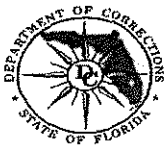


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Paul C. Decker, Inspector General



INVESTIGATION # 08-41245

CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL PROTECTED HEALTH OR MEDIAL INFORMATION. NOT FOR FURTHER USE, DISCLOSURE OR DISTRIBUTION, UNLESS AUTHORIZED TO DO SO BY LAW OR REGULATION. UNAUTHORIZED DISCOLURE MAY VIOLATE STATE AND FEDERAL LAW.



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Inspector General Case #: 08-41245

Facility: Broward Correctional Institution

Classification of Incident: [REDACTED]

Field Office/Region: Ft. Lauderdale/IV

Incident Date: 05/23/08 **Time:** 8:30P.M.

Inspector: Katouree D. Jackson

Date of Report: 09/18/08

Case Type: A

Check all that apply:

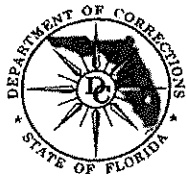
- Confidential Medical Information
- Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Number (if applicable)
- Principal(s) Exhibits Attached
- Department of Corrections presented to State Attorney Declined Accepted
- Use of Force (UOF) Number (if applicable)
- Complaint of Discrimination
- Addendum
- Wing Video Camera(s)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

SUMMARY OF ALLEGATIONS:

Inmate Carvetta Thompson committed suicide by hanging herself from a bed sheet tied to [REDACTED] in her assigned confinement cell.

SUMMARY OF DISPOSITION/JUSTIFICATION FOR DOWNGRADE/EXONERATION:

The Broward County Medical Examiner's Office cited the manner of death as Suicide. There were no related administrative issues.



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Case Number: 08-41245

	Name	Title / DC #	D.O.B.	Employee ID #
Complainant:	Foster, James	Correctional Officer Captain	[REDACTED]	7024
Victim:	Thompson, Carvetta	DC# 808952	07/27/68	
Witness(es):	Stephenson, Shawnette	Correctional Officer	[REDACTED]	47480
	Miller, Julie	Correctional Officer	[REDACTED]	42229
	Benn, Shequila	Correctional Officer	[REDACTED]	42024
Subject(s):				

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:

At approximately 8:30p.m. on May 21, 2008, Officer Shawnette Stephenson saw Inmate Carvetta Thompson hanging from a sheet tied to the cell's (2206) window grill. Officer's Stephenson, Benn and Miller entered the cell [REDACTED] Inmate Thompson was housed in the cell alone.

Prior to the above incident, several things were amiss in the confinement unit. Inmate Mireille Vincent [REDACTED] [REDACTED] After the 7:30p.m., count Inmate Shanda Merritt [REDACTED]; in addition to Inmate Monica Webster [REDACTED] When officers responded to her (Webster) cell, she had a sheet around her neck that was tied to [REDACTED]

At approximately 8:20p.m., (approximately an hour after the first inmate [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED]), Inmate Mireille Vincent was seen standing on the sink in her assigned cell with a towel around her neck attempting to tie it to [REDACTED] When she was ordered to submit to hand restraints, she jumped from the sink while the towel was around her neck. The towel ripped and she grabbed a



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sheet and began tying it to the [REDACTED] and around her neck; the door was subsequently unlocked and an officer's entered the cell.

Two inmates [REDACTED] during that evening as well.

(Exhibit's A1, A2 & A3)

Inmate Thompson was not pronounced dead until Friday May 23, 2008, [REDACTED]

The Broward County Medical Examiner's Officer determined the manner of death suicide, [REDACTED]
(Exhibit A4)

In viewing the closed circuit video, it was determined that camera only provide a view of certain areas in the wing; officers were seen on the wing, at cells, escorting [REDACTED] inmates (showers were in progress that evening). No one was seen seated at an officer's desk that is positioned in the center of the wing down stairs.

(Exhibit B1)

In her sworn, written statement of June 18, 2008, Correctional Officer Julie Miler indicated the following:

On May 21, 2008, she was advised by Officer Stephenson that Inmate Thompson was hanging in cell 2206. She arrived to the cell she: saw Inmate Thompson hanging from the [REDACTED] She assisted by holding the inmate up by her lower extremities. Inmate Thompson was placed on the floor and she [REDACTED]

(Exhibit A5)

In her sworn, written statement of June 18, 2008, Correctional Officer Shequila Benn indicated the following:

On May 21, 2008, she responded to the confinement unit as [REDACTED] as a result of the [REDACTED] Inmates Webster and Vincent. While upstairs in the unit, she heard Officer Stephenson request for a cell door to be opened while conducting a security inspection.

Herself and Officer Miller went to the "room" and saw Inmate Thompson "hanging at [REDACTED]" Officer Stephenson held the inmate up and she [REDACTED]

(Exhibit A6)

In her sworn, written statement of June 24, 2008, Correctional Officer Shawnette Stephenson indicated the following:

On May 21, 2008, Officer Benn was conducting a security inspection when she (Stephenson) noticed Inmate Thompson's cup on the floor. She asked Officer Benn to give the cup to her. When she went to Inmate Thompson's assigned cell with the cup of water, she saw the inmate hanging from a sheet that was tied [REDACTED]



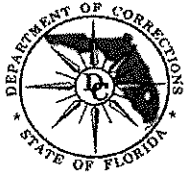
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She called for the sergeant to open the cell. When she entered the cell, she grabbed hold of the inmate and lifted her body. Officer Benn untied the sheet; and herself. Officer Benn and Officer Miller placed the inmate on the floor [REDACTED] (Exhibit A7)

Several letters were in Inmate Thompson's cell written with the same penmanship as documents taken from her inmate record. The letters documented that [REDACTED] (Exhibit A8)



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"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."

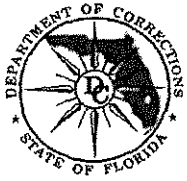
"Furthermore, under penalties of perjury, I declare I have read the foregoing report and the contents of the report are true and accurate based upon my personal knowledge, information, and belief."

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Paul C. Decker", written over a horizontal line.

Investigator's Signature

09/17/08

Date



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Kathleen Hanell

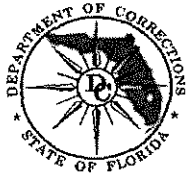
Senior Inspector 09/18/08 Date

Prison Inspector Supervisor 09/18/08 Date

Chief Prison Inspector _____ Date

Deputy/Inspector General _____ Date

EXHIBIT/ATTACHMENTS SECTION



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A. EXHIBIT(s) - attached:

1. Incident Report reference I/M Thompson
2. Incident Report reference I/M Webster
3. Incident Report reference I/M Mireille
4. Autopsy Report
5. Affidavit Officer Miller
6. Affidavit Officer Benn
7. Affidavit Officer Stephenson
8. Letter/documents Inmate Thompson

B. EXHIBIT(s) - not attached:

1. Closed circuit video