



NEWS RELEASE

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Commissioner Monroe B. Hudson, Jr.

Presented by Jason P. Miller, Chief of Communications and Community Relations

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DOC announces non-COVID inmate death

Dover, DE – The Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) today announced that **Donnie R. Hawkins**, a 73-year-old inmate from James T. Vaughn Correctional Center (JTVCC), died at Bayhealth Hospital, Kent Campus on Friday, December 23.

Hawkins had been housed in the prison infirmary where he had been receiving treatment for serious chronic health conditions. As his condition deteriorated Hawkins was hospitalized at Bayhealth Hospital, Kent Campus for in-patient treatment. His condition further deteriorated and Hawkins was pronounced dead by hospital medical staff at 4:00 a.m. on December 23. His body was released to the Delaware Division of Forensic Science to determine cause of death.

Hawkins, of Laurel, DE, has been in DOC custody since 2004 and was serving a 44-year prison sentence for possession of a deadly weapon during the commission of a felony, aggravated menacing, assault, unlawful imprisonment, endangering the welfare of a child, and driving a vehicle while prohibited.

If you are a crime victim in need of assistance, you are encouraged to call DOC Victim Services at 302-857-5440.

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