



**Justice Center for the
Protection of People
with Special Needs**

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

MARIA LISI-MURRAY, ESQ.
Acting Executive Director

August 14, 2024

Dr. Li-Wen Lee
Associate Commissioner
Division of Forensic Services
NYS Office of Mental Health
44 Holland Avenue
Albany, NY 12229

Jamie Donahue
Associate Commissioner
NYS Department of Corrections
and Community Supervision
The Harriman State Campus-Building 2
1220 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12226-2050

Dear Dr. Lee and Associate Commissioner Donahue:

Thank you for your responses to the Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs (the Justice Center) review of the programs, treatment, and conditions of confinement for incarcerated individuals placed in segregated confinement in the Upstate Correctional Facility (CF).

Based upon the responses from the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) and the Office of Mental Health (OMH), the Justice Center considers this report to be final.¹

Please direct any correspondence or concerns related to this review to me at davin.robinson@justicecenter.ny.gov. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Davin Robinson".

Davin Robinson
Deputy Director, Outreach, Prevention and Support

¹ DOCCS response dated April 15, 2024, and OMH response dated April 25, 2024
161 Delaware Avenue – Delmar, New York 12054 | 518-549-0200 | www.justicecenter.ny.gov

Cc: Maria Lisi-Murray, Acting Executive Director, Justice Center
Robert Miller, Executive Deputy Director, Justice Center
Melissa Finn, Director, Forensics
Angelina LoCascio, Supervising Facility Review Specialist, Forensics
Christine Rouse, Facility Review Specialist, Forensics
Dr. Anne Sullivan, M.D., Commissioner, OMH
Danielle Dill, Executive Director, CNYPC
William Vertoske, Deputy Director Psychiatric Center, Corrections-Based Operations
Lisa Murphy, Director of Quality Management, OMH
Maureen Morrison, Director of Suicide Prevention, OMH
Meaghan Bernstein, Advocacy Letter Coordinator, OMH
Daniel Martuscello, Commissioner, DOCCS



**Upstate Correctional Facility
Humane Alternatives to Long-Term (HALT) Solitary Confinement Act
Final Compliance and Quality of Care Review
JC# [REDACTED]**

On April 17, 2023, and April 18, 2023, the Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs (the Justice Center) conducted a site visit at the Upstate Correctional Facility (CF) to review the programs, treatment, and conditions of confinement for incarcerated individuals placed in segregated confinement in this facility. The Justice Center also assessed compliance with the implementation of the Humane Alternatives to Long Term Solitary Confinement (HALT) Act that went into effect on March 31, 2022.¹

The Justice Center reviewed policies and practices concerning:

- a) Placement of persons in segregated confinement and residential rehabilitation units (RRU).
- b) Placement and treatment of persons meeting the “special population” definition in the HALT Act².
- c) Length of time spent in segregated confinement or residential rehabilitation units.
- d) Hearings and procedures.
- e) Assessment and rehabilitation plans, procedures, and discharge determinations.

The Justice Center toured both the Special Housing Unit (SHU) and the Residential Rehabilitation Unit (RRU) and spoke cell side with 872 individuals. To complete a thorough evaluation, Justice Center staff requested private interviews; 27 individuals accepted. The interviews were conducted in both a private room and conducted in private. In addition, all individuals in SHU and RRU were given a programming and recreation survey and the Justice Center received 253 responses to the survey.

In addition to reviewing the Office of Mental Health (OMH) clinical case records and the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) guidance records, movement logs, and programming logs, the Justice Center also requested any Exceptional Circumstances documentation for a period of six months.³ The Justice

¹ Correction Law §§137(6)(d)(e) (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m), (n), and (o) and §§138 (7), 401.

² Section 2 of the Correction Law, subdivision 33 defines Special Population as any person twenty-one years of age or younger; fifty-five years or older; with a disability; pregnant, in the first 8 weeks of post-partum recovery or caring for a child in a correctional facility.

³ October 1, 2022 to April 18, 2023.

Center's review found that there were no incarcerated individuals that were placed on exceptional circumstances during this review.

