Florida Department of Corrections



Office of the Inspector General

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION Case # 15-6063



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

CASE SUMMARY REPORT



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Case Number: 15-6063

Inspector: Inspector Jerri Hale

Date Assigned or Initiated: 04-14-2015

Complaint Against: Inmate Barnes, Willie DC# 012959

Location of Incident - Institution/Facility/Office: (207) Reception and Medical Center

Complainant: Sergeant Kevin Harris

Use of Force Number: N/A

PREA Number: N/A

Classification of Incident: Inmate Death (Homicide)

Confidential Medical Information Included: X Yes No

Whistle-Blower Investigation: Yes X No

Equal Employment Opportunity Investigation: Yes X No

Chief Inspector General Case Number: N/A





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.





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.





V. PREDICATE

On April 13, 2015, Sergeant K. Harris submitted an Incident Report indicating while assigned as Control Room Sergeant, at (207), he was advised Inmate Barnes, Willie DC# 012959, was pronounced deceased of causes, Cardiac Arrest, by Dr. George Walker. This information was reported in MINS on April 13, 2015, and assigned to Inspector J. Hale for investigation on April 14, 2015.

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 April 13, 2014, Sergeant Harris submitted an Incident Report indicating that Dr. Walker had pronounced Inmate Barnes, Willie DC# 012959, deceased of causes.

The "Notification of Death" sheet indicates that Inmate Barnes died from which is considered a "Natural" manner of death.

A review of the Jacksonville Medical Examiner's Final Autopsy results indicated the following:

Autopsy Findings:

Cause of Death:			1

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Contributory:

Manner of Death: Homicide

It should be noted the medical examiner's investigation learned the **sector** reportedly occurred during a domestic altercation somewhere in Orlando, Florida, approximately 1960, but no charges were brought against either party (reportedly a girlfriend), as the prosecutor was unable to determine the facts of the altercation.

Due to the Jacksonville Medical Examiner deeming Inmate Barnes' death a homicide the Orange County State Attorney's Office was contacted. The medical examiner submitted information in the final autopsy report indicating Inmate Barnes had been stabbed **Control of State Attorney** in the early 1960's and this was a contributing factor in his death. Investigator Abbe Radke was contacted and advised the other party in the stabbing (domestic violence) is now deceased and no police or investigative reports were completed at the time of the incident in the 1960's.

VII. CHARGES List alleged violations of Florida Law:

N/A VIII. CONCLUSION

Based on the information gathered during this investigation, it is the recommendation of Inspector Jerri Hale this case be closed as Exceptionally Cleared. The death of Inmate Barnes, Willie was a deemed a homicide by the **Sector Sector Sec**

During this investigation no administrative issues were identified.