



**Commission of
Correction**

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

In the Matter of the Death of

**Jeffrey Joyes,
an incarcerated individual of the
Niagara County Jail**

January 25, 2023

**To: Sheriff Michael J. Filicetti
Niagara County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 496
5526 Niagara Street Ext.
Lockport, New York 14095**

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 Jeffrey Joyes who died on October 23, 2021, as a result of circumstances which occurred while an incarcerated individual in the custody of the Niagara County Sheriff at the Niagara County Jail, the Commission has determined that the following final report be issued.

FINDINGS:

1. Jeffrey Joyes was a 50-year-old male who died on 10/23/21 from blunt impact injuries of the head due to a suicidal jump while in the custody of the Niagara County Sheriff at the Niagara County Jail. Joyes jumped to his death from the mezzanine level of his housing unit to the floor headfirst without any warning or indication of suicidal intentions.
2. Joyes was incarcerated by the United States Marshalls and held in the Niagara CJ for receiving child pornography and crossing state lines with a minor. The victim was 17 years old and Joyes had exchanged photos via a KIK application on social media. Joyes was awaiting further court appearances without a scheduled court date at the time of the terminal event.
3. [REDACTED]
4. On 2/23/21, Joyes arrived at the Niagara County Jail. [REDACTED]
5. [REDACTED]
6. [REDACTED]
7. [REDACTED]

8. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

9. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

10. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

11. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

12. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

13. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

14. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

15. [REDACTED].

16. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

17. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

18. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

19. [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

20. [REDACTED]

21. [REDACTED]

22. [REDACTED]

23. [REDACTED]

24. On 10/23/21, Joyes exited his cell at approximately 10:51 a.m. and tossed something into cell 34. Joyes climbed up on the railing of the mezzanine level in the housing unit. CO S. heard other incarcerated individuals (II) yell "NO!". CO S. looked up to the mezzanine and saw Joyes jump headfirst to the concrete floor. CO S. immediately called for a medical response. Medical and security staff responded [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] EMS was activated and [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]. The investigation revealed that the railing Joyes jumped from to the floor was measured to be 12 feet 6 inches.

25. Interviews with other incarcerated individuals and an investigation revealed that Joyes threw a note in another cell that stated to apologize to "[REDACTED] Joyes had written that he had nothing to go back to as his sister sold his house and car. The morning of the terminal event, Joyes would not open his door and kept saying to the other IIs "please go, please". Joyes mouthed through the window, "I have to leave." Another II usually gave Joyes his cereal every day and that day Joyes refused it. Joyes journaled daily and often made comments that he needed to get out of jail and talked about what he did all day. On day 40, Joyes wrote " I need to get the fuck out of here, I can't deal with it anymore." On day 242, Joyes wrote "I am sorry but things have gotten too bad to deal with, I'm sorry I can't keep my promises but you are an amazing person and will have a wonderful life." This was Joyes's last journal entry.

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 January 25, 2023

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas J. Loughren", written over a horizontal line.

Thomas J. Loughren
Commissioner & Chair
Medical Review Board

TJL:DC:jdb
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