Justice Center Findings

Treatment and Conditions:

1. Incarcerated individuals reported using the tablet and participating in programming.

The Justice Center found that many of the incarcerated individuals would go to out of cell programming and use the tablet. Classrooms for programming were in two areas, the basement and upstairs portion of the building. The individuals were seated in Reduced Security Therapy and Recreation Tables (RESTART) chairs and were not required to be handcuffed or shackled. The Justice Center's private interviews found that some individuals felt the unit was operating in a way that was therapeutic and rehabilitative, where others did not feel the same way.

The Justice Center requested the SHU and RRU programming attendance for the month of February 2024. According to the documentation provided, no one from the SHU attended programming and 336 individuals accepted programming in the RRU throughout February 2024.

Recommendation:

Based on the private interviews that were conducted on-site, the incarcerated individuals verbalized that they would like to see more of the following programs: academic/school programs, cell study, transitional services (Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III), mental health, coping skills, social skills, vocational, and having a book club. The Justice Center recommends and encourages DOCCS to create more incentives to encourage more participation in both the SHU and RRU with the incarcerated individuals.

2. Many incarcerated individuals responding to the Justice Center survey reported that programming was not offered as required under the HALT Act.

Programming

According to the survey responses received, 196 individuals reported that they are offered programming two to three days a week and 118 individuals reported they are offered programming daily. Of the individuals that attended programming, 91 found it helpful and 92 did not find it helpful. The reasons for being helpful included; a chance to get out of the cell and talk with other people, conducts good energy/helps to get back on track to get back out to general population, and the ability to talk about problems and get professional advice. Some of the reasons individuals did not find it helpful included; the antiquated curriculum does not offer any realistic rehabilitation, Friday movies are the same

three movies (Tuskegee Airmen, Daddy Day Care, Apollo 13), and would like more instruction of what needs to be known about transitioning back into society, housing & programs.

Recreation

222 incarcerated individuals provided information related to recreation at the Upstate CF. All individuals indicated that they are offered recreation every day. 73 individuals reported congregate recreation or a combination of congregate and recreation by themselves. 149 individuals reported that all recreation occurs alone.

Recommendation:

Although some incarcerated individuals report that they attend programming at the Upstate CF, facility staff should actively encourage more participation in daily out of cell programming. This may require providing meaningful incentives to incarcerated individuals, such as time cuts. In addition, the Justice Center also encourages DOCCS to explore recreational opportunities that would provide a more congregate setting than people in separate recreation pens.

Special Populations:

3. Incarcerated individual 1, a Mental Health Service Level (MHSL) 2, was being housed in the RRU at the Upstate CF, a Level 3 facility. ⁴

Incarcerated Individual 1, was previously a MHSL 3 with a primary diagnosis of adjustment disorder with decreased mood and anti-social personality disorder. On November 29, 2022, the individual was transferred to the infirmary for a 1:1 watch after they reported suicidal ideations. They were released the same day. Following that admission, they continued to report increased anxiety that would lead to chest discomfort and “conflicting thoughts”. On February 22, 2023, the individual’s MHSL was changed to a 2 and the progress note indicated that they would be “transferred to a suitable facility”. They were still housed at the Upstate CF at the time of the Justice Center’s site visit in April.

Request:

The Justice Center requests an explanation as to why incarcerated individual 1, a MHSL 2, continued to be housed in a Level 3 facility and the date that they transferred to an appropriate placement for their mental health needs. In addition, please provide their current MHSL, housing status, current confinement sanctions, any additional misbehavior reports or tickets, and the number of times the individual was transferred to the RCTP.

⁴ [REDACTED] (DIN# [REDACTED]) is hereinafter referred to as Incarcerated Individual 1.

4. Incarcerated individual 2, a MHSL 3, had extensive sanctions including segregated confinement in the RRU, loss of packages, loss of commissary and loss of static tablet.⁵

According to the documentation provided to the Justice Center, incarcerated individual 2 had received multiple tier 2 and tier 3 tickets resulting in sanctions until April 2024. This included segregated confinement through December 25, 2023, loss of packages until April 23, 2024, loss of commissary through March 24, 2024, and the loss of the static tablet through December 28, 2023. The incidents included setting fire to their cell, throwing feces at corrections officers, destroying state property, refusing to return food trays, refusing to hand over the tablet, pulling an officer's hand into the cell while they were securing handcuffs. The individual, diagnosed with unspecified mental disorder, had six admissions to the Residential Crisis Treatment Program (RCTP) during the Justice Center's review period for threats of self-harm. In the month prior to the Justice Center's site visit, the individual's medications had been discontinued because they refused to take them crushed. They reported problems with their sleep and when OMH gave suggestions they were "non-receptive". The individual reported hearing voices after receiving a ticket for assault but was not internally preoccupied, instead reporting that their anxiety was acting up. Each time the individual spoke with OMH staff they would request to go back to their cell.

