

Florida Department of Corrections



Office of the Inspector General

**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION
INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST
CASE # 17-10608**



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST SUMMARY REPORT



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Case Number: 17-10608

OIG Inspector: Inspector Joseph Varnum

Outside Agency: Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Outside Agency Investigator: Special Agent Clinton Beam

Date Assigned or Initiated: June 09, 2017

Complaint Against: Inmate David Parker, DC# 137653

Location of Incident – Institution/Facility/Office: Franklin Correctional Institution

Complainant: Officer James Godwin

Outside Agency Case #: TL-37-0046

Use of Force Number: N/A

PREA Number: N/A

Classification of Incident: Death Investigation

Confidential Medical Information Included: Yes No

Whistle-Blower Investigation: Yes No

Chief Inspector General Case Number: N/A



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I. AUTHORITY

The Florida Department of Corrections, Office of the Inspector General, by designation of the Secretary and § 944.31, Florida Statutes, is authorized to conduct any criminal investigation that occurs on property owned or leased by the department or involves matters over which the department has jurisdiction.

The testimony references included in this report are summations of oral or written statements provided to inspectors. Statements contained herein do not necessarily represent complete or certified transcribed testimony, except as noted. Unless specifically indicated otherwise, all interviews with witnesses, complainants, and subjects were audio or video recorded.

II. METHODOLOGY

The investigation reviewed the derivations of the allegation advanced by the complainant. The scope of this investigation does not seek to specifically address tort(s), but violations of criminal statutes. The criterion used to evaluate each contention or allegation was limited to the following standard of analysis:

1. Did the subject's action or behavior violate Florida criminal statutes?

III. ANALYSIS

The standard and analysis in this investigation is predicated with the burden of proving any violation of law, established by probable cause. The evidence considered for analysis is confined to the facts and allegations stated or reasonably implied. The actions or behavior of the subject are presumed to be lawful and in compliance with the applicable Florida law, unless probable cause indicates the contrary.



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IV. DEFINITIONS

Unfounded:

Refers to a disposition of a criminal case for which probable cause does not exist to suggest the suspect's behavior or action occurred nor is an arrest or formal charge being initiated.

Closed by Arrest:

Refers to a disposition of a criminal case for which probable cause exists that an identified subject committed the offense and one for which an arrest or formal prosecution has been initiated.

Exceptionally Cleared:

Refers to a disposition of a criminal case for which probable cause exists that an identified suspect committed the offense, but one for which an arrest or formal charge is not initiated, or in the case of a death investigation, one for which no evidence exists that the death was the result of a crime or neglect.

Open-Inactive:

Refers to a disposition of a criminal case for which a criminal investigation commenced, but where evidence is insufficient to close as unfounded, closed by arrest, or exceptionally cleared.

Investigative Assist Closed

Refers to a disposition of an investigative assist, where the conduct being investigated by the outside agency did not concern allegations against a Department employee, contractor, inmate, offender, or other person either employed or under the supervision of the Department.



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V. PREDICATE

On June 16, 2017 at approximately 3:22 AM, Inspector Joseph Varnum was notified by Inspector Supervisor Yolanda Brown that Inmate David Parker, DC# 137653 had passed away at 2:58 AM, and was pronounced deceased by [REDACTED]. Inmate Parker went to [REDACTED] on June 9, 2017, for a possible [REDACTED]. The suspected cause of death is; [REDACTED] which possibly caused a [REDACTED].

Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) was notified and Special Agent (SA) Clint Dean responded and took lead of the investigation. On June 19, 2017, Inspector Varnum was assigned a Death Investigation Assist.

V. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

Based on the exhibits, witnesses' testimony, subject officer's statements, and the record as a whole, presented or available to the primary inspector, the following findings of facts were determined:

On June 09, 2017 at approximately 10:38 PM, I received a call from Inspector Supervisor Brown advising of an inmate at Franklin Correctional Institution (FCI) had been [REDACTED]. I was also sent the Emergency Action Center (EAC) alert which stated, "On June 9, 2017 at approximately 2155 hours, [REDACTED] authorized the transport of Inmate Parker to [REDACTED]. The inmate's condition has been [REDACTED]. Staff will advise when the inmate has departed the facility."

A review of the fix wing video reveals; at approximately 8:02 PM, Inmate Parker is seen sitting on his bunk (143-S). Inmate Parker appears to be wiping sweat from his head and lies down. At 8:12 PM, other inmates notice Inmate Parker [REDACTED] and help him change clothes while he sits on his bunk. At 8:32 PM, FCI Sergeant Patricia Cicirello conducts [REDACTED] and makes contact with Inmate Parker and notices he is [REDACTED].

Sergeant Cicirello notifies [REDACTED] and Inmate Parker is [REDACTED] at 8:38 PM. Inmate Parker's condition [REDACTED]. Inmate Parker was [REDACTED] and once there, it was determined he [REDACTED] and needed [REDACTED]. Inmate Parker was [REDACTED] at 5:00 AM and remained [REDACTED] for several days where he remained [REDACTED].

On June 16, 2017 at approximately 3:22 AM, I was notified by Inspector Supervisor Brown that Inmate Parker had passed away at 2:58 AM. On June 16, 2017 at 5:15 AM, I arrived [REDACTED] and spoke with [REDACTED] and was advised; Inmate Parker was [REDACTED] at 3:00 PM on June 15, 2017, and passed away on June 16, 2017 at 2:58 AM. I took pictures of the Inmate Parker's body with the assistance of Officers James Godwin and Willie Blake. At 5:32 AM, Inmate Parker's body was placed in body bag and escorted to Medical Examiner's Office (ME). At 5:35 AM, I placed evidence tape on the zipper of body bag, sealing it, and turning it over to the ME assistants, Jermaine Brown and Supervisor Joe Joyce.

Investigator's Note: I contacted ME Dr. Anthony Clark at approximately 6:15 AM and was advised he would only do a visual inspection on Inmate Parker this morning since he had been [REDACTED].



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since June 09, 2017, and there was no need for me to attend. All [REDACTED] and fixed wing video was collected and turned over to SA Beam who also interview all parties involved. On April 17, 2018, I called SA Beam requesting an update to this investigation and was advised the case was closed. On April 18, 2018, I received the final report from SA Beam, TL-37-0046.

Dr. Anthony Clark conducted an external examination of Inmate Parker and performed blood toxicology. Blood toxicology was [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]. The cause of death is listed as [REDACTED].

Based on the interviews, video evidence, and the ME's findings, it is believed; Inmate Parker [REDACTED] [REDACTED] which contributed to his death. SA Beam was unable to determine how the narcotic entered the prison, or how Inmate Parker became to be in possession of it; therefore, based on the above information, this Death Investigation Assist will be closed.

VI. CHARGES

List alleged violations of Florida Law:

N/A

VII. CONCLUSION

Based on the information gathered during their investigation, it is the recommendation of FDLE SA Beam, the death investigation of Inmate Parker be closed due to an [REDACTED].

1. Exceptionally Cleared

- Inspector Varnum reviewed FDLE's investigation, and no administrative issues were identified.