

Florida Department of Corrections



Office of the Inspector General

**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION
INVESTIGATIVE ASSIST
CASE # 18-09586**



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



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Case Number: 18-09586

OIG Inspector: Inspector Julian G. Basford

Outside Agency: Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Outside Agency Investigator: Special Agent Charles Dickson

Date Assigned or Initiated: May 30, 2018

Complaint Against: N/A

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

Complainant: Inmate Jahzwah Johnson DC# Y01704

Outside Agency Case #: PE-37-0140

Use of Force Number: N/A

PREA Number: N/A

Classification of Incident: Inmate Death (Accidental)

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 May 30, 2018, the Florida Department of Corrections, Office of the Inspector General, received notification Inmate Jahzwah Johnson, DC# Y01704, [REDACTED] at Jackson Correctional Institution [REDACTED] Marianna, Florida. At Approximately 10:03 a.m., Inmate Johnson was pronounced deceased [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] Inspector Basford responded and assumed an investigative assist role.

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 May 30, 2018, at approximately 9:04 a.m., Correctional Officer Candi Graham observed Inmate Johnson [REDACTED] in the bathroom area of B-dormitory. Security staff [REDACTED] responded to the dormitory [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] continued as Inmate Johnson was moved to the institution [REDACTED].

At approximately 9:22 a.m., [REDACTED] arrived at Jackson Correctional Institution [REDACTED] of Inmate Johnson.

Due to the nature of Inmate Johnson being found [REDACTED] Florida Department of Law Enforcement Special Agent Supervisor Troy Roper (SAS Roper) was notified and kept abreast of Inmate Johnson's [REDACTED].

At approximately 10:03 a.m., [REDACTED] pronounced Inmate Johnson deceased.

SAS Roper responded to [REDACTED] where he notified the District 14 Medical Examiner's Office and conducted related investigative activity.

Florida Department of Law Enforcement Special Agent Charles Dickson (SA Dickson) responded to Jackson Correctional Institution where he met with Inspector Basford. SA Dickson obtained witness interviews with relevant staff and inmates. The inmate testimony indicated Inmate Johnson did consume synthetic cannabinoid.

On September 20, 2018, SA Dickson received the final case summary, including toxicology, from the District 14 Medical Examiner's Office. In the medical examiner's report, the cause of death was listed as [REDACTED]. The manner of death was listed as an accident. SA Dickson notes during the investigation, [REDACTED] because of a use of force or foul play were found and Inmate Johnson's death [REDACTED].

This investigation found no violations of Florida Statute, Florida Administrative Code, or Department of Corrections Procedures.



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VII. CHARGES

- There were no violations of law found. Medical Examiner Jay Rattle M.D. listed Inmate Johnson's cause of death as accidental.

VIII. CONCLUSION

Based on the information gathered during their investigation, it is the recommendation of FDLE Special Agent Charles Dickson, Inmate Jahzwah Johnson's death is:

- **Exceptionally Cleared**

Inspector Basford reviewed the investigation completed by FDLE, and administrative issues were not identified.