

# Florida Department of Corrections



## Office of the Inspector General

**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION  
INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST  
CASE # 17-13179**



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>8</b>
<b>VIII. CONCLUSION.....</b>	<b>8</b>



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**Case Number:** 17-13179

**OIG Inspector:** Senior Inspector Louis Cordova

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

**Outside Agency Investigator:** Special Agent Matt Infinger

**Date Assigned or Initiated:** June 26, 2017

**Complaint Against:** N/A

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

**Complainant:** Sergeant Timothy Lingo

**Outside Agency Case #:** PE-37-0087

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

**PREA Number:** N/A

**Classification of Incident:** Inmate Death Investigation

**Confidential Medical Information Included:**  Yes  No

**Whistle-Blower Investigation:**  Yes  No

**Chief Inspector General Case Number:** N/A



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**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  
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**INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST SUMMARY REPORT**



**V. PREDICATE**

On July 26, 2017, the Department of Corrections Office of the Inspector General received notification Inmate Jarquez Jones (DC#R64084) [REDACTED] in his cell at Santa Rosa Correctional Institution. [REDACTED], and Inmate Jones was pronounced deceased on June 26, 2017, at approximately 8:56 p.m. Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) notification was made, and Inspector Darla Henderson responded to Santa Rosa Correctional Institution on June 26, 2017, to provide investigative assistance to FDLE. On February 28, 2018, the case was re-assigned to Senior Inspector Louis Cordova.

**VI. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATIVE FINDINGS**

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

**Investigator's Note:** *The summary findings listed below were obtained from the FDLE investigative reports associated with FDLE Case# PE-37-0087.*

According to FDLE Special Agent Matt Infinger, on July 26, 2017, he was notified of an inmate death which had occurred at Santa Rosa Correctional Institution (SARCI). FDLE Special Agents Infinger and Matthew White both responded to SRCI. Medical Examiner Investigator (MEI) Neiten (Chrissy Neiten) also responded to SARCI.

FDLE Special Agent Infinger, and FDLE Special Agent White, and MEI Neiten went to cell G3-118 which housed Inmate Jones. FDLE Special Agent Infinger observed a partially smoked hand-made cigarette on the floor of the cell. FDLE Special Agent Infinger collected the cigarette and turned it in as evidence to be examined by FDLE's chemistry lab. FDLE Special Agents Infinger and White interviewed several SRCI staff members [REDACTED]. FDLE Special Agent White interviewed the cellmate of Inmate Jones, Inmate John Rose, who indicated Inmate Jones had been smoking "Spice" [REDACTED] and had to be removed from the cell.

FDLE Special Agent Infinger and MEI Neiten observed and photographed the body of Inmate Jones. [REDACTED] Inmate Jones.

According to Captain Jeremy Godfrey, he was the supervisor for the institution during the incident. Captain Godfrey stated he spoke with Inmate Rose, who was the cellmate of Inmate Jones. Inmate Rose advised Inmate Jones [REDACTED]. Inmate Rose stated he tried to get Inmate Jones attention by shaking him and asking him if he was ok. Captain Godfrey said Inmate Rose told him he summoned for help by kicking on the cell door. Inmate Rose told Captain Godfrey he did not know if Inmate Jones had taken anything, but "spice" was common in close management.

According to Lieutenant Shane Carr, he was working in B-dormitory when he received a call for assistance [REDACTED] inmate. Lieutenant Carr responded to G3-dormitory. Lieutenant Carr stated when he arrived, the cell door had been breached and other staff members [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] Lieutenant Carr stated he assisted [REDACTED] Inmate Jones [REDACTED]. Lieutenant Carr indicated Inmate Jones [REDACTED].



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



According to Sergeant Timothy Lingo, he was assigned to G-dormitory, but was in another dormitory when the incident occurred. Sergeant Lingo stated he responded to cell 3118 when Inmate Rose told him Inmate Jones had "smoked some of that stuff, [REDACTED]." Sergeant Lingo stated he secured Inmate Rose with handcuffs and removed him from the cell. Sergeant Lingo stated he tried a [REDACTED] Inmate Jones, [REDACTED] Sergeant Lingo indicated [REDACTED] on Inmate Jones' bunk and a "joint" on the ground that resembled "spice." Sergeant Lingo indicated other staff [REDACTED] to Inmate Jones, and he only helped by placing Inmate Jones on the floor. Sergeant Lingo stated "spice" was commonly found in close management, but he was not aware of any previous incidents involving Jones or Rose.

