

Solitary Watch

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

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close

Search

close

close

by [Aviva Stahl](#) | June 29, 2014



The following roundup features noteworthy news, reports and opinions on solitary confinement from the past week that have not been covered in other Solitary Watch posts.

On the [Pacifica Evening News](#), religious leaders, families of people in prison, and state prison officials went on air to discuss the issue of solitary confinement.

Writing for [Pacific Standard Magazine](#), Jessica Pishko asks, Are we approaching the end of solitary confinement?

Solitary Watch contributor Aviva Stahl [covered a recent demonstration](#) by the New-York based Jails Action Coalition, calling for justice for a man who died after spending seven days in isolation at Rikers without access to life-saving medication. Bradley Ballards death was ruled a homicide by the medical examiner, but thus far correction officers have been fired or indicted.

About a dozen members of a Unitarian Universalist Congregation [held a protest](#) against solitary confinement outside of the Nassau County Correctional Facility. Since 2010, five prisoners have committed suicide at the jail.

According to the [NY Daily News](#), of the 11 suicides in New York City jails over the past five years show that in at least nine cases, safeguards designed to prevent inmates from harming themselves weren't followed. One of the inmates hung himself in solitary confinement after telling correctional officers he was suicidal. The documents were uncovered by the AP.

The [NY Daily News](#) reports that people with mental illness at Rikers Island often face long-delays in accessing psychiatric treatment, which may lead to increased violence at the jail. In May, one inmate was attacked by rival gang members, both of whom owed time in the box but were deemed mentally ill and awaiting treatment.

Two writers posted commentaries about solitary confinement on The Huffington Post, each beginning with the portrayal of isolation on the hit-television show Orange is the New Black ([here](#) and [here](#)).

The Center for Investigative Reporting published a new documentary, [Alone](#), about teens held in solitary confinement.

Jane Doe, the 16-year-old transgender girl who was held in solitary confinement in both men and women's adult facilities despite not facing any criminal charges, has [been moved](#) to a psychiatric center for children.

A friend of the Boston Marathon bombing suspects is [being held in solitary confinement](#) in a Plymouth County jail. Khairullozhon Matanov is being charged with interfering into the ongoing investigation into the attack.

Aviva Stahl is a Brooklyn-based reporter who writes about science/health at the intersection of mass incarceration, national security, and trans rights. She's written for the New York Times, Wired, BuzzFeed News, Solitary Watch, and other outlets. Find her [@stahlidarity](#) and at [stahlidarity.com](#).

Accurate information and authentic storytelling can serve as powerful antidotes to ignorance and injustice. We have helped generate public awareness, mainstream media attention, and informed policymaking on what was once an invisible domestic human rights crisis.

Only with your support can we continue this groundbreaking work, shining light into the darkest corners of the U.S. criminal punishment system.

by [Mirilla Zhu](#)

October 26, 2022

by [Caitlin Konya](#)

October 19, 2022

by [Mirilla Zhu](#)

October 12, 2022

Solitary Watch encourages comments and welcomes a range of ideas, opinions, debates, and respectful disagreement. We do not allow name-calling, bullying, cursing, or personal attacks of any kind. Any embedded links should be to information relevant to the conversation. Comments that violate these guidelines will be removed, and repeat offenders will be blocked. Thank you for your cooperation.

