

Florida Department of Corrections



Office of the Inspector General

**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION
INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST
CASE # 16-21358**



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



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Case Number: 16-21358

OIG Inspector: Inspector Steven Donaldson

Outside Agency: Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

Outside Agency Investigator: Detective Donna Beasley / Bobby Bowers

Date Assigned or Initiated: 11-29-2016

Complaint Against: N/A

Location of Incident – Institution/Facility/Office: Jacksonville CRC
Baker Correctional Institution / Bridges of

Complainant: Jessie I. Luttrell DC# J54291

Outside Agency Case #: 782135

Use of Force Number: N/A

PREA Number: N/A

Classification of Incident: Inmate Death

Confidential Medical Information Included: [REDACTED]

Whistle-Blower Investigation: ___ Yes X 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 November 25, 2016, Inspector Donaldson was dispatched to [REDACTED] in reference to the unattended death of thirty nine year old Inmate Jessie I. Luttrell DC#J54291 who was on community custody from the Bridges of Jacksonville CRC facility. Bridges is under the supervision of Baker Correctional Institution. The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Homicide Unit is investigating the death of Inmate Luttrell. Inmate Luttrell was pronounced deceased at [REDACTED] at 8:45 AM on November 25, 2016, for an undetermined reason. This information was reported in MINS#740650. This case was assigned to Inspector Donaldson as an investigative assist #16-21358 on November 29, 2016.

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 November 25, 2016, Inspector Donaldson was dispatched to [REDACTED] in reference to the unattended death of thirty nine year old Inmate Jessie I. Luttrell DC#J54291 who was on community custody supervision from the Bridges of Jacksonville CRC facility. Upon arrival, Inspector Donaldson proceeded to [REDACTED] where he observed Inmate Luttrell's body in wrapped in a sheet, inside the [REDACTED] Inmate Luttrell was transported from 8121 Free Avenue to [REDACTED] on November 25, 2016. Inmate Luttrell was pronounced deceased at [REDACTED] by [REDACTED] at 8:45 AM on November 25, 2016, for an undetermined reason. Photographs were taken of Inmate Luttrell's body with no visible signs of suspicious injuries noted during the inspection of the body by Inspector Donaldson.

Inspector Supervisor Jackson contacted FDLE due to the death being an unattended death. FDLE Special Agent Matt Walsh informed Inspector Donaldson they would not be responding to investigate the death on Inmate Luttrell due to the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) current homicide investigation. Inspector Donaldson spoke with JSO Homicide Detective Donna Beasley who advised her agency received a call from citizens that a white male was sitting on a porch at 8121 Free Avenue in Jacksonville unresponsive. Officers arrived at 6:08 PM and Inmate Luttrell was transported [REDACTED] Detective Beasley explained she had JSO evidence technicians photograph the scene where Inmate Luttrell was discovered, as well as his body at [REDACTED] Detective Beasley indicated Inmate Luttrell had an ankle transponder affixed to his person. Detective Beasley surmised it appears Inmate Luttrell [REDACTED] Detective Beasley indicated the Medical Examiner in the 4th Judicial Circuit would conduct a full autopsy including toxicology. Detective Beasley agreed to forward Inspector Donaldson a copy of her investigation. Detective Beasley retired from JSO on December 30, 2016. JSO Detective Bobby Bowers was assigned the Luttrell case.

A State of Florida Medical Examiners Report prepared by the District 4 Medical Examiner's Office Doctor Robert Buchsbaum indicated the following:



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Inmate Luttrell's cause of death was listed as [REDACTED]. The manner of death was listed as "Accident".

The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Homicide report indicated their agency received a 911 call on November 25, 2016, from a resident of 8121 Free Avenue who indicated when they turned on their front porch light Jessie Luttrell was the [REDACTED] sitting on their porch. JSO police officers responded and [REDACTED] transported Luttrell to the [REDACTED]. Luttrell was pronounced dead and Homicide Detective Beasley responded to [REDACTED]. An evidence technician took photographs of the scene at 8121 Free Ave. and Luttrell's body at [REDACTED]. On November 29, 2016, Doctor Robert Buchsbaum conducted an autopsy on Luttrell and ruled the death to be accidental. The cause of death was due to [REDACTED].

Inspector Donaldson concurs with the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Homicide Unit and the Medical Examiner's Office on Inmate Luttrell's cause of death.

VII. CONCLUSION

Based on the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Homicide Unit investigative findings that Inmate Luttrell's death was accidental, this investigative assist case is closed, be termed as follows:

1. Exceptionally Cleared

Inspector Donaldson reviewed the investigation completed by JSO, and no administrative issues were identified.