

Case# 09-27868

Florida Department of Corrections  
Office of the Inspector General



"I, the undersigned, do hereby swear, under penalty of perjury, that, to the best of my personal knowledge, information, and belief, I have not knowingly or willfully deprived, or allowed another to deprive, the subject of the investigation of any of the rights contained in ss.112.532 and 112.533, Florida Statutes."

"Furthermore, under penalties of perjury, I declare I have read the foregoing report and the contents of the report are true and accurate based upon my personal knowledge, information, and belief."

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. E. A.", written over a horizontal line.

Investigators Signature

12/15/09

Date

**COPY**



Florida Department Of Corrections  
Office of the Inspector General  
Report of Investigation  
Inspector General Gene Hatcher

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DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

DEC 21 2009



BUREAU OF  
STATE INVESTIGATIONS

Case Number: 09-27868

Inspector General Case #: 09-27868

Facility: Florida State Prison

Classification of Incident: [REDACTED]

Field Office/Region: Gainesville / Region 2

Incident Date: 09/22/09

Time: 12:03pm

Inspector: Donald Jones

Date of Report: 12/10/09

Case Type: A

Check all that apply:

- [REDACTED]
- Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Number (if applicable)
- Principal(s) Exhibits Attached
- Department of Corrections presented to State Attorney  Declined  Accepted
- Use of Force (UOF) Number (if applicable)
- Complaint of Discrimination
- Addendum
- Wing Video Camera(s) Present in the Area of Incident  YES  NO

SUMMARY OF ALLEGATIONS:

On 09/22/09, at approximately [REDACTED] during a routine wing check, inmate Christopher Lunz was found on his bunk [REDACTED] in his cell (O1304s) with a ligature around his neck. [REDACTED] Lunz was pronounced deceased [REDACTED] at 12:35pm.

SUMMARY OF DISPOSITION/JUSTIFICATION FOR DOWNGRADE/EXONERATION:

On 09/23/09, a Postmortem Examination of the body of Inmate Lunz was performed by Doctor William Hamilton of the Gainesville Medical Examiners Office. In the conclusion, it was determined that Lunz's probable cause of death was [REDACTED] and the manner of death listed as "Suicide".



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	Name	Title / DC #	D.O.B.	Employee ID #
<b>Complainant:</b>	Smith, Dewey	Sergeant	[REDACTED]	
<b>Subject:</b>	Lunz, Christopher	Inmate/ #414397	09/26/67	
<b>Witness(es):</b>	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
	Barton, Thomas	Captain	[REDACTED]	
	Cauwenberghs, Dennis	Lieutenant	[REDACTED]	
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
	Fowler, Timothy	Officer	[REDACTED]	
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	

Arrest:  Employee     Inmate     Other     Guilty     Addendum Pending  
 Charges:  Not Guilty     Nolo Contendere  
 Felony     Misdemeanor     P.T.I.  
 Date of Arrest:     Other (explanation):  
 Date Reported:

Sentence of Court / Agreement:

Administrative Violation(s):

Evidence:  Weapon     Drugs     Other    Describe:  
 Other Agency Case Number:

**FINDINGS:**

In an incident report dated 09/22/09, Sergeant Dewey Smith indicated the following:

On 09/22/09, at approximately [REDACTED] he and Officer Fowler were counting, and observed Inmate Christopher Lunz lying on his bunk with what appeared to be something tied around his neck and appeared to be [REDACTED] kicking on his cell door [REDACTED] They (Smith and Fowler) immediately called for



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assistance. Lieutenant Cauwenberghs and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (Exhibit A1)

This information was placed in the Management Information Notes System on 09/23/09 and assigned for investigation on 09/24/09 with Senior Prison Inspector Donald Jones as the investigating officer.

In an incident report dated 09/22/09, Officer Timothy Fowler indicated the following:

At approximately [REDACTED] during a formal count on the third floor of Q-wing, he and Sergeant Smith observed Inmate Lunz [REDACTED] Control room and [REDACTED] were notified. Lieutenant Cauwenberghs arrived and instructed Sergeant Smith to retrieve the ligature cutter. He (*Fowler*), Smith and Cauwenberghs entered the cell and he applied restraints to Lunz. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Lunz was then removed from the cell. (Exhibit A2)

In an incident report dated 09/22/09, Lieutenant Dennis Cauwenberghs indicated the following:

He responded to an [REDACTED] call via radio from Q-wing. He entered Q-wing and approached cell Q1304s which houses Inmate Lunz. Inmate Lunz was lying on his back on the bunk and [REDACTED]. He noticed that his [REDACTED]. At this time he ordered the cell opened. He entered the cell and saw what appeared to be a string around the inmate's neck. The string was tightened with rolled up paper. He rolled Inmate Lunz over to loosen the string and Officer Fowler assisted with the ligature cutting tool and cut the string. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (Exhibit A3)

[REDACTED] (Exhibits A4-6)

On 09/22/09, Inspectors Fish, Gartman, Snow and I responded to this incident. Digital photographs were taken of the body of Lunz and cell Q1304s. There was no [REDACTED] or any other personal property in the cell. There were no signs of foul play in the cell. The ligature was received from Lieutenant Cauwenberghs. The ligature appeared to be fashioned from the stitching of a mattress. A plastic spoon handle was received and appeared to have been utilized as a tourniquet. (Exhibit B1 & 2)

**NOTE: Inmate Lunz was a new gain to Maximum Management at Florida State Prison and did not have any personal property in his cell at the time of this incident.**



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A review of the fixed wing video (*no audio*) revealed the following timeline:

- 1047 hours – Lunz was fed the lunch meal
- 1108 hours – meal tray was removed from Lunz’s cell
- [REDACTED] hours – routine wing security check
- [REDACTED] hours – Staff conducting formal count and find [REDACTED] Lunz
- 1206 hours – Lieutenant Cauwenberghs, [REDACTED] and additional security staff respond to cell
- 1207 hours – [REDACTED]
- 1210 hours – [REDACTED]

(Exhibit B3)

On 09/23/09, a Postmortem Examination of the body of Inmate Lunz was performed by Doctor William Hamilton of the Gainesville Medical Examiners Office, which indicates the following:

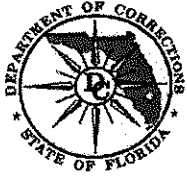
AUTOPSY FINDINGS

1. [REDACTED]
2. [REDACTED]
3. [REDACTED]
4. [REDACTED]

PROBABLE CAUSE OF DEATH: [REDACTED]

MANNER OF DEATH: “Suicide”.

(Exhibit A7)



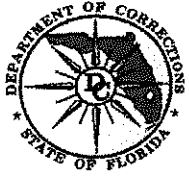
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<u>[Signature]</u>	Senior Prison Inspector	<u>12/15/09</u>	Date
<u>Barbara I. Waddell</u>	Inspector Supervisor	<u>12/15/09</u>	Date
<u>[Signature]</u>	Lead Inspector Supervisor	<u>12/29/09</u>	Date
<u>[Signature]</u>	Chief Prison Inspector	<u>12/29/09</u>	Date
_____	Deputy/Inspector General	_____	Date

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**EXHIBIT/ATTACHMENTS SECTION**

**A. EXHIBIT(s) - attached:**

1. Incident report submitted by Smith
2. Incident report submitted by Fowler
3. Incident report submitted by Cauwenberghs
4. [REDACTED]
5. [REDACTED]
6. [REDACTED]
7. Autopsy report submitted by Doctor William Hamilton

**B. EXHIBIT(s) - not attached:**

1. Digital photographs downloaded to CD
2. Ligature
3. Wing videos