According to Sergeant Thomas Hawkins, he was working in the E-dormitory when he received a call for assistance in G-dormitory. Sergeant Hawkins stated he went to Wing 3 and observed two (2) officers [REDACTED] Inmate Jones. Sergeant Hawkins indicated he retrieved [REDACTED] to Inmate Jones. Sergeant Hawkins [REDACTED] Jones [REDACTED] Sergeant Hawkins stated Inmate Jones [REDACTED] Inmate Jones, [REDACTED]. Sergeant Hawkins stated he assisted in moving Inmate Jones [REDACTED]

According to Sergeant Justin Suggs, he was called over the radio and asked to respond to G-Dorm cell 3118 for [REDACTED] inmate. Sergeant Suggs stated he entered the cell and observed [REDACTED] Sergeant Suggs stated the inmate was on the top bunk and placed in hand restraints. Sergeant Suggs indicated the inmate was then placed on the floor [REDACTED] Inmate Jones. Sergeant Suggs stated [REDACTED] until Inmate Jones [REDACTED]

According to Sergeant Justin Ellis, he heard a call [REDACTED] an inmate requesting officers to respond to G-dormitory. Sergeant Ellis stated he responded to G-dormitory cell 3118. Sergeant Ellis stated he observed other officers [REDACTED] Inmate Jones. Sergeant Ellis stated he helped [REDACTED] Inmate Jones [REDACTED] at SRCI and remained present until Inmate Jones [REDACTED]

According to Officer Daniel Perry, he was working in the B-dormitory when he received a call for assistance. Officer Perry stated he assisted [REDACTED] Inmate Jones [REDACTED] Officer Perry said Inmate Jones [REDACTED]

According to Nurse Orlando Caraballo, he arrived at the cell of Inmate Jones and he observed the officers [REDACTED] inmate Jones [REDACTED]. Nurse Caraballo stated Inmate Jones [REDACTED] Inmate Jones. [REDACTED] arrived at approximately 6:30 p.m. and [REDACTED] inmate Jones [REDACTED] Inmate Jones.

According to Inmate John Rose, he was housed with Inmate Jones in cell 3118. Inmate Rose stated Inmate Jones smoked "K2 spice" yesterday and was fine. Inmate Jones got some more spice today through the cell door, and Inmate Jones showed it to him. Inmate Rose stated it appeared to be black in color. Inmate Rose indicated he began smoking and talking about real estate. Inmate Jones was



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



fanning Inmate Rose because it was hot in the cell. Inmate Rose stated Inmate Jones returned to his bunk and he later heard him gargling. He also noticed that his foot was hanging off of the bed. Inmate Rose indicated he called Inmate Jones by name, but did not get a response. He then shook Inmate Jones with no response. Inmate Rose observed Inmate Jones [REDACTED] Inmate Jones opened his eyes and looked directly at Inmate Rose. Inmate Rose then began to kick the cell door to get the attention of staff. Staff eventually responded fifteen (15) to twenty minutes (15-20) later, removed him from the cell, [REDACTED] to Inmate Jones. Inmate Rose indicated Inmate Jones previously told him that spice calmed him down and he only observed him smoking for two (2) days. Inmate Rose indicated Inmate Jones used a battery and Brillo pad to light the spice.

On Friday, July 28, 2017, at 1130 hours, an autopsy was held at the District One Medical Examiner's Office in Pensacola. The autopsy was performed by Dr. Cameron Snider. At the conclusion of the autopsy, Dr. Snider advised he could see no reason why Inmate Jones was deceased. Further results were pending toxicology.

On August 31, 2017, FDLE Special Agent Infinger received the results from FDLE exhibit #1 being submitted to the FDLE chemistry laboratory. The reports stated the exhibit found in Inmate Jones' cell contained Fluoro-ADB(N-(1-Methoxy-3,3-dimethyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl)-1-(fluoropentyl) indazole-3-carboxamide). Synthetic Cannabinoids Class m, according to the FDLE lab report.

On December 1, 2017, FDLE Special Agent Infinger received the autopsy report from Dr. Andrea Minyard of the District One Medical Examiner's Office. Dr. Minyard stated in the report the cause of death [REDACTED]. Dr. Minyard stated the manner of Inmate Jones death was accidental.

**Investigator's Note:** *Senior Inspector Cordova's review of the death investigation completed by FDLE did not identify any administrative issues.*

## VII. CHARGES

There were no charges. Dr. Minyard ruled Inmate Jones' cause of death was accidental [REDACTED]

## VIII. CONCLUSION

Based on the information gathered during FDLE Special Agent Matt Infinger's investigation, it is the recommendation of Senior Inspector Louis Cordova that the death of Inmate Jones be termed as follows:

- **Exceptionally Cleared**