

NEWS RELEASE

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Commissioner Claire DeMatteis

Presented by Deputy Bureau Chief of Prisons, Paul G. Shavack, Public Information Officer
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***UPDATE -SCI Offender Succumbs to Apparent Suicide Attempt**

Georgetown- The Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) and Delaware State Police continue to investigate the apparent suicide of an offender at the Sussex Correctional Institution (SCI) which occurred late Friday August 9, 2019.

Preliminary investigation has determined that the incident occurred on Friday, August 9, 2019 at approximately 11:46 p.m. after Aron W. McNatt, 36 years old from Lewes, Delaware was observed by Correctional Officers hanging by a bedsheet in his cell. He was freed by Correctional Officers and life-saving measures, including CPR, were immediately initiated. Sussex County Emergency Medical Services arrived and transported McNatt to Bayhealth Hospital, Sussex Campus. He was later transferred to Christiana Hospital and remained in critical condition. McNatt succumbed to the suicide attempt and was pronounced dead on Sunday evening, August 11, 2019.

Aron McNatt was being held at SCI since May 8, 2019 serving a 2 year sentence for DUI Alcohol 3rd. He was also recently charged in connection with a contraband smuggling incident at Sussex Correctional Institution on July 30, 2019 and charged with the following felonies; Criminal Solicitation Second Degree, Promoting Prison Contraband, and Conspiracy 2nd Degree. McNatt was arraigned before Justice of the Peace Court 2 and was remanded to Sussex Correctional Institution on \$3000.00 Unsecured Bond.

McNatt's body was turned over to the Division of Forensic Science to conduct an autopsy to determine cause of death. Preliminary investigation by the Delaware State Police Criminal Investigative Unit and the Delaware Department of Correction has determined that this incident is being investigated as an apparent suicide and continues to be an ongoing investigation. There were no suspicious circumstances and no foul play suspected at this time.

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