

Florida Department of Corrections



Office of the Inspector General

**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION
INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST
CASE # 16-11942**



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



Table of Contents

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



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
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INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST SUMMARY REPORT



Case Number: 16-11942

OIG Inspector: Senior Inspector Stacy L. Harris

Outside Agency: Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Outside Agency Investigator: Special Agent Mark Zagar

Date Assigned or Initiated: 06-18-16

Complaint Against: N/A

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

Complainant: Inmate Carlos Larralde, DC #M83387 (*Deceased*)

Outside Agency Case #: PE-37-0048

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:



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 June 18, 2016, Inspector Supervisor Yolanda Brown contacted Law Enforcement Inspector Stacy L. Harris at 7:49 a.m., to advise there was an inmate death at Santa Rosa Correctional Institution – Annex. Supervisor Brown advised she did not have all information from EAC, as the incident just occurred. Inspector Harris contacted Santa Rosa Correctional Institution – Annex, and spoke with Sergeant Carl Cole, who advised Inmate Carlos Larralde, DC #M83387, housed in Q2-105 Single, was found hanging in his single man cell at 7:30 a.m., [REDACTED] had just arrived at the institution, but had not yet made it to the dormitory. Captain William Shaner is the assigned Shift Supervisor.

NOTE: The incident was subsequently reported to Office of the Inspector General under MINS 706950 and an Investigative Assist case was initiated and assigned to Inspector Stacy Harris on June 21, 2016.

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 June 18, 2016, the following actions were taken when Inspector Harris was called to respond to the apparent suicide of Inmate Larralde at Santa Rosa Correctional Institution-Annex:

At approximately 7:55 a.m., Inspector Harris relayed all information to Supervisor Brown, who advised she would be contacting FDLE for response.

At approximately 7:57 a.m., Duty Warden Pam Brown contacted Inspector Harris advised the time [REDACTED] pronounced the death was at 7:56 a.m.

At approximately 7:59 a.m., Inspector Harris notified Supervisor Brown of the time of death so she could inform FDLE.

At approximately 8:17 a.m., Supervisor Brown advised Inspector Harris she made contact with FDLE and they would be en route.

At approximately 8:18 a.m., FDLE Supervisor Eli Lawson contacted Inspector Harris and advised he had two agents en route. Inspector Harris provided a brief of all information to FDLE Agent Lawson.

At approximately 8:33 a.m., FDLE Agent Zagar contacted Inspector Harris to advise he was en route from Pensacola, and was updated on all information available by Inspector Harris.

At approximately 8:46 a.m., Inspector Harris contacted Duty Warden Brown and asked that two copies of the video footage from Q2 from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. be prepared; have the names of the [REDACTED] who pronounced the time of death and contact information; names of all employees present and involved in incident [REDACTED]



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



At approximately 9:00 a.m., Warden James Coker made contact with Inspector Harris and was advised FDLE was en route and Inspector Harris would meet him in Q – Dormitory

At approximately 9:05 a.m., Inspector Harris arrived at Santa Rosa Correctional Institution – Annex.

At approximately 9:15 a.m., Inspector Harris arrived in Q Dormitory and obtained a list of all staff members involved in the incident; had facesheets printed for FDLE and OIG; obtained names of all [REDACTED] involved; obtained names of [REDACTED] and contact information and ensured the cell was still secured, with evidence tape. Two crime scene logs were ongoing, one at the cell front and one with the body, which was moved [REDACTED], within Q – Dormitory. Officer Richard Kerns performed the [REDACTED] checks and advised Inspector Harris, Inmate Larralde was standing in the cell with his back facing the cell door. Sergeant James Evans conducted the [REDACTED] and advised Inspector Harris it was at that time he discovered Inmate Larralde had placed what appeared to be a sheet around his neck and hung himself. NOTE: Inmate Larralde was received from FSP [REDACTED] on May 20, 2016, was moved up [REDACTED] on May 28, 2016. Inmate Larralde [REDACTED] approximately two weeks ago, but remained [REDACTED]

At approximately 9:38 a.m., FDLE Agents Mark Zagar and Larry Shallar arrived and were provided all information gathered by Inspector Harris.

At approximately 10:05 a.m., FDLE Agent Zagar released the cell back to security.

At approximately 10:13 a.m., FDLE Agent Zagar [REDACTED] the body and released. Asked Inspector Harris to contact the Medical Examiner's office.

At approximately 10:13 a.m., Inspector Harris made contact with the Medical Examiner's call service and was advised Brittany Munro would be in contact shortly.

At approximately 10:17 a.m., Inspector Harris was contacted by Ms. Munro who advised she was en route from Gulf Breeze and would contact body removal services.

At approximately 10:25 a.m., FDLE Agent Zagar advised during Officer Kerns' interview, he advised Inmate Larralde was in the same location, with his back to the cell door, when he conducted the [REDACTED] as he was found at 7:30 a.m.

At approximately 10:29 a.m., Warden Coker was notified of this information and, after further review of the camera, it was determined Sergeant Rueben Bence conducted the [REDACTED] Control Room was instructed to have Sergeant Bence report back to the institution.

At approximately 10:45 a.m., Chaplain James Burkhardt advised he notified Inmate Larralde's mother at this time, through an interpreter, as she did not speak English.

At approximately 11:00 a.m., Medical Examiner Brittany Munro arrived at the institution. Inspector Harris provided Ms. Munro with a brief of all information gathered thus far. Ms. Munro first photographed cell Q2-105S, then [REDACTED] Inspector Harris provided Ms. Munro with a copy of the deceased's facesheet and requested staff to Ms. Munro as necessary for her report.



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



At approximately 12:04 p.m., Body Recovery Services arrived at the institution. Ms. Munro was notified.

FDLE will be lead investigating agency in this case, and recovered all evidence from the scene. Inspector Harris will provide any further necessary assistance as requested. Q – Dormitory logs from night shift on June 17, 2016, as well as day shift Q – Dormitory logs were copied and provided by security to FDLE, at their request. Officer Robert Olson prepared and provided copies of the video footage from Q – Dormitory areas as requested by FDLE.

On June 13, 2017, Inspector Harris requested, received and reviewed a copy of FDLE Special Agent Zagar's case summary report.

According to FDLE Agent Zagar's final report, "On June 18, 2016, at approximately 0734hrs (CST), Inmate Carlos Larralde (DC# M83387) [REDACTED] hanging in his confinement cell, by Correctional Officers at the Santa Rosa Correctional Institution in Milton, Florida (Santa Rosa County). Inmate Larralde was later pronounced deceased. On this, same date, at approximately 0919hrs. (EST), the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Watch Desk was contacted by the Florida Department of Corrections (FDOC) requesting assistance concerning the in-custody death of Inmate Larralde.

On August 1, 2016, Special Agent (SA) Mark Zagar received a copy of the autopsy report for inmate Carlos Larralde from the Office of the District Medical Examiner. The report indicated Larralde's cause of death [REDACTED] and the manner of death was Suicide. A copy of the report was placed in related items."

There were no violations of Florida Administrative Code, Florida State Statute or Department of Corrections Policy and Procedures noted in this investigation.

VII. CHARGES

- None

VIII. CONCLUSION

Inspector Harris reviewed the investigation completed by FDLE, and administrative issues were not identified. Therefore, it is the recommendation of Senior Inspector Stacy L. Harris the death of Inmate Carlos Larralde, DC #M83387, be deemed a Suicide and this case be termed:

- Investigative Assist Closed