight was due to a disagreement. The other I.I. sustained a cut wound to his shoulder consistent with the weapon that Jones had used. Video footage showed Jones making stabbing motion toward the other I.I. Jones was sent to the Special Housing Unit (SHU) pending a hearing regarding the fight. Per the Fight Investigation Report, it was concluded that the fight may have been over a disagreement most likely over drugs or money owed.

8. [REDACTED]

9. On 9/4/19 at approximately 3:34 p.m., Correction Officer (CO) S.P., while conducting a security round in the SHU discovered Jones in SHU cell 43 unresponsive and hanging by the neck from the gate in the back of his cell. Jones had a state sheet tied around his neck with the opposite end tied to the rear gate of the cell. A medical emergency was called.

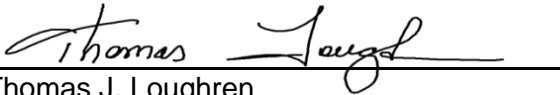
10. At 3:35 p.m., Jones's cell was opened and COs B.S., C.Y., T.M., M.M., and S.P entered the cell. COs B.S., C.Y., and T.M. lifted Jones to relieve pressure on the ligature while CO S.P. utilized a facility cut down tool to cut the sheet from the bars and Jones's neck. Jones was lowered to the cell floor and CPR was initiated at 3:36 p.m. by CO B.S. At 3:38 p.m., CO M.M. retrieved the Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) from the SHU Sgt's office and applied it to Jones with no shock advised.

11. At 3:39 p.m., RN [REDACTED], Sgt T.T. and CO J.E. arrived on scene. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].
12. At 3:47 p.m., Erway Ambulance arrived at Elmira CF. At 4:03 p.m., Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) [REDACTED] arrived on scene and assumed care of Jones.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

ACTIONS REQUIRED:

That this case be closed as a suicide.

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 22nd day of March, 2023.



Thomas J. Loughren
Commissioner & Chair
Medical Review Board

TJL:DC:jdb
2018-M-0096
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- cc: Dr. Carol Moores, Chief Medical Officer
Bryan Hilton, Assistant Commissioner for Mental Health
Superintendent James Donahue, Elmira CF
Dr. Li-Wen Lee, Associate Commissioner
Division of Forensic Services, NYS Office of Mental Health
Danielle Dill, Executive Director, CNYPC
William Vertoske, Deputy Director of CBO, CNYPC
Meaghan Bernstein, Advocacy Letter Coordinator, CNYPC