



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Cordell Cleare

Senator Cordell Cleare participated in the NYU Evolving Justice community virtual town hall entitled “Robert Brooks and Justice for Incarcerated Individuals: An Intersectional Conversation and Call to Action.”

CORDELL CLEARE April 3, 2025

ISSUE: ROBERT BROOKS, CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM, HALT ACT

EVOLVING JUSTICE PRESENTS:

ROBERT BROOKS AND JUSTICE FOR INCARCERATED PEOPLE

GUEST SPEAKERS:

- FIVE MUALIMM-AK INCARCERATED NATION COLLECTIVE NETWORK
- VICTOR PATE NATIONAL ACTION NETWORK NYC CHAPTER, 2ND CHANCE COMMITTEE NYCAIC
- TANYA KRUPAT OSBORNE CENTER FOR JUSTICE ACROSS GENERATIONS
- SENATOR CORDELL CLEARE (D) CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON AGING 30TH SENATE DISTRICT

HOSTED BY:

- TERRENCE COFFIE ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, NYU SOCIAL JUSTICE NETWORK
- DR. KIRK "JAE" JAMES CLINICAL ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, NYU DIRECTOR OF DSW PROGRAM

Screenshot of the panelists for Evolving Justice

MARCH 14th- 2025 - The event brought together advocates, policymakers, and frontline professionals to discuss urgent issues facing incarcerated individuals, particularly in the context of racial and social justice. A key focus of the discussion was the **HALT (Humane Alternatives to Long-Term Solitary Confinement) legislation**, which aims to restrict the use of solitary confinement

in New York's correctional facilities, addressing the severe psychological and physical harm it causes.

"I understand," said **Senator Cordell Cleare**, "that people in our facilities deserve safety and deserve to go home unharmed. However, that is not an excuse for what happened to Robert Brooks. He was hand cuffed; he was incapable of doing anything to anyone. This type of brutality comes from one place, and that is hate. If this murder had been done to a dog, there would have been public outcry. Even if the dog had bitten someone, there would have been outcry. how did it take this number of people to kill Robert. This says something else about our society. It means you disregard Black lives, the lives of Black men. People are not thinking of Robert Brooks as a father, as a husband, as a person who is loved. And that must change."

To view the entire panel discussion please click the link below:

Zoom Link for Recorded Meeting

https://nyu.zoom.us/rec/share/nOj8LfZM0fkv1iYWIm5QSKeu245SDy584KI8akoxHRrPQowOI_25c4bp2mC7Bw_flyP

RELATED LEGISLATION

2021-S2836

- Introduced

- ◦ In Committee Assembly
- In Committee Senate

- ○ On Floor Calendar Assembly
 - On Floor Calendar Senate

- ○ Passed Assembly
 - Passed Senate

- Delivered to Governor

- Signed By Governor

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Restricts the use of segregated confinement and creates alternative therapeutic and rehabilitative confinement options

January 25, 2021

Senate Floor Calendar

Sponsored by **Julia Salazar**

Do you support this bill?