

**Bureau of Prisons
Psychology Services
Post Suicide Watch Report**

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Inmate Name: EPSTEIN, JEFFREY EDWARD	Sex: M	Facility: NYM	Reg #: 76318-054
Date of Birth: 01/20/1953	Provider: [REDACTED]	Unit Team: 5	
Date: 07/24/2019 09:23			

Watch Start Date: 07/23/2019 01:40	Watch Stop Date: 07/24/2019 08:45
Total Time on Watch: 31 hrs 5 minutes	
Watch Conducted By: Both inmates and staff	Transferred to Medical Center: No

Current Mental Status

Level of Consciousness: Alert and Oriented

Psychomotor Activity: Normal

General Appearance: Normal

Behavior: Cooperative

Mood: Appropriate to Content

Thought Process: Goal Directed

Thought Content: Normal

Current Mental Status: Mr. EPSTEIN was alert and oriented. He was polite, calm, and cooperative in demeanor. He exhibited a neutral affect with appropriate range. Eye contact and hygiene were appropriate. The inmate spoke with normal rate, tone, and volume. His thoughts were organized and coherent, with no loosening of associations or tangential, circumstantial, or irrelevant content. There was no evidence of perceptual disturbance, delusional ideation, or a formal thought disorder. He did not engage in any bizarre or inappropriate behavior. He noted having normal sleeping and eating habits. Mr. EPSTEIN explicitly denied recent and current suicidal ideation, planning, and intent. He was future-oriented and expressed a commitment to life and safety, agreeing to contact staff immediately should he experience suicidal ideation or psychological distress. He also denied thoughts of harming others.

Risk Factors Assessed:

This writer screened the inmate for a variety of empirically validated factors commonly associated with risk for self harm.

The following **STATIC** risk factors were assessed to be present and increase the inmate's risk for engaging in suicide related behaviors: High Profile Crime, Lack of family connections, Sex offender status

The following **DYNAMIC** risk factors were assessed to be present and increase the inmate's risk for engaging in suicide related behaviors: Current physical pain, Fear for own safety

The following **PROTECTIVE** factors were assessed to be present and may decrease the inmate's risk of suicide: Able to identify reasons to live, Adequate problem solving skills, Denial of suicidal ideation/intention/plans, Future orientation, View of death as negative, Willingness to engage in treatment

Risk Factors: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mr. EPSTEIN continues to claim a lack of memory for the incident resulting in this scar. The story he provided was vague, such that this writer challenged him a couple of times, but he insisted he was being honest about his lapse in memory. The nature of the incident remain unclear. Mr. EPSTEIN is incarcerated for a very high profile crime with media attention. He was recently denied bail. He also reported difficulty managing his time in the SHU. He reported being fearful for his safety if he is to return to the cell with his previous cell mate.

Protective Factors: Mr. EPSTEIN adamantly denied current suicidal ideation or intent or a history of suicide attempts. He stated, "I have no interest in killing myself." He explained, although his situation is "not perfect" due to his being incarcerated, he noted he has "lots to do for [his] legal case." He described having a "wonderful life," to include interactions with "interesting people and projects." He said "it would be crazy" to take his life. He furthered, "I would not do that to myself." He denied feelings of hopelessness, although did report being "depressed" and "unhappy" about his current legal situation. He previously denied a history of childhood abuse. He reported he is sleeping adequately now that he is no longer in the SHU. He appear future-oriented as he endorsed an interest in being housed in general population.

Weighing of Risk and Protective Factors: Mr. EPSTEIN adamantly denied suicidality. However, in light of his vague self-report regarding the incident which precipitated his placement on Suicide Watch, combined with his fear for his own safety, reported

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difficulty managing his time in the SHU, and the high profile nature of his alleged offense, Mr. EPSTEIN will be stepped down from Suicide Watch to Psychological Observation.

Changes in Risk Factors Assessed

Upon a review of the log book, it was indicated Mr. EPSTEIN has been speaking to the inmate companions about having previously taught mathematics and physics. He has been observed pacing the cell as well as sleeping, eating, and drinking within normal limits.

