



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

Wilmington, DE – The Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) today announced the death of Steven P. Copp, a 52-year-old inmate from Howard R. Young Correctional Institution (HRYCI) in Wilmington.

On Sunday, January 15, 2023 at approximately 4:38 a.m. Correctional Officers conducting a routine check of his housing unit found Copp unresponsive in his cell. A medical alert was issued and lifesaving measures were immediately initiated. Emergency Medical Services Paramedics arrived and continued lifesaving measures. Copp was pronounced dead at 5:00 a.m. on January 15, 2023 by New Castle County Paramedics.

Delaware State Police were contacted and responded to HRYCI on January 15, 2023 to conduct an independent death investigation. Copp's body was turned over to the Division of Forensic Science to determine cause of death.

Copp, of Lewes, DE has been in DOC custody since October, 2020 and was serving a 26-year sentence for Sexual Exploitation of a Child and Unlawful Sexual Contact.

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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