

Florida Department of Corrections



Office of the Inspector General

**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION
INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST
CASE # 17-19877**



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



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Case Number: 17-19877

OIG Inspector: Inspector Michael Collins

Outside Agency: Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Outside Agency Investigator: Special Agent Matthew Grinstead

Date Assigned or Initiated: 10-17-2017

Complaint Against: Inmate Clarence Demps, DC# J7925

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

Complainant: Captain Demiah Dawsey

Outside Agency Case #: TL-37-0055

Use of Force Number: N/A

PREA Number: N/A

Classification of Incident: Death Investigative Assist

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 October 17, 2017, Captain Demiah Dawsey was notified that [REDACTED] Inmate Clarence Demps, DC# J27925 at Wakulla Correctional Institution Annex (WCI) by Sergeant Timothy Rink and Officer Edward Vigil. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] entered P-Dorm and pronounced Inmate Demps deceased.

Investigator's Note: The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Special Agent's (SA) Jerrick Pittman and Matthew Grinstead advised they will take the lead of this investigation; therefore, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) will act as an assist.

This information was received via MINS to the OIG on November 02, 2017, and assigned as a Death Investigation – Investigative Assist to Inspector Michael Collins on November 06, 2017.

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:

On October 17, 2017, Officer Robert Bryant was assigned to P-Dorm and conducting security checks when he observed Inmate Demps laying on the floor of his cell [REDACTED]. Officer Bryant immediately utilized his radio to request for additional assistance. Sergeant Rodier arrived at P-Dorm and observed Inmate Demps laying on the floor of his cell [REDACTED]. Sergeant Rodier could not see Inmate Demps [REDACTED]. Sergeant Rodier [REDACTED] until additional security staff arrived.

Sergeant Rinck and Officer Vigil entered P-Dorm and observed Sergeant Rodier [REDACTED] on Inmate Demps and began to assist until the arrival of [REDACTED] arrived to P-Dorm shortly prior to [REDACTED] enter. At approximately 6:59 AM, Inmate Demps was pronounced deceased.

Inspector's Collins and Troy Brady were notified and responded to P-Dorm. Upon entering P-Dorm, it was observed, all inmates were locked in their cell and Officer Vigil was providing security in front of a taped off locked cell which housed Inmate Demps. The door was unsecured and Inmate Demps was found [REDACTED], while on the floor [REDACTED]. The cell appeared to be undisturbed with no signs of a struggle, nor did Inmate Demps have a cellmate at the time of the incident.

SA Pittman and Grinstead arrived at P-Dorm and assisted with rolling the body for additional external photographs. No signs of foul play, [REDACTED] were observed other than the initial cause of death. SA Grinstead then conducted several interviews of inmates and staff. SA Pittman advised he would be attending the autopsy.

Investigator's Note: All documentation and photographs have been attached to this report.

An autopsy was performed by Dr. Lisa Flannigan on October 18, 2017, at the Tallahassee Medical Examiner's Office. Dr. Flannigan's external exam documents: [REDACTED]



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male measuring 71 inches, weighing an estimated 200 pounds and appearing to be the reported age of 39 years. The eyes are brown and [REDACTED]. There is [REDACTED].
[REDACTED] The [REDACTED].
[REDACTED]

Final Pathologic Diagnoses:

- I. [REDACTED]).
- II. [REDACTED]
- III. [REDACTED]

Cause of Death:

- [REDACTED]

Contributory Cause:

- [REDACTED]

VII. CHARGES

List alleged violations of Florida Law:

N/A

VIII. CONCLUSION

Based on the information gathered during their investigation, it is the recommendation of SA Grinstead, the death investigation of Inmate Demps be closed due to his death being caused by an [REDACTED] and be termed as follows:

1. Exceptionally Cleared

Inspector Collins reviewed the investigation completed by FDLE and no administrative issues were identified.

Investigator's Note: SA Grinstead's final report documents; during the investigation, he conducted interviews (inmates and staff) and reviewed Dr. Flannagan's report. Toxicology report stated; Inmate Demps' [REDACTED]. Contributory cause of Inmate Demps' death also was listed as [REDACTED]. Nefarious activity by staff, or other inmates did not play a role in Inmate Demps' death. Due to Inmate Demps' being of self-inflicted acts of [REDACTED] was the cause of death. No items of evidence were submitted during the investigation. No further investigation was warranted. This case was closed.