Recommendation and Request:

Incarcerated individual 2 appears to have continued disciplinary infractions that leads to crisis intervention. The Justice Center requested that OMH provide an update on the individual's current MHSL, diagnosis, and documentation related to any admissions to the RCTP since April 23, 2023

The Justice Center also requested that DOCCS supply the individual's housing status, current confinement sanctions, and any misbehavior reports or tickets that the individual has received since April 23, 2024, as well as all Individual Rehabilitation Plans (IRP) and Program Management Team Meeting Minutes Forms completed during their time in the RRU.

DOCCS noted in their response, dated April 15, 2023, that the individual is housed at the Midstate CF as a MHSL 2. According to the OMH response, dated April 25, 2023, the individual was changed to a MHSL 4 on March 7, 2024, due to their continued stability and not requiring psychiatric medications. Should this individual still be serving disciplinary sanctions, OMH and DOCCS should provide a coordinated plan of treatment to address the cycle of disciplinary infractions leading to crisis intervention.

The DOCCS response to this report acknowledged that OMH is not involved in programming in the RRU. Incarcerated individual 2 would benefit from OMH

⁵ [REDACTED] (DIN# [REDACTED]) is hereinafter referred to as incarcerated Individual 2

involvement in the RRU to address the underlying problems leading to their continued disciplinary sanctions.

Length of Time Spent in Segregated Confinement:

- 5. All incarcerated individuals in the Upstate CF SHU were moved out of segregated confinement within the timeframes outlined in HALT Act.**

Hearing and Procedures:

- 6. The Justice Center reviewed disciplinary hearing packets for forty incarcerated individuals and found they met the criteria for segregated confinement under the HALT Act.**
- 7. The Justice Center received documentation from the Upstate CF showing that 16 staff were up to date on their Tier III Disciplinary Hearing Officer Training.**

Assessment, Rehabilitation Plans and Discharge Procedures

- 8. The Justice Center did not receive any SHU/RRU Mental Health Interviews for Incarcerated Individual 3.⁶**

Incarcerated individual 3, a MHSL 6, was transferred to the Upstate CF SHU on April 6, 2023, after threatening DOCCS staff in the recreation area requiring pepper spray to be used. The Justice Center did not receive any OMH documentation indicating that the individual received any mental health assessments.

Request:

The Justice Center requests all documentation that is missing. It is crucial that we receive these requested documents so that we can determine if HALT Act requirements are being followed and that incarcerated individuals are receiving proper services in a timely and efficient manner. If unable to submit the documentation requested, please provide an explanation for why this cannot be provided.

Review conducted by: Christine Rouse
Christine Rouse, Facility Review Specialist

Review conducted by: Angelina LoCascio
Angelina LoCascio, Supervising Facility Review Specialist

⁶ [REDACTED] (DIN# [REDACTED]) is hereinafter referred to as incarcerated Individual 3



KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

ANN MARIE T. SULLIVAN, M.D.
Commissioner

MOIRA TASHJIAN, MPA
Executive Deputy Commissioner

April 25, 2024

Davin Robinson
Deputy Director of Outreach, Prevention and Support
Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs
161 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, New York 12054

Dear Ms. Robinson:

We received your letter dated March 13, 2024, in response to the Justice Center's April 17 and April 18¹, 2023 site visit of the Upstate Correctional Facility (CF) Special Housing Unit (SHU) and Residential Rehabilitation Unit (RRU) to determine the quality of mental health care provided to incarcerated individuals and determine compliance with the Humane Alternatives to Long-Term Solitary Confinement (HALT) legislation, the Office of Mental Health's (OMH) policies, and the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision's (DOCCS) directives.

Below are the Justice Center's requests from the above-referenced review, and OMH's response.

Recommendation #1:

"Based on the private interviews that were conducted on-site, the incarcerated individuals verbalized that they would like to see more of the following programs: academic/school programs, cell study, transitional services (Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III), mental health, coping skills, social skills, vocational, and having a book club. The Justice Center recommends and encourages DOCCS to create more incentives to encourage more participation in both the SHU and RRU with the incarcerated individuals. In addition, please supply the Justice Center with the RRU and SHU's current programming schedule and programming attendance for the month of February 2024."

