

## NEW YORK CITY BOARD OF CORRECTION NAMES MARGARET EGAN AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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New York, NY – [The New York City Board of Correction](#), has named Margaret Egan as its Executive Director. Egan will lead the Board’s independent oversight of the New York City jail system as the City moves forward with its plan to close the jail complex on Rikers Island and build four smaller, safer, and more humane jails in the boroughs.

An accomplished executive, Egan brings nearly 20 years of experience in corrections and criminal justice reform, policy, and operations. Most recently, Egan served as the Interim Vice Chancellor for Human Resources and Director of Strategic Initiatives for the City University of New York (CUNY) managing the University’s HR department as well as a broad restructuring of administrative and academic operations for the University. At the CUNY Institute for State and Local Governance (ISLG), she served as a member of the executive staff and senior advisor to the Independent Commission on New York City Criminal Justice and Incarceration Reform (commonly known as the Lippman Commission) and oversaw research on culture change at the New York City Department of Correction. Egan also served as Assistant Secretary for Public Safety to New York Governor Andrew Cuomo. While in the Governor’s Office, Egan oversaw the Governor’s public safety portfolio and supervised agency operations for the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, the Division of Criminal Justice Service, and the New York State Police, among others. Prior to joining the Governor’s Office, Egan spent five years leading jail reform efforts in Cook County, Illinois including serving as the Director of Public Policy and External Affairs for Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart.

“As we monitor the closing of Rikers Island and the beginning of a new era in corrections, the Board is thrilled that Margaret will lead the agency through this historic period,” said **Board of Correction Interim Chair Jackie Sherman**. “Margaret’s unique perspective and extensive criminal justice leadership experience in Chicago and New York will serve the City exceptionally well in this important role. I also thank former Executive Director Martha King and interim Executive Director and General Counsel Michele Ovesey for their brilliant leadership and hard work.”

“I am privileged to lead this important institution at a critical moment of opportunity in New York City. I believe strongly in the Board’s mission, and I look forward to working closely with Board Members, Board staff, the Department of Correction, Correctional Health Services, and our community of stakeholders to ensure effective oversight and support reform,” said **incoming BOC Executive Director Margaret Egan**.

**Stanley Richards, Vice Chair of the Board of Correction**, stated: “As this City closes Rikers Island and moves to borough-based jails, we need strong independent oversight to ensure safe, fair, and humane conditions today and in the future and we need capable and creative leadership to get us there. Margaret is that leader.”

“The independent civilian oversight role performed by the Board of Correction is key to our mutual goal of creating safer and more humane jails in New York City,” said **Department of Correction Commissioner Cynthia Brann**. “We welcome the Board’s hiring of new Executive

Director, Margaret Egan, who brings years of experience in the field of criminal justice to this critically important role.”

**Council Member and Criminal Justice Committee Chair Keith Powers** said, “With the City taking bold steps to overhaul our criminal justice system, strong leadership in that process is critical. I am pleased to welcome Margaret Egan to the Board of Correction and look forward to working together as we advance justice across New York City.”

“The Board has made an excellent choice in selecting Margaret Egan to head the NYC Board of Correction,” said **Michael Jacobson, Executive Director of the Institute for State and Local Governance at CUNY**. “She understands both the theory and best practice of jail operations and standards and her work on the Independent Commission on New York City Criminal Justice and Incarceration Reform, which recommended the closure of Rikers Island, was invaluable in guiding the Commission’s work. Her combination of years of practical experience in jail operations, criminal justice policy work in the Governor’s Office and ISLG along with her most recent work as a Vice Chancellor at CUNY gives her a wide and impressive breadth of experience that will serve her and the City well in this very important job—especially now as the City charts a new course for its jail system.”

The Board of Correction consists of nine members, three of whom are appointed directly by the Mayor, three by the Mayor jointly with the presiding justices of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court for the first and second judicial departments, and three by the City Council. The Executive Director of the Board of Correction is appointed by the Board’s members.

#### **About Margaret Egan:**

For the past two years, Egan has served as Vice Chancellor for Human Resources as well as Director of Strategic Initiatives at CUNY, managing an administrative and academic restructuring to bring CUNY’s core functions to best in class, making the university more efficient and effective. During that time, she also oversaw the CUNY Institute for State and Local Governance’s (ISLG) work, developing systemic reforms for the New York City Department of Correction, including ISLG’s work with the Independent Commission on New York City Criminal Justice and Incarceration Reform. Prior to joining ISLG, she was the Assistant Secretary for public safety to Governor Cuomo when she supported the Governor’s public safety portfolio management efforts, and supervised agency operations and implementation of the governor’s priorities for the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, the Division of Criminal Justice Service, and the New York State Police, among others.

Previously, Egan served as the Director of Policy & Government Affairs to Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart, overseeing intergovernmental affairs for the Sheriff as well as the development and implementation of a number of interventions to reduce the jail population and improve outcomes for those involved in the criminal justice system. She also led efforts to reduce illegal gun trafficking and oversaw the Sheriff’s work to reduce evictions throughout Cook County. Margaret also served as the Acting Director of the Cook County Justice Advisory Council, developing criminal justice reform and violence reduction strategies for Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle. She served on Mayor Rahm Emanuel’s public safety transition team and the advisory

committee to the Mayor's Public Safety Action Committee, as well as Mayor de Blasio's Behavioral Health Task Force.

Egan is an attorney, with a J.D. from Loyola University Chicago, Master's degrees from Northwestern University and the University of Chicago, and a Bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin.

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