

Florida Department of Corrections



Office of the Inspector General

**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION
INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST
CASE # 17-10710**



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST SUMMARY REPORT



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Case Number: 17-10710

OIG Inspector: Inspector Tracy Thursbay

Outside Agency: Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Outside Agency Investigator: Special Agent Travis Lawson

Date Assigned or Initiated: June 17, 2017

Complaint Against: N/A

Location of Incident – Institution/Facility/Office: Apalachee C.I. West

Complainant:

Outside Agency Case #: PE-37-0082

Use of Force Number: N/A

PREA Number: N/A

Classification of Incident: Inmate Death/Suicide

Confidential Medical Information Included: Yes No

Whistle-Blower 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.

Investigative Assist Closed

Refers to a disposition of an investigative assist, where the conduct being investigated by the outside agency did not concern allegations against a Department employee, contractor, inmate, offender, or other person either employed or under the supervision of the Department.



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V. PREDICATE

On June 17, 2017, the Department of Corrections Office of the Inspector General (OIG) received notification Inmate Arthur McComb DC# 111947, had been pronounced deceased at Apalachee Correctional Institution – East Unit as a result of an apparent suicide attempt. Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) notification was made, and Inspector Tracy Thursbay responded to ACI East, and provided investigative assistance to FDLE Special Travis Lawson and Bobby Hall.

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:

On June 17, 2017, Inspector Thursbay took six (6) digital photographs (attached) of Inmate McComb, provided District Fourteen Medical Examiner's Office, Whit Majors, Inmate McComb's [REDACTED] and assisted Special Agent Lawson in obtaining all logs and fixed wing video.

On June 17, 2017, Medical Examiner Staff, W. Majors took possession of Inmate McComb's body.

The autopsy report for Inmate McComb indicated on June 19, 2017, an autopsy was conducted by District Fourteen Medical Examiner Jay M. Radtke M.D. and Dr. Radtke concluded the cause of death was [REDACTED] and the manner of Death was Suicide.

On October 4, 2017, Inspector Thursbay received the investigative reports from FDLE Special Agent Lawson, and Special Agent Lawson noted no further investigative activity was anticipated and the investigation was closed.

VII. CHARGES

There were no charges. Dr. Radtke ruled Inmate McComb's death as a suicide as a result of [REDACTED]

VIII. CONCLUSION

Based on the information gathered during FDLE Special Agent Travis Lawson's investigation, it is the recommendation of Inspector Tracy Thursbay the death of Inmate McComb be termed as follows:

- **Exceptionally cleared**

Inspector Thursbay reviewed the investigation completed by FDLE, and administrative issues were/were not identified.