



**Commission of  
Correction**

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

**In the Matter of the Death of**

**Isaabdul Karim (aka Isa Abdul Karim),  
an incarcerated individual of the  
North Infirmary Command**

**December 20, 2023**

**To: Commissioner Lynelle Maginley-Liddie  
NYC Department of Correction  
75-20 Astoria Blvd., Suite 100  
East Elmhurst, NY 11370**

**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 Isaabdul Karim who died on September 19, 2021, as result of circumstances which occurred while an incarcerated individual in the custody of the New York City Department of Correction, the Commission has determined that the following final report be issued.

FINDINGS:

1. Isaabdul Karim was a 41-year-old male who died on 9/19/21 due to a Pulmonary emboli and COVID-19 while in the custody of the New York City Department of Corrections (NYC DOC) at the North Infirmery Command (NIC).
2. Karim was born in Brooklyn, New York. He was survived by his siblings. Karim had an 8<sup>th</sup> grade education and was unemployed. There was no further demographic or social history available to the Commission pertaining to Karim.
3. [REDACTED]
4. [REDACTED]
5. Karim's criminal history began with the instant offense that took place on 11/14/15 in New York City. Karim was arrested by the New York City Police Department (NYPD) and charged with Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance 5<sup>h</sup> Degree and Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance 5<sup>th</sup> Degree. Karim went to trial and was found guilty of Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree. Karim was sentenced to serve 2 ½ years in New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (NYS DOCCS). Karim was released to Parole Supervision from NYS DOCCS Midstate Correctional Facility on 6/14/18.
6. On 8/18/21 at 7:39 p.m., Karim was admitted into NYC DOC Otis Bantum Correctional Facility (OBCC) on a Parole Violation. Karim scored a zero on the Suicide Prevention Screening. Documentation on the Arraignment and Classification Risk Screening Form identified that Karim was wheelchair bound.
7. [REDACTED]

8.

[REDACTED]

9.

[REDACTED]

10.

[REDACTED]

11.

[REDACTED]

12.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

13. [REDACTED]

14. On 8/25/21 at 2:39 a.m., Karim was transferred from OBCC reception to West Facility (WF) CDU # 12 [REDACTED]

15. [REDACTED]

16. [REDACTED]

17. [REDACTED]

18. [REDACTED]

19. [REDACTED]

20. [REDACTED]



- 29. [Redacted]
- 30. [Redacted]
- 31. [Redacted]
- 32. [Redacted]
- 33. [Redacted]
- 34. [Redacted]
- 35. [Redacted]
- 36. [Redacted]
- 37. [Redacted]
- 38. [Redacted]
- 39. [Redacted]
- 40. [Redacted]
- 41. [Redacted]

42.

[Redacted]

43.

[Redacted]

44.

[Redacted]

45.

[Redacted]

46.

[Redacted]

47.

[Redacted]

48.

[Redacted]





- [REDACTED]
- 56. [REDACTED]
- 57. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- 58. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- 59. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- 60. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
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- 61. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- 62. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- 63. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- 64. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

65.

[REDACTED]

66.

[REDACTED]

67.

On 9/19/21 at 6:36 p.m. per a review of the video recording of NIC Dorm 3 by Commission staff, Karim was wheeled by an incarcerated individual (II) from a neighboring II's bed to the side of his bed. Karim removed his top layer of pants that he was wearing while sitting in the wheelchair, folded the pants, and then placed the pants under his mattress.

68.

On 9/19/21 at 6:37 p.m., per a review of video recording of NIC Dorm 3 by Commission staff, Karim was observed wheeling himself to the water fountain and taking a drink. The video recording ended after Karim took a drink of water and started to wheel himself away from the drinking fountain.

69.

Per the NYC DOC Callout Report, on 9/19/21 at approximately 6:38 p.m., Karim reported to Correction Officer (CO) Q.P. that he did not feel well, and then Karim slumped over in his wheelchair. CO Q.P. immediately activated a medical emergency.

70.

[REDACTED]

71.

ACTIONS REQUIRED:

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION:

The Commissioner shall conduct an investigation into why Karim's self-carry medications were not removed from his cell on 9/7/21 as ordered by Urgicare Dr. [REDACTED]

A report of the findings and any corrective actions taken shall be provided to the Medical Review Board upon completion.

*In a response dated 11/21/23 to the Commission's preliminary report, NYC DOC indicated that the Investigation Division's Closing Report did not reveal that Correctional Health Services staff had requested Department staff to confiscate Isaabdul Karim's self-carry medications. Without additional information pertaining to said communication with DOC, the Department has insufficient information to make a determination as to why Karim's self-carry medications were not removed from his cell. The Commission finds response unacceptable as NYC DOC and CHS need to work collaboratively to address these findings which will be further reviewed by the Commission at a later date.*

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 20<sup>h</sup> day of December, 2023.



Allen Riley  
Chairman  
Commission of Correction

AR:BB:vc  
2021-M-0127  
December 20, 2023

cc: Deputy Commissioner of Legal Matters/General Counsel  
Deputy Commissioner of Security Operations  
Deputy Commissioner of Health Affairs  
Director of Compliance  
Patricia Yang, DrPH, Senior Vice President  
Correctional Health Services  
Bipin Subedi, MD, Chief Medical Officer  
Correctional Health Services  
Executive Director  
NYC Board of Correction