Lets discuss Federal Mandated Consent Decree Agreement Settlement, in NYS that aer bogus, ineffective, and not worth the time invested or the papers their written on! Both NCCC & Rikers Island jails has been sued by the DOJ for Patterns & Practices that violate the terms Rights of inmates. Each Consent Decree called for the implementation & installation of video cameras throughout the faciities with 100% coverage, new use of force policies & medical upgrades for treating prisoners. And for years after the Consent Decrees had been implemented, nothing has changed in Nassau County Jail or Rikers Island jails because NCCC Sheriffs Officers Association correctional union jail guards & COBA union guards failure to comply with the Federal Mandated Consent Decree Agreement Settlement terms that were signed to end Federal Civil Rights Abuse Violations Lawsuits filed by the (complicit) DOJ. What is the purpose of suing a police department of correctional facility if the DOJ turns a blind eye to these offenders once the lawsuits are settled? Video is Cameras in police lock-ups, jails, jail medical wards, prisons, & police car/body-cam recordings dont lie! So, how did five vulnerable women behind bars, in NCCC/NUMC get Raped & Sexually Abused by the president of the Sheriffs Officers Association correctional union, a k own repeat offender, Mark-Institutional-Tree-Jumper-Barber, the Fox Guarding the Hen House, who was promoted to head the Womens Grievance Unit, in 2005, when Federal Monitor, Steve J. Martin ended partial-oversight in NCCC/NUMC the same year Kathleen Rice was ele ted District Attorney of Nassau County? Baber was indicted on 80 counts of Sexual Deviancy & convicted for Raping & Sexually Abusing five vulnerable Women Behind Bars repeatedly. Video surveillance cameras, with 100% rolling coverage, that were proposed to the Nassau County MS-19 Gang (Municipal Servants-19) complicit legislators, in 1999 by former N.C. District Attorney, Denis Dillon, Rices predecessor, & former N.C. Executive, Thomas Gulotta, Suozzis predecessor, were suppose to had been installed were suppose to protect these five (5) vulnerable women behind bars! The real question is what happened to the mo ey that was suppose to had been spent purchasing & installing the video on cameras, with 100% coverage, would have protected these women, & other inmates/detainees, from Abuse & neglect in NCCC/NUMC? Who reallocated the funds, who knew when, but dud nothing to blow the whistle on firmer Nassau County Executive, Tom-\$tickem for the CREAM-Suozzis failure to comply with the Federal Mandated CRT Reform Policy Agreement Settlement; signed by Suozzinin 2002 that ended the Federal Civil Rights Abuse Violations Lawsuits by the DOJ. ThecN.C. GOP legislators voted to approve the 2005 Whistle Blower Protection Act during Suozzis Administration. What happened to the money ey? Google &;Read: Proposals for video cameras in Nassau County Jail. Then Google & Read: Its Time Nassau Takes A Hard Look! District Attorney Kathleen Rice said Its Time To Put Nassau County Correctional Center Under A Microscope following Darryl Woodys highly suspicious death that occurred on January 3, 2011 in NUMC/NCCC; captured on 24 hour video surveillance camera monitoring recordings at NUMC, & y a wire feed to NCCC. NUMC blamed NCCC, NCCC blamed NUMC; both County Defendants conspired & colluded with Nassau County District Attorneys Kathleen Rice, & Rices trusted, former, lap-dog accomplice, Deputy D.A.,Madeline Singas, who was NCCC/ NUMCs Liasion; promoted to Chief Deputy D.A., in 2011, after covering-up Darryl Woodys Homicide by criminally omitting three (3) videos from NCPD, NCCC, & NUMC from Darryl Woodys Homicide Investigation/Probe. Three damaging videos that were not disclosed during Woodys familys Discovery Hearings in the ongoing Matter of Darryl Woodys \$140 million Wrongful Death Civil Lawsuit Case filed against Nassau County, NCPD, NCCC, & former disgraced Gov. Cuomos NYS in 2011; twomweeks before NIFA. Nassau Countys Interim Financial Authority, took control of Nassau Countys crippled finances on January 26, 2011 , following Woodys \$140 million Lawsuit, to protect Nassau County from being bankrupted by Woodys familys ongoing Lawsuit that threatened to push Nassau (corrupt) County beyond its 1% budgetary threshold, set forth by NIFA, in 2000, to prevent Nassau County from insolvency! This is a cover-up; a Major Scandal thats still being perpetrated against Darryl Woodys family more than a decade & five (5) lawyers later of injudicious trial delays & stalling-tactics designed to frustrate Darryls Lawsuit. Justice Delayed is Justice Denied! We Can can handle the truth! Can Nassau (corrupt) County & NYS? I Am My Brothers Keeper! Re,ease the three videos from NCPD, NCCC, & NUMC_ now! Still active/pending \$140 Illinois Wrongful Death Civil Lawsuit; case file #017721/2011. Trial Date: more than a decade later, is scheduled for Jury selection on August 18, 2011 at the Nassau County corrupt Supreme Courts in Mineola, N.Y. where a persistent, relentless Supreme Court Judge has repeatedly denied access to the three damaging videos from NCPD, NCCC, & NUMC; Acting in Concert & in Criminal Collaboration with this continuing egregious miscarriage of Justice thats still being perpetrated against Darryl Woodys family in their decade long pursuit for Justice. No Justice, No Peace! What Abiut Darryl Woody! Darryl Woodys Homicide was captured on 24 hour video surveillance camera monitoring recordings that were not disclosed during Woodys familys Discovery Hearings. I Am My Brothers Keeper! I Am also the Administrators of Darryl Woodys Wrongful Death Civil Lawsuit. Darryls death was deemed Peventabke. Y thecNYSCIC. Darryls Final Report listed Gross Negligence & Gross Incompetence as the cause of Darryl Woodys death. Darryl was still on 24 hour Constant Guard, Suicide Supervision (suicide-watch) at NUMC/NCCC its a NCCC Sheriffs Officers Association correctional union jail guards sitting outside Darryls cell location (333) at NUMC, just 6ft away,(supposedly) supervising Darryl on 1to1 24 hour Constant Guard Suicide Supervision (suicide-watch). Video surveillance cameras dont lie!

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