

Case# 09-22790

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."

Dorothy A. Mintz
Investigator's Signature

07/22/09
Date



Florida Department Of Corrections
Office of the Inspector General
Report of Investigation
Interim Inspector General Walt Murphree

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

JUL 28 2009

BUREAU OF
STATE INVESTIGATIONS

Case Number: 09-22790

Inspector General Case #: 09-22790 Facility: 250-Hamilton CI Annex
Classification of Incident: Inmate Death Field Office/Region: Gainesville / Region 2
Incident Date: 04-18-09 Time: 1:08PM Inspector: Dorothy Minta
Date of Report: 07-22-09 Case Type: A

Check all that apply:

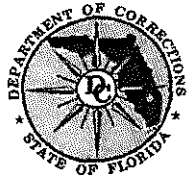
- [Redacted]
- Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Number (if applicable)
- Principal(s) Exhibits Attached
- Department of Corrections presented to State Attorney Declined Accepted
- Use of Force (UOF) Number (if applicable)
- Complaint of Discrimination
- Addendum
- Wing Video Camera(s) Present in the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

SUMMARY OF ALLEGATIONS:

At approximately 1:08PM, on April 18, 2009, Inmate Christopher Cowan DC# 677621 was pronounced deceased [Redacted] in Live Oak, Florida.

SUMMARY OF DISPOSITION/JUSTIFICATION FOR DOWNGRADE/EXONERATION:

- This report is to document the final autopsy findings in the death of Inmate Christopher Cowan DC# 677621. The final autopsy report listed Inmate Cowan's cause of death [Redacted]. The manner of death was listed as an accident.



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	Name	Title / DC #	D.O.B.	Employee ID #
Complainant:	Walls, Katina	Officer	[REDACTED]	33991
Victim:	Cowan, Christopher	667621	02-10-62	
Witness(es):	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]
	Rao, Valerie	Medical Examiner		2100 Jefferson Street Jacksonville, FL 32206 904-630-0977
	Morgan, Ronny	Captain	[REDACTED]	14956
Subject(s):	N/A			

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

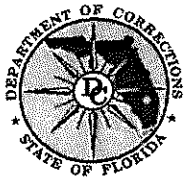
Sentence of Court / Agreement:

Administrative Violation(s):

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

FINDINGS:

This report is to document the final autopsy findings in the death of Inmate Christopher Cowan DC# 677621. Inmate Cowan was pronounced deceased on April 18, 2009, at [REDACTED] in Live Oak, Florida. The autopsy report was received on July 21, 2009. The report indicated that Inmate Cowan's cause of death was [REDACTED]. The autopsy report listed the manner of death as an accident. (Exhibit A-1)

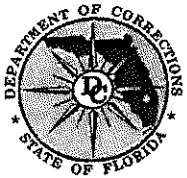


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<u>Dorothy A. Mintz</u>	Prison Inspector	<u>07/22/09</u>	Date
<u>Barbara J. Waddell</u>	Inspector Supervisor	<u>7/22/09</u>	Date
<u>Val</u>	Lead Inspector Supervisor	<u>8/4/09</u>	Date
_____	Chief Prison Inspector	_____	Date
_____	Deputy/Inspector General	_____	Date



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EXHIBIT/ATTACHMENTS SECTION

A. EXHIBIT(s) - attached:

1. Autopsy Report on Inmate Cowan
2. Principle Exhibits

B. EXHIBIT(s) - not attached:

1. None

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Office of the Inspector General

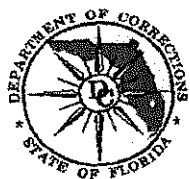


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“Furthermore, under penalties of perjury, I declare I have read the foregoing report and the contents of the report are true and accurate based upon my personal knowledge, information, and belief.”

Dorothy A. Mintz
Investigator's Signature

05/28/09
Date



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Case Number: 09-22790

Inspector General Case #: 09-22790 Facility: 250-Hamilton CI Annex
Classification of Incident: Inmate Death Field Office/Region: Gainesville / Region 2
Incident Date: 04-18-09 Time: 1:08PM Inspector: Dorothy Minta
Date of Report: 05-18-09 Case Type: A

Check all that apply:

- [REDACTED]
- Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Number (if applicable)
- Principal(s) Exhibits Attached
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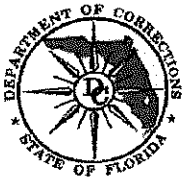
SUMMARY OF ALLEGATIONS:

At approximately 1:08PM, on April 18, 2009, Inmate Christopher Cowan DC#677621 was pronounced deceased [REDACTED] in Live Oak, Florida.

SUMMARY OF DISPOSITION/JUSTIFICATION FOR DOWNGRADE/EXONERATION:

- Inmate Christopher Cowan DC#677621 was pronounced deceased. The preliminary cause of death was listed [REDACTED] An addendum report will be submitted upon receipt of the autopsy report. [REDACTED]

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Upon arrival, I met with [REDACTED]. They advised that Inmate Cowan was brought in via [REDACTED]. They advised they were told he was being [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] Inmate Cowan was pronounced deceased at 1:08PM. [REDACTED] The preliminary cause of death was listed as [REDACTED].

It should be noted that the [REDACTED] Inmate Cowan. On November 14, 2008, he came to [REDACTED] he had drank large amounts of coffee. [REDACTED]

Photographs were taken of Inmate Cowan's body. [REDACTED] But upon further exam, it was noted that the stains were coffee. Furthermore, [REDACTED] also appeared to be coffee. There was some [REDACTED] There was also slight [REDACTED]

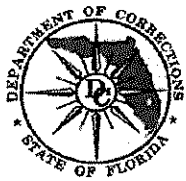
(Exhibit A-1)

A search of Inmate Cowan's property was conducted. Inmate Cowan had very little personal property. There were only legal letters. He had no personal letters and no address book. Captain Ronny Morgan advised they were having extreme difficulty finding a next of kin as Inmate Cowan had no one listed for emergency contact.

I reviewed Inmate Cowan's [REDACTED] He stated, "I drank too much coffee [REDACTED] Inmate Cowan was [REDACTED] Inmate Cowan began [REDACTED] was called, then he was [REDACTED] (Exhibit A-2)

On April 19, 2009, Inmate Cowan's autopsy was performed by Dr. Valerie Rao at the Medical Examiner's Office in Jacksonville, Florida. Upon completion of the autopsy, Dr. Rao stated verbally that she [REDACTED] She stated there was [REDACTED] She found that his [REDACTED] but nothing else. She advised the final cause of death will be [REDACTED]

Once the final autopsy report has been received and a cause of death determined, an addendum to this report will be submitted.



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<u>Dorothy A. Mintz</u>	Prison Inspector	<u>05/28/09</u>	Date
<u>Barbara P. Washburn</u>	Inspector Supervisor	<u>5/29/09</u>	Date
<u>Douglas P. Stephens</u>	Chief Prison Inspector	<u>6/10/09</u>	Date
_____	Deputy/Inspector General	_____	Date



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EXHIBIT/ATTACHMENTS SECTION

A. EXHIBIT(s) - attached:

1. Photographs of Inmate Cowan
2. Medical Reports on Inmate Cowan

B. EXHIBIT(s) - not attached:

1. None