Request and Recommendation #2:

"Although incarcerated individuals report that they attend programming at the Upstate CF, facility staff should actively encourage participation in daily out of cell programming. This may require providing meaningful incentives to incarcerated individuals, such as time cuts. In addition, the Justice Center also encourages DOCCS to explore recreational opportunities that would provide a more congregate setting than people in separate recreation pens."

OMH Response not indicated for Requests/Recommendations #1-2 as these are directed to DOCCS.

¹ The first page of the Justice Center's letter erroneously states the visit occurred on April 23, 2023.

Request #3:

“The Justice Center requests an explanation as to why incarcerated individual 1, a MHSL 2, continued to be housed in a Level 3 facility and the date that they transferred to an appropriate placement for their mental health needs. In addition, please provide their current MHSL, housing status, current confinement sanctions, any additional misbehavior reports or tickets, and the number of times the individual was transferred to the RCTP.”

OMH Response:

OMH defers to DOCCS regarding an explanation for incarcerated individual 1’s placement in a Level 3 facility, and any additional misbehavior reports or sanctions, as they are responsible for movement and disciplinary matters.

On 5/18/23, incarcerated individual 1 transferred from Upstate CF to Five Points CF, where he resided until 6/13/23. During that time, he required two Residential Crisis Treatment Program (RCTP) admissions for expressing intent to self-harm. He was then transferred to Auburn CF’s RCTP from 6/13/23-6/14/23 for expressing intent to self-harm. While at Auburn CF, he required eight more RCTP admissions between 6/28/23 and 11/30/23 for expressing intent to self-harm and non-suicidal self-injury. Due to the continued RCTP admissions and need for increased mental health care, his service level was increased to MHSL 1 on 10/10/23. He had one more RCTP admission from 12/15/23-12/18/23 while at Elmira CF for expressing intent to self-harm. He transferred to the Great Meadow CF RRU on 12/26/23, where he continues to reside. He has not required any further RCTP admissions.

Recommendation and Request #4:

“Incarcerated individual 2 appears to have continued disciplinary infractions that leads to crisis intervention. The Justice Center requests that OMH provide an update on the individual’s current MHSL, diagnosis, and documentation related to any admissions to the RCTP since April 23, 2023. The Justice Center also requests that DOCCS supply the individual’s housing status, current confinement sanctions, and any misbehavior reports or tickets that the individual has received since April 23, 2024. In addition, please forward all Individuals Rehabilitation Plans (IRP) and Program Management Team Meeting Minutes Forms that have been completed during their time in the RRU.

Should this individual still be serving disciplinary sanctions, OMH and DOCCS should provide a coordinated plan of treatment to address the cycle of disciplinary infractions leading to crisis intervention.”

OMH Response:

On 2/15/24, incarcerated individual 2 was transferred from Upstate CF to the Lakeview CF Step-Down Program, where he continues to reside. He required an RCTP admission from 2/27/24-2/28/24 due to thoughts of self-harm; the progress note is enclosed with this response. Given staff’s assessment of him and his needs, it was determined he could be safely discharged from RCTP and returned to Lakeview CF. He has not required any further RCTP admissions. Due to his continued stability and not requiring psychiatric medication, he was changed to MHSL 4 on 3/7/24. He continues to be diagnosed with Adjustment disorder with anxiety.

The Justice Center recommends that OMH and DOCCS provide a coordinated plan of treatment. The IRP and individual Treatment Plan are considered to be coordinated plans. Incarcerated individual 2’s Treatment Plan is enclosed with this response. Additionally, coordination is accomplished via the Program Management Team meeting communications and discussions. Per the HALT statute, while in RRU, individuals have access to trauma-informed therapeutic

programming aimed at promoting personal development and addressing underlying causes of maladaptive behavior.

Request and Recommendation #5:

“The Justice Center requests all documentation that is missing. It is crucial that we receive these requested documents so that we can determine if HALT Act requirements are being followed and that incarcerated individuals are receiving proper services in a timely and efficient manner. If unable to submit the documentation requested, please provide an explanation for why this cannot be provided.”

