



**Commission of  
Correction**

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

**In the Matter of the Death of**

**Melanie Liverpool (19G0289),  
an incarcerated individual of the  
Bedford Hills Correctional Facility**

**June 28, 2022**

**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 Melanie Liverpool who died on May 8, 2019, while an incarcerated individual in the custody of the NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, the Commission has determined that the following final report be issued.

FINDINGS:

1. Melanie Liverpool was a 33-year-old female who died on 5/8/19 from a suicidal hanging while in the custody of the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (NYS DOCCS) at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility (CF). An investigation by DOCCS Office of Special Investigations (OSI) identified that there was a failure of the Corrections Officer (CO) to perform proper security rounds and counts thus failing to discover that Liverpool had committed suicide in a shower area. Liverpool had an extraordinary mental health history and notorious crime of pushing a woman onto the subway tracks in New York City in 2016 causing the woman's death.
2. Liverpool was serving 20 years to life for Murder 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree. On 11/7/16, in New York, NY while standing on a train platform, Liverpool pushed a female victim in front of a train, as the train was pulling into the train station. The victim fell onto the tracks and was struck by the train. The victim died as a result of the train severing the body in half. Liverpool walked away from the scene. Liverpool stated that the victim was pushed in front of the train, because Liverpool thought she was "going to hell".
3. [REDACTED]
4. In November 2016, Liverpool was received at the New York City Department of Corrections (NYC DOC). [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5.

[REDACTED]

6.

On 4/17/19, Liverpool was received at Bedford Hills CF. [REDACTED]

7.

[REDACTED]

8.

[REDACTED]

9.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

10.

[REDACTED]

11.

[REDACTED]

12.

[REDACTED]

13.

[REDACTED]

14.

[REDACTED]

15. [REDACTED]
16. [REDACTED]
17. On 5/8/19 at 11:00 p.m., CO Z. assumed the post on 121A. CO Z. noted in the logbook that there was no body camera available. At 11:00 p.m. and 11:30 p.m., CO Z. documented in the housing logbook that rounds were made, and the area was secure. At 12:00 a.m., CO Z. documented that a count was completed with a total of 46 incarcerated individuals (II) noted. At 12:05 a.m., CO P. was on the housing unit and made rounds. At 12:20 a.m., CO Z. documented rounds being made and the area secure. At 12:50 a.m., CO P. documented rounds being made. At 1:20 a.m., CO Z. noted that rounds were made and that the area was secure. At 2:00 a.m., CO Z. noted a count was performed with 46 individuals present. At 2:30 a.m., Lt. W. noted unannounced rounds were made. At 2:40 a.m., CO Z. noted rounds were made and the area secure. At 3:00 a.m., CO Z. noted in the logbook that a medical emergency was called for Liverpool 121A-8T. There was no indication in the logbook that the emergency occurred in the shower.
18. On 5/8/19 at approximately 2:51 a.m., CO Z. awoke the Ramadan II for services and II B. went into the shower area. II B. notified CO Z. that Liverpool needed assistance in the shower area. CO Z. responded and found Liverpool hanging in shower area of Housing Unit 121A with garrote from a bed sheet around her neck affixed to the #3 shower stall curtain rod. CO Z. untied the garrote and CO P. and CO Z. began CPR. CO R. responded and assisted with compressions. The AED was applied at approximately 3:00 a.m. but no was shock advised and CPR was continued. At 3:04 a.m., RN [REDACTED] and RN [REDACTED] arrived. At [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] At 3:21 a.m., Westchester EMS arrived and assumed care. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
19. A review of the video footage revealed that at 11:49 p.m., Liverpool entered the bathroom area of Unit 121A. At 11:51 p.m., Liverpool was seen entering the shower stall area. Liverpool was not seen leaving this area again.
20. A suicide note written by Liverpool was found in her living area. Liverpool indicated the world would end soon and there was no purpose in living any longer or doing prison time. The second suicide note claimed innocence and the victim knew this would happen

and that was why the victim left the house to go the train station.

21. Per the Office of Special Investigations report, Officer Z. did not conduct and report an accurate count at 12:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m. Officer Z. received discipline for his conduct entailing a suspension from May 28, 2019 through August 27, 2019 in addition to being required to serve a one-year disciplinary evaluation period for the same or similar misconduct.

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, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, in the City of Albany, New York 12210 on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022.



Thomas J. Loughren  
Commissioner & Chair  
Medical Review Board

TJL:DC:jdb  
2019-M-0043  
June 2022

cc: Dr. Carol Moores, Acting Deputy Commissioner, Chief Medical Officer  
Bryan Hilton, Assistant Commissioner for Mental Health  
Superintendent Eileen Russell, Bedford Hills 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