



**Commission of
Correction**

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

In the Matter of the Death of

**Nicholas Cammarata,
an incarcerated individual of the
NYPD 106th Precinct**

September 27, 2022

**To: Commissioner Keechant L. Sewell
NYC Police Department
1 Police Plaza
New York, New York 10038**

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 Nicholas Cammarata who died on April 30, 2020, as a result of circumstances which occurred while an incarcerated individual in the custody of the New York Police Department, the Commission has determined that the following final report be issued.

FINDINGS:

1. Nicholas Cammarata was a 58-year-old male who died on 4/30/20 from an Acute Fentanyl Overdose while in the custody of the New York City Police Department at the 106th Precinct.
2. There was no medical and mental health history available for Cammarata.
3. Cammarata was awaiting arraignment on charges stemming from a one car motor vehicle accident on 4/30/20. Cammarata was found unresponsive in the vehicle and was charged with Operating a Motor Vehicle Impaired by Drugs in the First Degree.
4. On 4/30/20 at 2:03 p.m., a 911 call was received regarding a motor vehicle accident. At 2:06 p.m., Police Officer A.W. and Police Officer R.P. arrived on the scene and observed a brown Chevrolet Blazer, that had struck a fire hydrant. Cammarata, who was the operator of the vehicle, was unconscious and seated in the driver's seat of the vehicle. The 911 caller had turned off the vehicle's engine prior to police arrival. Cammarata was removed from the vehicle and [REDACTED]. At 2:10 p.m., Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel arrived [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]. As EMS was rendering aid, Police Officer A.W. heard Cammarata inform the paramedics that he had taken heroin. At 2:33 p.m., Cammarata was transported from the scene to Jamaica Hospital. Cammarata [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was placed under arrest inside Jamaica Hospital and charged with operating a motor vehicle while impaired by drugs. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED].
5. On 4/30/20, Cammarata was taken to the 106th Precinct at 7:19 p.m. Cammarata was placed on the bench outside of the holding cells at 7:22 p.m. due to the fact that he was attired in a hospital gown that had strings. Cammarata was given a tee-shirt to wear with his cargo pants and was placed in the holding cells at 8:12 p.m. Cammarata remained in the holding cells and was observed on the 106th Precinct CCTV sitting and standing without assistance as he waited in the cell.
6. On 4/30/20, Officer W. noted on the prisoner holding pen roster that there was supervision documented for Cammarata at 7:30 p.m., 8:00 p.m., 8:30 p.m., and 9:00 p.m.

7. On 4/30/20 at 8:37 p.m., Cammarata was observed sitting on the floor in the cell and then slumping over on his side on the floor. At 9:09 p.m., Police Officer N.C. entered the arrest processing area and conversed with another detainee, as Cammarata remained lying on the floor. Police Officer N.C. stated in his official Department interview that he believed Cammarata was sleeping. At 9:22 p.m., Police Officer S.S. and Police Officer A.M. entered the arrest processing area to transport the three prisoners to Central Booking. They observed Cammarata lying on his side and believed he was asleep. When the officers attempted to wake him, Cammarata did not respond. Police Officer S.S. attempted to arouse Cammarata by nudging his legs, however; Cammarata remained unresponsive. Police Officer S.S. determined that this was a medical emergency and requested assistance from other uniformed members present in the precinct. Police Officer M.H. entered the arrest processing area and assisted in rendering aid to Cammarata. Police Officer S.S. performed Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Police Officer M.H. applied the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to Cammarata. After activating the AED, "no shock" was advised by the defibrillator. Additional uniformed members also entered the area and assisted in life saving measures. At 9:24 p.m., an ambulance was requested via communications to respond to the 106th Precinct and arrived at 9:34 p.m. [REDACTED]

ACTIONS REQUIRED:

That this case be closed as accidental overdose

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 27th day of September 2022.


Thomas J. Loughren
Commissioner & Chair
Medical Review Board

TJL:DC:jbd:
2020-M-0053
September 2022

cc: Inspector Anthony S. Marino,
Force Investigations Unit