

# Florida Department of Corrections



## Office of the Inspector General

**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION  
INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST  
CASE 18-04702**



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



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**Case Number:** 18-04708

**OIG Inspector:** Inspector James Padgett

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

**Outside Agency Investigator:** Special Agent Clint Beam

**Date Assigned or Initiated:** 03/12/2018

**Complaint Against:** Inmate Death

**Location of Incident – Institution/Facility/Office:** Jefferson Correctional Institution

**Complainant:** Captain Damon Akins

**Outside Agency Case #:** TL-37-0072

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

**PREA Number:** N/A

**Classification of Incident:** Inmate Death

**Confidential Medical Information Included:**  Yes  No

**Whistle-Blower Investigation:**  Yes  No

**Chief Inspector General Case Number:**



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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 March 11, 2018 at 0550 hours, Inspector James Padgett received a phone call from On-Call Inspector Supervisor Joe Hamner regarding an inmate who had been [REDACTED] at Jefferson Correctional Institution (JCI) in D1-dorm bathroom area. Inspector Supervisor Hamner notified the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), who advised they would be responding.

On March 11, 2018, Sergeant William Scott was notified by Inmate William Jones, DC# 556346 that Inmate Charles Knab, DC# 763408 [REDACTED] D1-dorm bathroom area an [REDACTED]. Sergeant Scott immediately requested assistance [REDACTED] additional security. Additional security, [REDACTED] arrived [REDACTED] for Inmate Knab while being transported to JCI [REDACTED] continued until the arrival [REDACTED]. Once on-scene, [REDACTED] pronounced Inmate Knab deceased.

FDLE Special Agent (SA) Clint Beam responded and took lead of the investigation. This Investigative Assist was assigned to Inspector Padgett on March 12, 2018.

**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 March 11, 2018, Inspector Padgett briefed SA Beam on the information and facts obtained prior to his arrival. SA Beam and Inspector Padgett entered JCI and responded [REDACTED] where SA Beam examined and photographed the deceased body. SA Beam and Inspector Padgett then reported to D-dorm where SA Beam examined and photographed the crime scene. SA Beam and Inspector Padgett conducted interviews of Inmates Virgil Dixon, DC# K59018, Michael Rizzi, DC# 845109, and William Jones, DC# 556346. Officers Azariah Jefferson, William Scott, Chelle Humphrey, Sergeants Joe-Michael Lanclos, Raymond Bartell, [REDACTED] were interviewed by SA Beam.

On March 11, 2018, SA Beam and Inspector Padgett attended the autopsy of Inmate Knab performed by Dr. Lisa Flannagan of the District 2 Medical Examiner's Office (ME). During the examination, Dr. Flannagan did not note [REDACTED] which could have contributed to Inmate Knab's death. Dr. Flanagan [REDACTED] Inmate Knab's [REDACTED] and believed it be consistent with a fall from the toilet. Dr. Flanagan [REDACTED] in Inmate Knab's [REDACTED], or could have caused Inmate Knab's death. Dr. Flannagan noted the cause of death will be pending toxicology and other lab work.

On April 10, 2018, Inspector Padgett received a completed Investigative Demand from SA Beam per the MOU and forwarded SA Beam documents and dorm video related to the investigation. A copy of the dorm video relating to Inmate Knab's death will be stored in the District 3 RECA.

On June 20, 2018, SA Beam received copies of the University of Florida Pathology Laboratories Toxicology Report and the ME's Report. Dr. Flannagan noted no foul play, [REDACTED] relating



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to Inmate Knab's death. The cause of Inmate Knab's death was determined [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

On August 08, 2018, Inspector Padgett received SA Beam's final report relating to the in-custody death of Inmate Knab; where, SA Beam indicated the following in summary:

SA Beam noted there [REDACTED] on Inmate Knab's person and based on his investigative findings, no foul play was suspected. SA Beam investigative findings noted Inmate Knab's cause of death [REDACTED]

**VII. CHARGES**

**List alleged violations of Florida Law:**

1. None

**VIII. CONCLUSION**

This Investigative Assist is closed as the criminal death investigation is unfounded. Inspector Padgett reviewed the investigation completed by FDLE, and no administrative violations were identified.