

Mayor Adams' Statement on Federal Monitor's Letter and Action Plan to Reform Rikers Island

May 17, 2022

NEW YORK – New York City Mayor Eric Adams today released the following statement on the federal monitor's letter and action plan to reform Rikers Island:

"I am grateful that the monitor's team has recognized the city's substantial efforts over the past four months to address the decades of dysfunction on Rikers Island. As they [write](#), there are no quick or easy solutions to reforming Rikers, but the actions Commissioner Molina has taken have had a positive impact, and distinguish this effort from previous failed attempts. Since taking office and working with the monitoring team, we have seen reductions in use of force and assaults on staff, increased searches for weapons and contraband, and fewer officers out on sick leave, but we must go much further. As the plan makes clear, with the proposed time, we have a strategy to aggressively untangle the dysfunction that has plagued the island and set it on a path of real and enduring reform. We appreciate the monitor's partnership and recognition of the important work to build safer jails. We know that there is much more difficult work to be done, and the city is committed to doing it."