



**BOARD OF CORRECTION
CITY OF NEW YORK**

COMMITTEE REPORT

**Ad Hoc Committee to Review the Utilization of the NYC Department of
Correction's 6-A Work Release Program**

Due to ongoing issues of overcrowding in New York City jails, on May 13, 2025, Board of Correction ("Board") members approved the establishment of an *Ad Hoc* Committee to Review the Utilization of the NYC Department of Correction's ("the Department") 6-A Work Release Program ("Committee").

Article 6A of the New York State Correctional Law permits the Commissioner to establish a work release program under which individuals sentenced to City time can serve the remainder of their sentence in the community, subject to eligibility. The Committee's mission was to review the Department's 6-A Work Release Program to understand the Department's legal scope of authority and to provide recommendations for optimizing decarceration under the program. For the purposes of this assessment, the committee reviewed the 6-A Work Release Program directive, posed questions to the Department, and met with the Department, as well as stakeholders from other city agencies.

Accordingly, the Committee submits the following recommendations for the full Board's consideration and approval. These recommendations are centered on applying time limitations to four criteria the Department considers when determining admission to the work release program. If approved, the Board will submit these recommendations to the Department.

1. The Department considers an applicant's performance in prior work release and probation or parole programs when determining if an applicant should be admitted to the work release program. The Department should not consider this when the remaining sentence length is shorter than 30 days. For individuals with longer than 30 days left to serve, this assessment should be limited to the applicant's performance within the last two years.
2. The Department considers an applicant's history of violent criminal behavior indicated by prior arrest charges or convictions for violence-related felonies when determining admission to the program. This should not be considered when the remaining sentence length is shorter than 30 days. For individuals with more than

- 30 days remaining of their sentence, this assessment should be limited to the applicant's history of violent criminal behavior within the last two years.
3. The Department considers whether an applicant's institutional disciplinary record indicates a history of violent or escape-related activity when determining if the individual can be admitted to the work release program. This factor should not be considered when the remaining sentence is shorter than 30 days. For individuals with longer than 30 days left to serve, the Department should only consider the individual's history of violent or escape-related activity within the last two years.
 4. Lastly, the Department considers an applicant's criminal history report indicating pattern of bench warrants and/or probation or parole violations. This factor should not be considered when the remaining sentence is shorter than 30 days. For individuals with longer than 30 days left in their sentence, the Department should limit their review to a pattern of bench warrants and/or probation or parole violations within the last two years.

Following the Board's consideration of these recommendations at the July 8, 2025 meeting, the Committee will dissolve.

A copy of this Committee Report will be available on the Board's website.