

# Florida Department of Corrections



## Office of the Inspector General

**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION  
INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST  
CASE # 16-04442**



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



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**Case Number:** 16-04442

**OIG Inspector:** Inspector Peter Lindboe

**Outside Agency:** Florida Department of Law Enforcement

**Outside Agency Investigator:** Special Agent Lawrence Perez

**Date Assigned or Initiated:** 02-26-2016

**Complaint Against:** N/A

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

**Complainant:** Sergeant Allan Brown

**Outside Agency Case #:** TL-37-0025

**Use of Force Number:** NA

**PREA Number:** N/A

**Classification of Incident:** Inmate Death

**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 February 25, 2016, the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) received notification that Inmate Richard Lheureux DC# 659221 (*Lheureux*) had been found [REDACTED] on his bunk in O-Dormitory at Columbia Correctional Institution Annex (CCI) and had been declared deceased by [REDACTED]. As outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding, The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) was notified and initiated an investigation in FDLE case # TL-37-0025.

Special Agent Lawrence Perez (SA Perez) was assigned as lead investigator and Inspector Peter Lindboe was assigned to assist in the investigation.

**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:

According to SA Perez' investigative summary, on Thursday, February 25, 2016, at approximately 7:05 AM, Lheureux was discovered [REDACTED] on his assigned bunk in O-Dormitory. First responders from security staff reportedly [REDACTED] on Lheureux until he was [REDACTED]. Lheureux was pronounced deceased by [REDACTED].

SA Perez reported to CCI and made contact with Inspector Lindboe and they responded to [REDACTED] to view Lheureux's remains. There were no overt signs of injury or trauma to the inmate and the remains and scene had been secured. SA Perez and Inspector Lindboe responded to O-Dormitory and inspected the scene. There were no signs of a violent or physical confrontation noted at the scene.

SA Perez and Inspector Lindboe conducted several interviews of staff and inmate witnesses. [REDACTED] advised she did not observe any overt signs [REDACTED] Lheureux. [REDACTED] added that there were also no overt indications of [REDACTED] or other evidence of homicidal [REDACTED] noted during [REDACTED] of Lheureux. [REDACTED] did indicate that there was [REDACTED], which she believed was indicative of some [REDACTED]. The inmate witnesses indicated that Lheureux had [REDACTED] for approximately one week before the incident. Inmate Hector Velazquez indicated that Lheureux had been [REDACTED] three times in the past week, and that Lheureux had [REDACTED] the evening before he expired.

On June 13, 2016, SA Perez obtained a copy of the Report of Autopsy for Lheureux. Associate Medical Examiner Doctor Peter Gillespie noted the cause of death was [REDACTED] and the manner of death was listed as natural. As a result, the State Attorney's Office issued a Declination of Prosecution Letter for this investigation.

A copy of SA Perez's full report was uploaded into IGIS. A disk containing related items was too large to be uploaded and will be maintained in the case file. The report did not reveal any administrative issues that needed to be addressed.



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**VII. CHARGES**

List alleged violations of Florida Law:

1. N/A

**VIII. CONCLUSION**

Based on the information/evidence gathered during their investigation, FDLE Special Agent Lawrence Perez has concluded Inmate Lheureux's death was due to [REDACTED] and was natural. No foul play is suspected.

Inspector Lindboe reviewed the investigation completed by FDLE, and administrative issues were not identified.