

# Florida Department of Corrections



## Office of the Inspector General

**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION  
INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST  
CASE # 17-08996**



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



**Table of Contents**

<b>I. AUTHORITY .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>II. METHODOLOGY.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>III. ANALYSIS.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>IV. DEFINITIONS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>V. PREDICATE .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>VI. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>VII. CHARGES.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>VIII. CONCLUSION.....</b>	<b>8</b>



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



**Case Number:** 17-08996

**OIG Inspector:** Senior Inspector Stacy L. Harris

**Outside Agency:** Florida Department of Law Enforcement

**Outside Agency Investigator:** Special Agent Brannan Riley

**Date Assigned or Initiated:** 01-15-2015

**Complaint Against:** N/A

**Location of Incident – Institution/Facility/Office:** Santa Rosa Correctional Institution

**Complainant:** Inmate Eric Demps DC #134467 (Deceased)

**Outside Agency Case #:** PE-37-0076

**Use of Force Number:** N/A

**PREA Number:** N/A

**Classification of Incident:** Inmate Death Investigation Assist

**Confidential Medical Information Included:**  Yes  No

**Whistle-Blower Investigation:**  Yes  No

**Chief Inspector General Case Number:**



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



## **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.



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



#### **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.



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



**V. PREDICATE**

On May 22, 2017, at approximately 10:05 p.m., Senior Law Enforcement Inspector Stacy L. Harris received a telephone call from Inspector Supervisor Art Rountree, who advised he received an EAC notification Inmate Eric Demps, DC #134467, Santa Rosa Correctional Institution was found [REDACTED] in his cell due to [REDACTED], and transported to [REDACTED]. Supervisor Rountree advised he would notify FDLE and provide Inspector Harris' contact information.

**VI. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS**

Based on the exhibits, witnesses' testimony, statements, and the record as a whole, presented or available to the primary inspector, the following findings of facts were determined:

On May 22, 2017, the following events occurred in reference to the response to Inmate Demps' death:

At approximately 10:08 p.m., Inspector Harris contacted Shift Supervisor Captain Gary Brown who advised Inmate Demps was housed in C3-219U, and at approximately [REDACTED] during routine Master Roster count, Sergeant Jonathon Gent found Inmate Demps [REDACTED], lying on his back on his bunk. Cellmate, Inmate Marcus Randolph, DC #X81223, attempted to wake Inmate Demps to no avail. Sergeant Gent then initiated [REDACTED] response. After [REDACTED] were attempted in the dormitory, to no avail, Inmate Demps was transported [REDACTED] in Milton, Florida.

Captain Brown advised Inmate Randolph was placed in a shower holding cell and cell C3-219 was secured as a crime scene and a crime scene log was initiated. Captain Brown observed no physical signs [REDACTED] on the person of Inmate Demps. However, Captain Brown did observe [REDACTED] Inmate Demps. Inmate Randolph advised Captain Brown Inmate Demps had been "smoking K2."

At approximately 10:22 p.m., Inspector Harris received a telephone call from Warden Jimmy Coker, in which she informed Warden Coker she was en route and FDLE had been notified.

At approximately 10:23 p.m., FDLE Agent Lee Adams contacted Inspector Harris who relayed the information available at that time. Agent Adams advised he would have agents en route to the institution and to [REDACTED] and would advise Inspector Harris the responding agents' names shortly.

At approximately 10:36 p.m., Inspector Harris called the institution and spoke with Control Room Officer Kristen Blackwell, who advised she had just received a telephone call from Officer Hunter Gill, who was [REDACTED] with Inmate Demps. Officer Gill advised Inmate Demps was pronounced deceased at 10:22 p.m. Officer Blackwell provided Inspector Harris with the cellular telephone number to Officer Gill.

At approximately 10:38 p.m., Inspector Harris called Officer Gill, who advised the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was still present and put her on the telephone. [REDACTED] advised she had just



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



notified the Medical Examiner's Office and stated [REDACTED] pronounced Inmate Demps deceased.

At approximately 10:42 p.m., Inspector Harris updated FDLE Agent Adams of the passing of Inmate Demps.

At approximately 10:48 p.m., Inspector Harris updated Supervisor Art Rountree of Inmate Demps' status.

At approximately 10:49 p.m., Inspector Harris notified Inspector Supervisor Maurice Radford of the call out, per his instruction.

At approximately 10:55 p.m., Inspector Harris received a telephone call from Medical Examiner Chrissy Nieten, who asked if FDLE had been notified yet. Ms. Nieten was referred to FDLE Agent Adams. Ms. Nieten advised she was en route to [REDACTED]

At approximately 11:00 p.m., Inspector Harris arrived at the institution and received a telephone call from FDLE Agent Adams who advised Agents Brannon Riley, Vanessa Carmona and Lisa Lignal were en route. Inspector Harris then met with Warden Coker and Assistant Warden Micha Neal.

At approximately 11:10 p.m., FDLE Agent Riley arrived and Inspector Harris and Warden Neal escorted her to C – Dormitory.

At approximately 11:55 p.m., FDLE Agents Carmona and Lignal arrived at the institution, and were escorted to the Shift Lieutenant's Office.

Inspector Harris assisted with the facilitation of interviews of staff members involved in this incident. FDLE Agent Riley requested a copy of the fixed wing video from security staff and was advised a copy would be provided to her at a later date as there were no staff available to make video copies at that time.

At approximately 1:25 a.m., Inspector Harris, Warden Neal and FDLE Agents Riley, Carmona and Lignal all departed the institution.

On December 29, 2017, Inspector Harris received the case summary report from Agent Riley which indicated the death of Inmate Demps' was accidental caused by [REDACTED]

A review of the Medical Examiner's Autopsy Report, received this same date, indicated the Manner of Death was an "accident," and the Cause of Death was determined to be [REDACTED]

There were no violations of Florida Administrative Code, Florida State Statute or Department of Corrections Policy and Procedure observed during the course of this investigation.

## **VII. CHARGES**

- None



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



**VIII. CONCLUSION**

Inspector Harris reviewed the investigation completed by FDLE, and administrative issues were not identified. Therefore, based on the information gathered during this investigation, it is the recommendation of Senior Inspector Stacy L. Harris the death of Inmate Eric Demps, DC #134467, be determined as accidental and this investigation be closed, termed:

- Investigative Assist Closed