



**Commission of  
Correction**

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

**In the Matter of the Death of**

**Anthony Rivaldo (12B1986)  
an incarcerated individual of the  
Great Meadow Correctional Facility**

**September 25, 2024**

**To: Honorable Daniel F. Martuscello, III  
Commissioner  
NYS Department of Corrections  
And Community Supervision  
The Harriman State Campus  
1220 Washington Avenue  
Albany, New York 12226**

**Allen Riley**  
*Chairman*

**Yolanda Canty**  
*Commissioner*

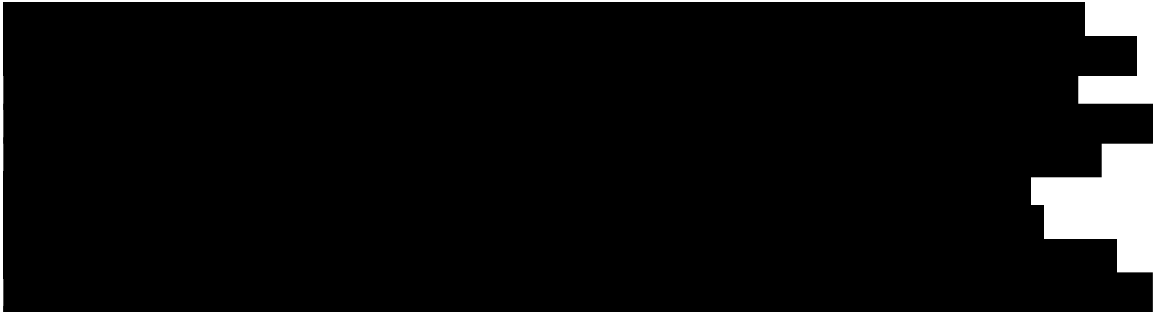
**Elizabeth Gaynes**  
*Commissioner*

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 Anthony Rivaldo, who died on January 13, 2022, while an incarcerated individual in the custody of the NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision at the Great Meadow Correctional Facility, the Commission has determined that the following final report be issued.

FINDINGS:

1. Anthony Rivaldo was a 42-year-old male who died on 1/13/22 from asphyxia due to suicidal hanging while in the custody of the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (NYS DOCCS) at the Great Meadow Correctional Facility (CF). An investigation by DOCCS Office of Special Investigations (OSI) determined that the housing officer failed to conduct supervisory tours and the master count prior to the terminal event.

2.  In the instant offense, in 2012, Rivaldo broke into a residence and was confronted by a male victim and engaged in a physical altercation. The police responded and were passed by Rivaldo as he was leaving the residence. Rivaldo failed to stop and led police on a high-speed pursuit. Rivaldo attempted to hit the officers ultimately forcing the officer to veer onto the curb to avoid a head on collision. Rivaldo eventually stopped after a second high speed pursuit and his identity was determined as was the stolen status of the vehicle that he was driving. Rivaldo was convicted of Burglary 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree and sentenced to 10 years in NYS DOCCS.

3. 

4. In 2012, Rivaldo was received at Elmira CF. On 12/18/20, Rivaldo transferred to Great Meadow CF from Upstate CF.

5. 

6. [REDACTED]

7. [REDACTED]

8. [REDACTED]

9. [REDACTED]

10. [REDACTED]

11. [REDACTED]

12. On 11/1/21, per a NYS DOCCS receipt, Rivaldo had an electronic transfer of \$200. A handwritten note on the receipt stated "How many bricks with you give me for a \$100 mail out. Since I have to wait ill do 12 for a cash app its 14. Let me know."

13. [REDACTED]

14. On 1/8/22, Rivaldo had an unsent email to his mother. The email stated "one day I could be the man to change the world n the next I wanna commit suicide so I wont have to worry about coming back to prison n suffering for the rest of my life. My mind is so fucked up n it really scares me bc I don't know how to change my thoughts or say no to whatever I am thinking. How can there be a god that treats humans how we are suffering in these days? Is god is so good then y does evil control the world? Y do kids die young?" There was also an undated piece of paper found in Rivaldo's cell that stated "But.. where N when will it end. Where do we go from here? Will we c each other again after we r dead n gone."

15. On 1/13/22 at 8:05 a.m., Corrections Officer (CO) S.H. and CO J.H. were walking on C-2 company to release the block for breakfast. When they arrived at C-2-26, CO S.H. noted that Rivaldo was hanging from the gate with a sheet around his neck. CO J.H. activated a medical emergency and CO S.H. retrieved the cut down tool. Rivaldo's cell was opened and Rivaldo was cut down and placed on the floor. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) was initiated. Narcan was administered without the desired effect. The Automated External Defibrillator (AED) was applied and at 8:10 a.m., Emergency

Medical Services (EMS) was activated. Medical staff arrived [REDACTED]

16. The DOCCS Office of Special Investigations investigated Rivaldo's death. Their investigation revealed that on 1/13/22, the 6:00 a.m. master count was not completed by CO M.C. and the 7:00 a.m. round was not completed. The report noted that C Company was short an officer and therefore, the 7:00 a.m. rounds were not completed.
17. On 3/1/22, CO M.C. was suspended from duty per the Bureau of Labor Relations (BLR) and was issued a Notice of Discipline (NOD) for the following charges:
1. CO M.C. failed to perform required security rounds (Master Counts) on 2 Company, 3 Company, and 4 Company for the 6:00 a.m. round on the following dates: January 2, 2022; January 5, 2022; January 7, 2022; January 11, 2022; January 13, 2022.
  2. CO M.C. completed the count slips before conducting the actual 6:00 a.m. master count on 2 Company, 3 Company, and 4 Company for the 6:00 a.m. round on the following dates: January 2, 2022; January 5, 2022; January 7, 2022; January 11, 2022; January 13, 2022.
  3. CO M.C. submitted the count slips for the 6:00 a.m. count on 2 Company, 3 Company, and 4 Company for the 6:00 a.m. rounds, knowing he failed to complete the counts on the following dates: January 2, 2022; January 5, 2022; January 7, 2022; January 11, 2022; January 13, 2022.
- CO M.C. was suspended for six months and served a 24 month disciplinary evaluation period.
18. Rivaldo had a scheduled release date of 2/28/22.

ACTIONS REQUIRED:

That this case be closed as a suicide.

WITNESS, HONORABLE YOLANDA CANTY, 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 25<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024.



Yolanda Canty  
Commissioner  
Commission of Correction

YC:DC:vc  
2022-M-0005  
September 25, 2024

cc: Dr. Carol Moores, Chief Medical Officer  
James Donahue, Associate Commissioner of Mental Health  
Superintendent Christopher Collins, Great Meadow 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