OMH Response:

OMH’s internal database shows that a clinician met with incarcerated individual 3 on 4/10/23; however, a progress note could not be located. This was addressed at the time of the Justice Center’s record request with the clinician and clerical staff responsible for filing.

Sincerely,

Li-Wen Lee, M.D.
Associate Commissioner
Division of Forensic Services

cc: Danielle Dill, Psy.D., Executive Director, CNYPC
William Vertoske, Deputy Director, Corrections Based Operations, CNYPC
File



Corrections and Community Supervision

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

DANIEL F. MARTUSCELLO III
Acting Commissioner

April 15, 2024

Davin Robinson
Deputy Director, Office of Outreach, Prevention & Support
NYS Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs
161 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, NY 12054

**Upstate Correctional Facility
Humane Alternatives to Long-Term (HALT) Solitary Confinement Act
Draft Compliance and Quality of Care Review
JC# [REDACTED]**

Dear Deputy Director Robinson:

This is in response to the New York State Justice Center's visit at the Upstate Correctional Facility on April 17-18, 2023, to review the quality of mental health care provided to incarcerated individuals in the Special Housing Unit (SHU) and the Residential Rehabilitation Unit (RRU) in accordance with the HALT Legislation, Office of Mental Health (OMH) policies, and Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) Directives.

1. Recommendation:

Based on the private interviews that were conducted on-site, the incarcerated individuals verbalized that they would like to see more of the following programs: academic/school programs, cell study, transitional services (Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III), mental health, coping skills, social skills, vocational, and having a book club. The Justice Center recommends and encourages DOCCS to create more incentives to encourage more participation in both the SHU and RRU with the incarcerated individuals. In addition, please supply the Justice Center with the RRU and SHU's current programming schedule and programming attendance for the month of February 2024.

Response:

DOCCS staff in the SHU and the RRU offer a variety of therapeutic, holistic, psycho-educational programming that includes social skills, coping skills, as well as an introduction to some vocational programs. Earned Eligibility Program (EEP) that includes Transitional Services, Anger Regression Training (ART), Integrated Dual Disorder Treatment (IDDT) are not offered in RRU and SHU as they are not appropriate for that setting. DOCCS continues to use incentives to encourage daily program participation.

Regarding your recommendation to offer mental health therapeutic programming, DOCCS continues to discuss with OMH any security concerns they may have in order to find a resolution as they are not involved in the SHU or the RRU programming at this time.

Our Department continues to review and evaluate on an on-going basis the programs and services that are offered to incarcerated individuals in our custody in order to make improvements whenever feasible.

The RRU's and the SHU's current programming schedule and programming attendance for the month of February 2024 are attached.

2. Request and Recommendation:

Although incarcerated individuals report that they attend programming at Upstate Correctional Facility, facility staff should actively encourage participation in daily out of cell programming. This may require providing meaningful incentives to incarcerated individuals, such as time cuts. In addition, the Justice Center also encourages DOCCS to explore recreational opportunities that would provide a more congregate setting than people in separate recreation pens.

Response:

At Upstate Correctional Facility, our administration continues to emphasize the benefits of rehabilitative and therapeutic programming in the SHU and the RRU to all staff through trainings and various meetings. Incarcerated individuals in the SHU and the RRU are encouraged by security staff during Go-Rounds to participate daily in out-of-cell programming and work on identifying the behaviors that led to their disciplinary confinement and take necessary steps to engage in behavior modification.

Regarding your recommendation to provide incentives to increase program participation, the Department's Policy includes a standardized incentive program with the expectation of universal application statewide. Incentives are provided when earned through positive progress and participation. Incentives are awarded to participants exhibiting positive behavior and/or progress toward achieving their individual rehabilitation plan goals. The Program Management Team (PMT) conducts meaningful reviews of incarcerated individuals to assess their progress.

Disciplinary time-cut recommendations are made at the discretion of the PMT with the superintendent giving final approval. An incarcerated individual may request a time-cut at any time through the discretionary review process.

Regarding your recommendation concerning congregate recreation, DOCCS reviews on an on-going basis each facility's layout, to explore space and logistics in an effort to make improvements. Incarcerated individuals who are in individual recreation pens have the ability to see and communicate with others.

