

Florida Department of Corrections



Office of the Inspector General

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

Case # 13-5130



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



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Case Number: 13-5130

Inspector: Inspector David Allen

Date Assigned or Initiated: 05-21-2013

Complaint Against: N/A

Complainant: Correctional Officer Vernon Gibson



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Use of Force Number: N/A

Charges: N/A

Confidential Medical Information

included: X Yes No

Whistle-Blower 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



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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.



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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

Inmate Mace, Daniel DC# D34637 housed at [REDACTED] was pronounced deceased of [REDACTED]

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:

In an incident Report dated May 18, 2013, Officer Vernon Gibson indicated the following: On May 18, 2013, at approximately 7:40 pm while assigned as Control Room Officer at [REDACTED] Officer Gibson was informed by Officer Rhoden Inmate Mace, Daniel DC# D34637 housed at [REDACTED] was pronounced deceased [REDACTED] by [REDACTED]



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A review of the notification of death revealed: On May 18, 2013, at approximately 7:40 pm, Inmate Mace, Daniel DC# D34637 was pronounced deceased by [REDACTED] Cause of death(pending autopsy) listed [REDACTED]

A review of the Examination Report from the Office Jacksonville Medical Examiner of Inmate Mace, Daniel DC# D34637 revealed: Date of inspection was May 20, 2013 at approximately 9:05am. Inspection found an [REDACTED]

Evidence of [REDACTED] approximately 10 x7 centimeters overall.

A [REDACTED] extends along the [REDACTED]

Cause of death listed as: [REDACTED]

Manner of death listed as: Accident.
 The Office Jacksonville Medical Examiner explained, because Inmate Mace died due to [REDACTED] manner of could not be classified as natural.

A TIPS call (13-5392) made on May, 25 at 1149am hours was received from an anonymous inmate caller at RMC West Unit. Call was made from B-2-RT 4307. Caller alleged:

Sergeant Thornton (Steven Thornton, assigned to B Dorm) hit an inmate last name of Mace (Daniel Mace, DC# D34637).

Mace was complaining that [REDACTED]
 Mace [REDACTED] and they said he died last Friday (5/22/13).
 We do not know if it was [REDACTED] or because he was [REDACTED]

Attempts were made to identify the anonymous caller to no avail. No Inmate witnesses were identified. There is no record of Inmate Mace being in any type of altercation with staff or inmates. Autopsy examination [REDACTED] No record or indication of [REDACTED] found in Inmate Mace's [REDACTED] allegation was made and received after the autopsy examination.

Further review of Inmate Mace's [REDACTED] indicated: Inmate Mace [REDACTED] had been in the planning or scheduling stage for approximately 4 to 6 weeks. [REDACTED] were found signed by Inmate Mace.



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Records indicate Inmate Mace had [REDACTED] Inmate Mace became [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Inmate Mace had a [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

There was no indication found in the file of [REDACTED] from a fight or being involved in any physical altercation.

VII. CHARGES

List alleged violations of Florida Law:

- 1. N/A

VIII. CONCLUSION

Based on the information gathered during this investigation, it is the recommendation of Inspector David Allen this case be termed as follows:

- 1. Exceptionally Cleared



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