Upon interview today, Mr. EPSTEIN requested he be provided a toothbrush as well as a shower. His requests were made known to the lieutenants and he was provided a shower prior to attending his legal visit. This writer also provided him a toothbrush, toothpaste, and hygiene products.

Asked about the alleged incident which transpired yesterday resulting in his placement on Suicide Watch, Mr. EPSTEIN said he is frustrated he has been placed in a "punishment cell for no reason." Specifically, Mr. EPSTEIN was referring to his placement in the SHU. Asked to recall the events surrounding the alleged incident, Mr. EPSTEIN said his cell mate was "playing with a bed sheet" and he claimed he does not recall the events thereafter. He said he recalled eating meat and drinking water and claimed the next event for which he has memory is his hearing himself snore and waking up on a stretcher.

Mr. EPSTEIN claimed he does not recall himself or his cell mate tying a string or rope around his neck. He said he has "been trying to remember" and "wracking his mind." Asked if he experienced any interpersonal issues with his cell mate, Mr. EPSTEIN described his cell mate as "agitated" and claimed his cell mate called him a "pedophile" for the first time yesterday. His cell mate was also reportedly reading a newspaper article about Mr. EPSTEIN, which bothered him and it was something he believed to be "strange" for their to be an article about him in his cell. Mr. EPSTEIN recalled throwing away the newspaper photograph of himself by crumpling it and flushing it down the toilet. Asked if his cell mate ever threatened to harm him, he denied this to be the case. Asked why he told the inmate companions yesterday his cell mate tried to kill him, while also claiming no memory of the incident, Mr. EPSTEIN again said he did not recall the incident and further stated, "I don't know if he put it there as a joke." Mr. EPSTEIN explained he had been experiencing difficulty sleeping in his SHU cell due to his inmate peers banging on the cell door and window, but has not been experiencing any other acute issues other than this.

Reason for Removal from Watch

Mr. EPSTEIN stated, "I have no interest in killing myself." He explained although his situation is "not perfect" due to his being incarcerated, he noted he has "lots to do for [his] legal case." He described having a "wonderful life," to include interactions with "interesting people and projects." He said "it would be crazy" to take his life. He furthered, "I would not do that to myself." Mr. EPSTEIN did express a feeling of safety being housed on Psychological Observation rather than in the SHU. He asked if he could remain on this status for a couple of days, he was advised his housing situation will be re-evaluated on a day-to-day basis. He expressed a desire to be housed in general population rather than in the SHU and asked if there were a "safer" unit for him to be housed in comparison to the one where he was initially placed. Mr. EPSTEIN claimed there were many MS-13 gang members on the initial unit. He was advised he will be maintained on Psychological Observation in the near future, but his long-term housing situation will be revisited, as it is not ideal for one to remain in isolation on Psychological Observation for extended periods of time. Mr. EPSTEIN acknowledged this information and thanked this writer for her explanation and time.

Diagnosis:

No Diagnosis, No Dx - Current

Conclusions

The Overall Acute Suicide Risk for this Inmate is: Low
Overall Chronic Suicide Risk for this Inmate is: Absent

Recommendations

1. Mr. EPSTEIN will be removed from Suicide Watch and stepped down to Psychological Observation.
2. While on Psychological Observation, he will be continuously observed by Inmate Companions.
3. While on Psychological Observation, he will be seen daily by Psychology.
4. Supportive and educative interventions were provided.
5. Mr. EPSTEIN was provided novels and a request was made for his legal paperwork to be provided to him on Psychological

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Observation.

6. This writer contacted the Pharmacy to indicate Mr. EPSTEIN has not been receiving his medication used to alleviate his constipation.

7. Mr. EPSTEIN attended a legal visit today, after having been provided a shower.

8. Mr. EPSTEIN was educated about both routine and emergency procedures for contacting psychology.

9. The inmate was encouraged to reach out for PRN services should he experience any psychological distress.

Completed by [REDACTED] on 07/24/2019 12:09