3. Request:

The Justice Center requests an explanation as to why incarcerated individual 1, a MHSL 2, continued to be housed in a Level 3 facility and the date that they transferred to an appropriate placement for their mental health needs. In addition, please provide their current MHSL, housing status, current confinement sanctions, any additional misbehavior reports or tickets, and the number of times the individual was transferred to the RCTP.

Response:

Incarcerated individual 1 had an OMH level change on February 22, 2023, from an OMH Level 3 to an OMH Level 2. An Unscheduled Transfer Review (UTR) was submitted for an alternate placement. The delay in his transfer was due to a shortage of RRU beds at the time. On April 5, 2023, another UTR was submitted as he had been in RRU for one (1) year and per HALT Legislation was reviewed for removal from RRU. A time-cut was approved on April 20, 2024, and he was transferred to General Population (GP) at Five Points Correctional Facility on April 24, 2023. While he remained in the RRU at Upstate Correctional Facility until his transfer to GP at Five Points Correctional Facility, he was being monitored daily by both DOCCS and OMH Staff.

Incarcerated individual 1 is currently an OMH level 1 since October 10, 2023. He is programming at Great Meadow Correctional Facility's RRU and has confinement sanctions until March 13, 2025. Since the Justice Center's visit, he has received five (5) Tier III and four (4) Tier 2 misbehavior reports. He has had nine (9) Residential Crisis Treatment Program (RCTP) admissions from May 31 to June 1, 2023, from June 13-14, 2023, on June 28, 2023, for one day, July 25-26, 2023, from September 12-13, 2023, from September 14-18, 2023, from October 5-6, 2023, from October 20 -23, 2023, and from December 15 - 22, 2023.

4. Recommendation and Request:

Incarcerated individual 2 appears to have continued disciplinary infractions that leads to crisis intervention. The Justice Center requests that OMH provide an update on the individual's current MHSL, diagnosis, and documentation related to any admissions to the Residential Crisis Treatment Program (RCTP) since April 23, 2023. The Justice Center also requests that DOCCS supply the individual's housing status, current confinement sanctions, and any misbehavior reports or tickets that the individual has received since April 23, 2024. In addition, please forward all Individuals Rehabilitation Plans (IRP) and Program Management Team Meeting Minutes Forms that have been completed during their time in the RRU.

Should this individual still be serving disciplinary sanctions, OMH and DOCCS should provide a coordinated plan of treatment to address the cycle of disciplinary infractions leading to crisis intervention.

Response:

Incarcerated individual 2, is an OMH level 2, who is currently programming at Mid-State Correctional Facility's Step-Down Program (SDP). He has confinement sanctions until August 21, 2024. Since April 23, 2023, he has received twenty-four (24) additional Tier 2 and six (6) additional Tier III misbehavior reports. All Individuals Rehabilitation Plans (IRP) and Program Management Team Meeting Minutes Forms completed during his time in the RRU are attached. OMH is not involved in programming in the RRU.

5. All incarcerated individuals in the Upstate Correctional Facility's SHU were moved out of segregated confinement within the timeframes outlined in the HALT Act. Upstate Correctional Facility was found in compliance.

Davin Robinson

April 15, 2024

Page 4

6. The Justice Center reviewed disciplinary hearing packets for forty (40) incarcerated individuals and found they met the criteria for segregated confinement under the HALT Act. Upstate Correctional Facility was found in compliance.

7. The Justice Center received documentation from Upstate Correctional Facility showing that 16 staff were up to date on their Tier III Disciplinary Hearing Officer Training. Upstate Correctional Facility was found in compliance.

8. Request:

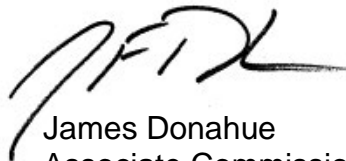
The Justice Center requests all documentation that is missing. It is crucial that we receive these requested documents so that we can determine if the HALT Act requirements are being followed and that incarcerated individuals are receiving proper services in a timely and efficient manner. If unable to submit the documentation requested, please provide an explanation for why this cannot be provided.

Response:

DOCCS will defer to OMH on this request.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your report. I look forward to continuing to work productively with the Justice Center to improve the services for our population.

Sincerely,



James Donahue
Associate Commissioner

Attachment(s)

cc: Superintendent Uhler, Upstate Correctional Facility
Christine Rouse, Facility Review Specialist, NYS Justice Center