

Below is the call script for reaching out to Council Members about the crisis at Rikers and Resolution 183. At the end of this document, there is a call script for if you need to leave a voicemail.

Good Afternoon, My name is **[insert your name here]**. I'm calling to ask **[Council Member name here]** to support City Council Resolution 183, which calls on the federal courts to

[pause and wait for response]

There is an urgent need to pass Resolution 183 immediately:

- On November 27th the federal court held the city in contempt for failing to address constitutional violations incarcerated people face at Rikers, and Judge Swain stated for the first time that the courts are inclined to appoint a federal receiver to take over the jail complex.
- As the federal court is on the verge of receivership, it is important for the City Council to way in and show their support. This resolution is a clear action the council can take right now!
- As you may know, under Mayor Adams, the jail population increased by over 1,500 people. Nearly 90% of everyone held at Rikers is Black and Latinx, most being held pre-trial and can't afford bail. All of these individuals are being held in horrifying conditions not fit for human beings.
- At least **33 people have died** in the custody of the New York City Department of Correction under Adams's watch. The DOC and the mayor are unwilling to address the long-standing issues plaguing the jail system.

Calls for federal receivership have grown with nearly 100 community groups, over 20 City Council Members, dozens of state elected officials, NYC Comptroller and Public Advocate, the NY Attorney General, and two former DOC Commissioners calling for a federal takeover.

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Until Rikers is closed, the federal courts must appoint a receiver to take over and improve conditions for people who are detained or employed there. We're asking the Council Member to sign onto Resolution 183, which calls on the federal courts to immediately appoint an independent receiver to take over Rikers and improve conditions for people who are detained and employed there.

Can we count on **[Council Member name here]** to co-sponsor Resolution 183?

[pause and wait for a response]

If Yes, thank them for their support.

If No, ask if they would vote in favor of resolution 183 if it was voted on at a stated meeting.

Thank you for your time! Have a great rest of your day!

[If the representative responds positively or negatively, please let us know by unmuting yourself on Zoom!]

If you need to leave a voicemail, here is the script below:

Good afternoon, My name is **[insert your name here]**, and I'm a member of **[insert your group's name here if applicable]**, I'm calling to ask **[Council Member's name here]** to support City Council Resolution 183, which calls for an independent receiver at Rikers to improve conditions and save lives.

On November 27th the federal court held the city in contempt for failing to address constitutional violations incarcerated people face at Rikers, and Judge Swain stated for the first time that the courts are inclined to appoint a federal receiver to take over the jail complex. As the federal court is on the verge of receivership, it is important for the City Council to way in and show their support. This resolution is a clear action the council can take right now!

Since Mayor Adams took office, at least 33 people have died in the custody of the New York City Department of Correction and the conditions continue to deteriorate. The DOC and the mayor are unwilling to address the long-standing issues plaguing the jail system. Violence is out of control and people's lives are at stake.

Until Rikers is closed, the federal courts must appoint a receiver to take over and improve conditions for people who are detained or employed there. We're demanding that the Council Member sign onto Resolution 183, which calls on the federal courts to immediately appoint an independent receiver to take over Rikers and improve conditions.

I hope that **[Council Member's name here]** can sponsor Resolution 183! If you have any questions please contact Yonah Zeitz, Policy Director at the Katal Center, the number is 347-201-2768. Thank you.