

Florida Department of Corrections



Office of the Inspector General

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

Case # 14-12520



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
CASE SUMMARY REPORT



Table of Contents

<u>I. AUTHORITY</u>	4
<u>II. METHODOLOGY</u>	4
<u>III. ANALYSIS</u>	4
<u>IV. DEFINITIONS</u>	5
<u>V. PREDICATE</u>	6
<u>VI. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS</u>	6
<u>VII. CHARGES</u>	6
<u>VIII. CONCLUSION</u>	7



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
CASE SUMMARY REPORT



Case Number: 14-12520

Inspector: Inspector Peter Lindboe

Date Assigned or Initiated: 09-26-2014

Complaint Against: Inmate Corey Williams

Location of Incident – Institution/Facility/Office: Columbia Correctional Institution Annex

Complainant: Sergeant Amber Russ

Use of Force Number: N/A

PREA Number: N/A

Classification of Incident: Aggravated Battery

Confidential Medical Information Included: Yes No

Whistle-Blower Investigation: Yes No

Equal Employment Opportunity Investigation: Yes No

Chief Inspector General Case Number: N/A



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
CASE SUMMARY REPORT



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.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
CASE SUMMARY REPORT



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.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
 OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
CASE SUMMARY REPORT



V. PREDICATE

On September 26, 2014, Sergeant Amber Russ reported Inmate Corey Williams, DC# V32685 advised her Inmate Bradley Jordan, DC# 284037 had collapsed in the sally port area of R-Dorm at Columbia Correctional Institution Annex (CCI). Inmate [REDACTED] DC# [REDACTED] witnessed the incident and stated he observed Inmate Williams batter Inmate Jordan.

This was reported to the Office of Inspector General via MINS and assigned to Inspector Peter Lindboe for criminal investigation on September 26, 2014.

VI. 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:

An e-mail was received indicating there was no crime scene to process as security had cleaned up the area without authorization from Office of Inspector General Staff.

Sergeant Russ completed Incident Report AX-14-1867 reporting, in part, she was in the process of securing inmates [REDACTED] and confinement orderlies when Inmate Williams hit the window (*Officer's Station*) saying Inmate Jordan fell out. Sergeant Russ found Inmate Jordan on the floor [REDACTED]

In his comments on the incident report, Captain Eric Hall wrote, in part, Inmate Jordan was seen [REDACTED] and authorization was obtained [REDACTED] Inmate [REDACTED] was interviewed and stated he observed Inmate Williams instigate an argument with Inmate Jordan and then struck him, knocking him to the ground and then began kicking him in the face.

A review of [REDACTED] obtained from an [REDACTED] prior to Inmate Jordan's [REDACTED] [REDACTED] revealed the following concerning his [REDACTED]:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
CASE SUMMARY REPORT



On September 26, 2014, Florida Department of Law Enforcement (*FDLE*) Special Agents April Glover and Ryan Bunton responded to CCI and interviewed Inmate [REDACTED]. During a sworn, recorded interview, Inmate [REDACTED] stated he and Inmate Jordan were in the sally port area awaiting release when Inmate Williams entered and asked Inmate Jordan what he was looking at, and after exchanging several more words, approached and struck him. Inmates Williams and Jordan struggled for a moment and Inmate Jordan was knocked to the ground where Inmate Williams began kicking him in the face and head.

On September 26, 2014, Florida Department of Law Enforcement (*FDLE*) Special Agents April Glover and Ryan Bunton responded to CCI and interviewed Inmate Williams. During a sworn, recorded, post-Miranda interview, Inmate Williams stated he had been assigned as a confinement orderly three days prior and was awakened at 4:00 AM to go to work in confinement. Inmate Williams entered the sally port area and saw two other inmates present, an African-American and a white inmate with a walker. Approximately 30-45 seconds later, Inmate Williams heard the white inmate fall to the floor and saw [REDACTED] and went to the Officer's Station window to alert staff. Inmate Williams denied striking Inmate Jordan.

When asked if there would be any reason for [REDACTED] his shoes, Inmate Williams responded he could not fly to the Officer's Station. When specifically asked if there was any reason for [REDACTED] top of his shoes or his pants, Inmate Williams responded he did not know and that became his response to all other questions.

