

Florida Department of Corrections



Office of the Inspector General

**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION
INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST**

Case # 15-353



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



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CASE SUMMARY REPORT



Case Number: 15-353

Inspector: Inspector Ron Castle

Date Assigned or Initiated: 01-09-2015

Complaint Against: Deceased Inmate Mark Dawley (DC# 131721)

Location of Incident – Institution/Facility/Office: Santa Rosa Correctional Institution

Complainant: N/A

Use of Force Number: N/A

PREA Number: N/A

Classification of Incident: Inmate Death [REDACTED]

Confidential Medical Information Included: Yes No

Whistle-Blower Investigation: Yes No

Equal Employment Opportunity 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.



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V. PREDICATE

On January 7, 2015, at approximately 5:22 p.m., Sergeant Brandon Turner discovered Inmate Mark Dawley in his Santa Rosa Correctional Institution Close Management Cell, [REDACTED] lying on his cell floor [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Inmate Dawley. Inmate Dawley was [REDACTED] to the institution's [REDACTED] to Inmate Dawley and notified [REDACTED] arrived at the institution at 5:44 p.m. At 5:50 p.m., [REDACTED] pronounced Inmate Dawley deceased. On January 9, 2015, the District-1 Field Office of the Inspector General assigned Law Enforcement Inspector Ron Castle a criminal investigation to assist the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) in their investigation of the death of Inmate Dawley.

VI. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS

Based on the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's investigation, with the assistance of Inspector Castle, exhibits, witnesses' testimony, and the record as a whole, the following findings of facts were determined:

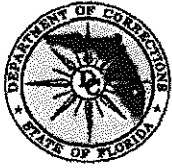
On January 9, 2015, Inspector Castle attended the autopsy of deceased Inmate Dawley at the District 1 Medical Examiner's Office, Pensacola, Florida.

Medical Examiner Doctor Andrea Minyard advised deceased Inmate Dawley's preliminary cause of death appeared to be [REDACTED]

On January 14, 2015, Inspector Castle received a telephone call from FDLE Special Agent Mark Brown requesting [REDACTED] video recordings for G-dormitory, [REDACTED] showing coverage of Inmate Dawley's cell prior to and during the time Inmate Dawley was found [REDACTED] and removed from his cell, [REDACTED]

On January 14, 2015, Inspector Castle provided Agent Brown two Compact Disks (CDs), one long version from the time Inmate Dawley arrived in G-dormitory, from Santa Rosa Annex, to the time Inmate Dawley was removed from his cell [REDACTED] and one shorter version CD from the time just prior to Inmate Dawley being found in his cell, to the time he was removed [REDACTED] for transport [REDACTED]

On February 11, 2015, Inspector Castle received an email from FDLE Special Agent Mark Brown advising he had concluded his investigation into the death of deceased Inmate Dawley.



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Agent Brown also attached a copy of his investigative report which stated there were no indications of foul play. Agent Brown stated all of the information and evidence gathered during the investigation indicated inmate Dawley [REDACTED] which led to his death, and also stated the District 1 Medical Examiner's Office ruled deceased inmate Dawley's death as suicide.

On February 11, 2015, Inspector Castle received a copy of the District 1 Medical Examiner's autopsy report regarding the death of deceased Inmate Dawley.

Doctor Andrea N. Minyard's autopsy report, #MLA15-017, concluded;

- Cause of Death [REDACTED]
- Manner of Death: Suicide
- Diagnoses:
 1. [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 - [REDACTED]
 2. [REDACTED]
 3. [REDACTED]

"This investigation found no violations of Florida Administrative Code or Department of Corrections procedures."

VII. CHARGES

- N/A

VIII. CONCLUSION

Based on the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's investigative findings that Inmate Dawley's Death was a suicide, this investigative assist is closed:

- **Exceptionally Cleared**