

BEYOND THE BARS

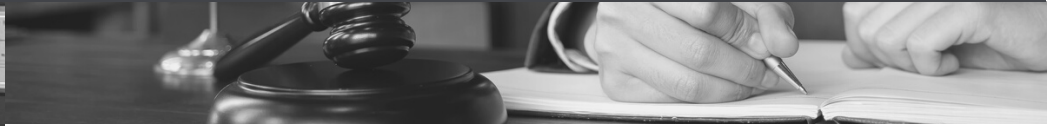
CRIMINAL JUSTICE INSIGHTS



MEET OUR VISIONARY:

Constantine J. Alleyne:

- Former Prison Health Services Administrator
- Founder of the Civilian Corrections Academy
- Visionary behind the "Civilian Pulse" and "Criminal Justice Insights: Beyond the Bars"
- Rich academic background
- Educator, Author, Consultant, and Senior Manager at Raytheon Technologies
- For inquiries regarding bookings, collaborations, or speaking engagements, contact the team at info@CivilianCorrections.Academy.



THE URGENT CALL TO CLOSE RIKERS ISLAND THROUGH THE EYES OF A PRISON REFORM ADVOCATE

As a former Prison Health Services Administrator and a staunch advocate for prison reform, I find the renewed calls for the closure of Rikers Island to be both timely and essential. The recent rally outside City Hall serves as a poignant reminder of the urgency surrounding this matter. With eight inmate deaths in the past week alone, it's clear that the status quo is untenable.

Mayor Eric Adams and the New York City Council must not overlook their legal mandate to shutter Rikers Island by August 31, 2027. This mandate, which was initiated in 2019, was the result of years of advocacy and organizing by individuals directly impacted by the system. It represents a well-thought-out plan to address the myriad issues plaguing this notorious prison complex.

While Mayor Adams raises valid concerns about the capacity of smaller, borough-based jails, we must remember that a significant portion of Rikers' inmate population consists of individuals awaiting trial for non-violent crimes. Redirecting resources towards low-income communities, addressing the root causes of crime—often poverty—and stabilizing these communities can lead to a reduction in crime rates. The focus should be on rehabilitation, not perpetuating a cycle of incarceration.

In closing, it is imperative that Mayor Adams and the City Council remain steadfast in their commitment to closing Rikers Island within the specified timeline. This is not just a legal obligation; it's a moral imperative to ensure justice, safety, and a more equitable future for all New Yorkers. It's time to transform our approach to incarceration and invest in the well-being of our communities, ultimately breaking free from the cycle of violence and incarceration that has plagued our society for far too long.