



**NEW YORK CITY
BOARD OF CORRECTION**

December 16, 2020 PUBLIC MEETING¹ MINUTES

ATTENDEES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Stanley Richards, Vice-Chair
Robert L. Cohen, M.D., Member
Felipe Franco, Member
James Perrino, Member
Michael J. Regan, Member
Steven M. Safyer, M.D., Member

Margaret Egan, Executive Director

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jennifer Jones Austin, Esq., Chair
Jacqueline Sherman, Esq., Member

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Cynthia Brann, Commissioner
Hazel Jennings, Chief of Department
Brenda Cooke, Chief of Staff
Dana Wax, Deputy Chief of Staff
Timothy Farrell, Senior Deputy Commissioner
Heidi Grossman, Deputy Commissioner for Legal Matters/General Counsel
Judy Beale, Deputy Commissioner of Programs and Community Partnerships
Becky Scott, Bureau Chief
Steven Kaiser, Executive Director of Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs
James Boyd, Assistant Commissioner of Internal Communications
Julia Szendro, Policy Analyst
Joseph Caputo, Warden
Danielle De Souza, Press Officer

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ashaki Antoine, Correction Officers' Benevolent Association (COBA)
Joseph Thomas, NY City Hall
Rachel Baker, NY City Hall
Sara Newman, NYC Council

¹ Due to the coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was conducted virtually.

Jennifer Parish, Urban Justice Center (UJC)
Daniele Gerard, Children's Rights
Mary Lynne Werlwas, Legal Aid Society Prisoners' Rights Project (LAS)
Kayla Simpson, LAS
Nancy Ginsburg, LAS
Simone Spirig, Brooklyn Defender Services (BDS)
Irene Cedano, BDS
Kelsey De Avila, BDS
Tahanee Dunn, Bronx Defenders
Martha Grieco, Bronx Defenders
Brad Maurer, NY County Defender Services
Scott Paltrowitz, HALT Solitary Campaign
Rosa Goldensohn, The CITY
Trevor Bolden, The Doctors Council
Five Mualimm-ak, Incarcerated Nation Network
Reggie Miller, The Office of the Appellate Defender

Introduction

Vice-Chair Richards explained that today's special public meeting was being held to discuss the Department's Variance Request to co-mingle 19-21-year-olds with adults (this variance failed to pass in November, with seven votes in opposition and only one vote in favor). See this portion of the video recording [here](#).

Board Member Cohen's Remarks Re COVID-19 in the Jails

Dr. Cohen presented his remarks on COVID-19 in the jails. See this portion of the video recording [here](#). See Commissioner Brann's response to Dr. Cohen's concerns, as well as additional Board discussion from Vice-Chair Richards and Dr. Safyer [here](#).

Public Comment on Variance Request

The Board heard public comment on the Department's Co-Mingling Variance Request from Daniele Gerard (Children's Rights), Five Mualimm-ak (Incarcerated Nation Network), Mary Lynne Werlwas (LAS), Ashaki Antoine (COBA), and Jennifer Parish (UJC).

The public comments on the variance request are available [here](#).

Co-Mingling Variance Request

► Introduction

Vice-Chair Richards introduced DOC's one-month Variance Request regarding Co-Mingling. See this portion of the video recording [here](#).

► DOC Presentation

Senior Deputy Commissioner Timothy Farrell, Chief of Department Hazel Jennings, and Deputy Commissioner of Programs and Community Partnerships Judy Beale, presented information on DOC's Co-Mingling Variance Request. See this portion of the video recording [here](#).

► Board Discussion

Board discussion on the variance request, including the Department's response, is available [here](#).

► **Board Vote on Variance**

ED Egan read out loud the eleven proposed conditions to the variance.

Vice-Chair Richards called for a motion and conducted a roll call vote on the eleven proposed conditions. The Board approved the proposed conditions with five votes in favor (Vice-Chair Richards and Members Franco, Perrino, Regan, and Safyer) and one vote in opposition (Member Cohen).

Vice-Chair Richards called for a motion to vote on the one-month variance with conditions. After the item was moved and seconded, the Board approved the variance with conditions, with five votes in favor (Vice-Chair Richards and Members Franco, Perrino, Regan, and Safyer) and one vote in opposition (Member Cohen).

See the Board's vote on the variance and the conditions [here](#). The final record of variance is published [here](#).

Public Comment

The Board heard public comment from Five Mualimm-ak (Incarcerated Nation Network), Kayla Simpson (LAS), Ashaki Antoine (COBA), Brad Maurer (NY County Defender Services), and Kelsey De Avila (BDS).

The public comments portion of this video recording is available [here](#).