During a recorded post-Miranda interview on September 29, 2014, Inmate Williams volunteered a DNA sample via buccal swabs and continued to deny responsibility for Inmate Jordan's [REDACTED]. When confronted with the fact there appeared [REDACTED] one of his socks, one of his shoes, and his pant leg and asked if he could explain it, Inmate Williams stated he [REDACTED] playing football a few days ago and [REDACTED] was his.

Four bags of evidence which were secured in the Captain's Office were obtained. Bags one and two contained clothing and shoes (croc type) removed from Inmate Williams and bags three and four contained clothing and shoes (croc type) removed from Inmate [REDACTED].

Due to statements obtained, the bags containing items from Inmate Williams were opened and inspected. There were [REDACTED] stains, consistent with [REDACTED] on a sock, a lower pants leg, and the top of a shoe. The items were photographed, resealed, and later transferred to the regional evidence control area along with buccal swabs obtained from Inmate Williams with his consent. The items will be delivered to Florida Department of Law Enforcement Forensic Lab (*FDLE*) for processing.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
CASE SUMMARY REPORT



Sergeant Russ testified when the battery occurred, she was in the process of getting the confinement orderlies [REDACTED] inmates ready to leave the dorm for escort [REDACTED] and to work. Sergeant Russ was in the Officer's Station observing Officer Sollicito on wing 2 of the dorm waking an inmate up when Inmate Williams hit the window and reported an inmate had just fallen out. Sergeant Russ only knew of two inmates in the sally port when the battery took place, Inmate Jordan and Inmate Williams and does not recall Inmate [REDACTED] being there. Officer Sollicito came into the Officer's Station at about the same time Inmate Williams knocked on the window, and Sergeant Russ instructed her to open the door so she could check on Inmate Jordan, at the same time calling for assistance via radio.

Inmate Jordan was lying face down in [REDACTED] almost at the door that leads to the sally port area from the back of the Officer's Station, with his head toward the door. Inmate Jordan [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Additional security staff and [REDACTED] arrived and Inmate Jordan was taken [REDACTED] While other staff were in the bedding area securing Inmate Jordan's property, Inmate [REDACTED] reported having seen Inmate Williams batter Inmate Jordan. When additional staff arrived, Inmate Williams was handcuffed and removed from the dorm and taken to confinement.

Sergeant Russ did not hear Inmate Williams make any statements about the incident, other than when he knocked on the window to report Inmate Jordan was down, and he did not appear to be acting nervous in any way. Sergeant Russ inventoried Inmate Williams' property and did not observe any items [REDACTED] on them. When officers came to assist with property, they brought an inmate trained in cleaning up [REDACTED] with them to clean up the scene, so there was no longer a crime scene to process.

Sergeant Aaron Lewis testified he was assigned as an extra person in the control room when the call for assistance came over the radio and responded to R-Dorm. Upon arrival, Sergeant Lewis observed Inmate Jordan lying on his back in the sally port with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] next to his head. Sergeant Lewis assisted in escorting Inmate Jordan [REDACTED] and at some point, he was instructed to go to N-Dorm to recover clothing from Inmates Williams and [REDACTED] Sergeant Lewis conducted a strip search of Inmate Williams and placed his blue shirt, blue pants, blue shorts, t-shirt, boxers, and socks in a bag and the crocs he was wearing in a second bag. Sergeant Lewis did the same with Inmate [REDACTED] with the exception of him wearing boots, not crocs. The bags were sealed and secured in the Captain's Office with chain of custody forms attached. Sergeant Lewis was unsure how to properly fill out the chain of custody forms and clarified and identified the bags as items removed specifically from Inmates Williams and [REDACTED]

Inmate [REDACTED] testified he was in the bathroom at approximately 4:00 am when this battery occurred, and witnessed the whole thing. The bathroom is adjacent to the sally port where the incident



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
CASE SUMMARY REPORT



occurred; with windows in between, and Inmate [REDACTED] was no more than three or four feet from the incident.

