

Florida Department of Corrections



Office of the Inspector General

**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION
INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST
CASE # 17-22541**



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



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Case Number: 17-22541

OIG Inspector: Inspector Michael Collins

Outside Agency: Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Outside Agency Investigator: Special Agent Logan Wilcox

Date Assigned or Initiated: 12-15-2017

Complaint Against: Inmate Eugene Martin, DC# 198071

Location of Incident – Institution/Facility/Office: Franklin Correctional Institution

Complainant: Officer Demtrius Straker

Outside Agency Case #: TL-37-0062

Use of Force Number: N/A

PREA Number: N/A

Classification of Incident: Death Investigation

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 December 15, 2017, Officer Demtrius Straker called for additional security staff to G-Dorm at Franklin Correctional Institution (FCI) after observing Inmate Eugene Martin, DC# 198071 acting [REDACTED]. Inmate Martin was taken [REDACTED] at which time, [REDACTED] and notified the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] at FCI and pronounced Inmate Martin deceased.

Investigator's Note: The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Special Agent (SA) Logan Wilcox advised they will take the lead of this investigation; therefore, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) will act as an assist.

This information was received via MINS to the OIG on December 15, 2017, and assigned as a Death Investigation – Investigative Assist to Inspector Michael Collins on the same day.

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 December 15, 2017 at 1:10 AM, Inspector Supervisor Katouree Jackson contacted myself and advised; Inmate Martin had been pronounced deceased by [REDACTED] at FCI, with the cause of death suspected to be [REDACTED]. SA Supervisor Dave Wilson was notified and contacted me advising he would be sending an agent to FCI. Prior to my arrival at FCI, I spoke with Lieutenant Donald Chambers and requested copies of the fixed wing video be made, as well as, potential witnesses be identified.

I then reviewed the fixed wing video of G2-Dorm where I saw Inmate Martin sitting on his bed appearing to smoke an unknown substance. Inmate Martin then appeared to lean over and fall asleep. Several other inmates were around Inmate Martin and witnessed this, but made no efforts to gain the attention of security staff. Several minutes later, security staff went onto the floor and conducted a security check and immediately notified [REDACTED] after observing Inmate Martin. [REDACTED] staff arrived to G2-Dorm and immediately placed Inmate Martin [REDACTED] and transported him to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] documentation and fixed wing video was collected and turned over to SA Wilcox who also interview all parties involved. On March 28, 2018, I sent an email to SA Wilcox requesting an update to this investigation and received the following reply; "My case number is TL-37-0062. I am trying to close this case in the next few days. I have gotten the ME report back and it showed that Martin [REDACTED]. I'll attach the ME report to this email for you." On April 09, 2018, I sent a follow-up email to SA Wilcox requesting an update to the status of this investigation and received the following response; "Yes. I closed that case as [REDACTED]"



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VII. CHARGES

List alleged violations of Florida Law:

N/A

VIII. CONCLUSION

Based on the information gathered during their investigation, it is the recommendation of FDLE SA Wilcox, the death investigation of Inmate Martin be closed due to [REDACTED]

1. Exceptionally Cleared

Inspector Collins reviewed the investigation completed by FDLE, and no administrative issues were identified.