

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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JTVCC Inmate Death Investigation

Smyrna- The Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) and Delaware Division of Forensic Science are investigating the death of an inmate at James T. Vaughn Correctional Center (JTVCC), which occurred late yesterday afternoon.

Preliminary investigation has determined that on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at approximately 3:35 p.m. John A. Woods, 77 years old from Clayton, Delaware was found unresponsive lying in his bed at the JTVCC geriatric housing unit. Life-saving measures were immediately initiated by Correctional Officers and medical staff until Kent County Emergency Medical Services arrived. Woods was pronounced deceased at JTVCC by Kent County EMS Paramedics.

John A. Woods was serving a Life Sentence plus 75 years at JTVCC since November of 1995 for 6 counts of Unlawful Sexual Intercourse.

Woods' body was turned over to the Division of Forensic Science to conduct an autopsy to determine the cause of death. Preliminary investigation by the Delaware Department of Correction has indicated that there were no suspicious circumstances and no foul play suspected at this time.

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