The lights were flashed in the dorm for confinement orderlies [REDACTED] inmates to go out. Inmate [REDACTED] a confinement orderly, was already in the sally port when Inmate Jordan and Cory (Inmate Williams) came in. Inmate Williams, out of the blue, hit Inmate Jordan in the face three times, knocking him [REDACTED] and could tell he [REDACTED] because he was not moving on the ground. Inmate Williams began kicking Inmate Jordan in the stomach area and then the face about 15 times then began jumping up and down on his face. Inmate Jordan was [REDACTED] and it sounded like he [REDACTED]

Inmate Williams walked out of the sally port stating, "sleep, I said sleep, you wanna go to sleep, look what you made me have to do." Inmate Williams took his boots off, changed his clothing, and put his crocs on. Inmate [REDACTED] thinks Inmate Williams put the clothing in his locker, but is not sure.

When staff came around asking what happened, Inmate Williams told them Inmate Jordan fell. Inmate [REDACTED] was afraid to say what happened at that time, but when he went to [REDACTED] a few days later told staff what he had seen and wrote it in a letter to the Chief Inspector General, which is what led to this interview.

Inmate [REDACTED] thinks some of the gang members in the dorm used Inmate Williams by telling him some of the inmates in the dorm they thought might be child molesters to try and get them from the dorm, and Inmate Jordan was one of the names he was given. Inmate [REDACTED] is willing to testify to what he witnessed.

A photograph taken, via video camera, on the date of this incident was obtained and shows Inmate Jordan with what appears to be a sheet wrapped around his head and [REDACTED]. Photographs were also taken at [REDACTED] on October 9, 2014, 13 days following this incident. The photographs show Inmate Jordan with [REDACTED]

Discharge documents from [REDACTED] were obtained from Inmate Jordan's [REDACTED]. According to the documents, Inmate Jordan had [REDACTED]

During a sworn, recorded interview on December 5, 2014, with Inmate Jordan, it was discovered he [REDACTED]. Inmate Jordan did not recall the battery and also does not recall even being [REDACTED]



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
CASE SUMMARY REPORT



housed at CCI. Inmate Jordan seemed somewhat confused, but was able to relate that his mother and sister came to see him for about an hour last weekend, so he is retaining some things.

Inmate Jordan signed [REDACTED] for the purpose of the investigation and submitted buccal swabs which were collected in an effort to be proactive, and will be retained in evidence until a determination is made as to their evidentiary value. If the clothing evidence taken from Inmate Williams and submitted for forensic testing indicates the presence of DNA foreign to him, the swabs will be required to be sent for testing. If not, they will be disposed of in accordance with policy. These swabs were subsequently sent to the lab for analysis.

A review of a laboratory report received from Florida Department of Law Enforcement revealed an analysis of the evidence sent for processing (*clothing and buccal swabs*) found [REDACTED] a right shoe and item 2F1, identified as a white sock, both recovered from Inmate Williams. The [REDACTED] had a DNA profile foreign to Inmate Williams. The report further identified the foreign DNA profile from those exhibits as a match to Inmate Jordan.

During a telephone conference on March 23, 2015, Assistant State Attorney John Durret was apprised of the facts of this case and indicated his office would be interested in prosecuting for aggravated battery. Upon approval, a disk containing a copy of the investigation will be provided to his office.

A Probable Cause Affidavit was completed and approved charging Inmate Williams with Aggravated Battery. Upon completion and approval of this investigation the affidavit and a disk containing a copy of the investigation will be delivered to the Third Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office.

VII. CHARGES

List alleged violations of Florida Law:

1. Violation of § 784.045(1)(a)(1), Florida Statutes, Aggravated Battery

§ 784.045(1)(a), Florida Statute, A person commits aggravated battery who, in committing battery:

1. Intentionally or knowingly causes great bodily harm, permanent disability, or permanent disfigurement

VIII. CONCLUSION

Based on the information gathered during this investigation, it is the recommendation of Inspector Peter Lindboe the allegation against Inmate Corey Williams for **Aggravated Battery, in violation of § 784.045(1)(a)(1), Florida Statutes**, be termed as follows:

1. Closed by Arrest