



**Commission of
Correction**

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

In the Matter of the Death of

**Michael Vetrano (22A0004),
an incarcerated individual of the
Great Meadow Correctional Facility**

September 24, 2025

**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 Michael Vetrano, who died on December 10, 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. Michael Vetrano was a 42-year-old male who died on 12/10/22 from a suicidal hanging while in the custody of the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (NYS DOCCS) at Great Meadow Correctional Facility (CF)¹. Vetrano had transferred to Great Meadow CF on 11/28/22 for Involuntary Protective Custody with a pending transfer to Greene CF.

2. [REDACTED]

In the instant offense, on 8/2/21, Vetrano violated an order of protection by having contact and harassing the protected party. On 12/14/21, Vetrano was sentenced to 18 months to three years in NYS DOCCS.

3. [REDACTED]

4. On 1/4/22, Vetrano was received at Downstate CF [REDACTED]

5. [REDACTED]

6. On 1/21/22, Vetrano transferred to Bare Hill CF. [REDACTED]

7. [REDACTED]

8. [REDACTED]

9. [REDACTED]

10. [REDACTED]

11. [REDACTED]

12. [REDACTED]

13. [REDACTED]

14. [REDACTED]

15. [REDACTED]

16. [REDACTED]

17. On 6/30/22, Vetrano was transferred to Washington CF. [REDACTED]

18. [REDACTED]

19. [REDACTED]

20. [REDACTED]

21. [REDACTED]

22. [REDACTED]

23. [REDACTED]

24. [REDACTED]

25. [REDACTED]

26. [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
27. [REDACTED]
28. [REDACTED]
29. [REDACTED]
30. [REDACTED]
31. [REDACTED]
32. [REDACTED]
33. On 11/27/22, DOCCS staff were notified by a confidential informant that Vetrano was being targeted by the Bloods and was going to be assaulted. Vetrano was interviewed by the sergeant and signed a refusal for protective custody. On 11/28/22, the sergeant was again notified that Vetrano was going to be attacked. Vetrano was interviewed again but refused protective custody. The sergeant noted that the informant was reliable in the past and for the safety of Vetrano and the facility, Vetrano was placed in Involuntary Protective Custody (IPC). Vetrano received a Tier III infraction for IPC and was confined. Vetrano's sanctions included IPC confinement for 12 days. Vetrano was transferred to Great Meadow CF with a pending transfer to Greene CF.
34. [REDACTED]
35. [REDACTED]
36. On 12/1/22, Vetrano had a disciplinary hearing for IPC and was noted to require IPC status. Vetrano had an active transfer pending to Greene CF.
37. On 12/10/22, Correction Officer (CO) H.S. was assigned to housing area D2. At 6:36 p.m., while CO H.S. escorted the medication nurse, Vetrano yelled "D-2-10". CO H.S. asked what he needed and if he got medications. Vetrano stated, "No I have no problems with you kid." Vetrano walked to the back of his cell. While leaving the company, the CO heard Vetrano yelling, "D-2-10 OSI".

38. On 12/10/22 at approximately 9:25 p.m., CO C.J. was performing the facility count on D2 block and found Vetrano sitting on floor in cell 10 with his head leaned forward and an electrical cord tied around his neck and to the cell bars. A medical response was called. CO F.I. and CO M.H. arrived. CO M.H. unwrapped the cord from Vetrano's neck. Officers initiated Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Sergeant (Sgt.) K.L. applied the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) with no shock advised. Registered Nurse (RN) [REDACTED] arrived [REDACTED]

39. The DOCCS Office of Special Investigations (OSI) completed an investigation into the death of Vetrano. Their report revealed that there was a deficiency in security rounds. CO M.S. failed to conduct at least hourly security rounds on the D2-gallery. A review of the fixed video recording from the D-2 gallery revealed that no security rounds were conducted from 6:36 p.m. to 9:25 p.m. as directed by the D-2 Block Security Post Orders and Directive 4945 Incarcerated Individual Counts. There was no body worn camera footage available for this event. Additionally, a review of the D-Block logbook from 12/10/22, Tour 2 and Tour 3, revealed that CO M.S. failed to follow Directive 4091, Section III, Letter J, when he did not specifically document the gallery in which his rounds were made and the name of the staff member who conducted the rounds of the galleries on D-block. This finding was referred to the Bureau of Labor Relations. On 12/22/23, CO M.S. was placed on Administrative Leave by the Bureau of Labor Relations. He later returned to work and was formally counseled. OSI found evidence to substantiate that on 12/10/22, security and responding medical staff moved Vetrano off from the company thus interrupting CPR from 9:31 p.m. to approximately 9:34 p.m., when Vetrano arrived in the facility emergency room. This conduct violated DOCCS Directive 4059 response to Health Care Emergencies. Health Services has conducted a retraining on Directive 4059 with all involved staff.

¹Great Meadow CF closed as of November 2024.

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, 12th Floor, in the City of Albany, New York 12210 on this 24th day of September 2025.



Yolanda Canty
Commissioner
Commission of Correction

YC:DC:vc
2022-M-0144
September 24, 2025

cc: Dr. Carol Moores, Chief Medical Officer
James Donahue, Associate Commissioner of Mental Health
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