

NEWS RELEASE

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Commissioner Terra Taylor

Presented by Jason Miller Office of the Commissioner, Community Relations Officer

245 McKee Road | Dover, DE 19904 | Office: 302.857.5440 | Jason.miller@delaware.gov

DOC announces inmate death

Dover, DE – The Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) today announced the death of Roy Blackburn, a 36 year-old inmate from James T. Vaughn Correctional Center.

On Saturday, May 10 at approximately 10:15 a.m. while in conversation with other inmates, Blackburn was observed falling to the ground in his housing area. Facility medical staff immediately responded and Blackburn, who remained alert and responsive, was taken to the infirmary for assessment and observation. While in the infirmary Blackburn became unresponsive, a medical alert was issued, and lifesaving measures were initiated by facility medical staff. Emergency Medical Services Paramedics arrived, continued life-saving measures, and initiated transport to Bayhealth Hospital, Kent Campus. Those measures were unsuccessful, and Blackburn was pronounced dead at Bayhealth Hospital, Kent Campus at 12:51 p.m. on May 10. His body was turned over to the Division of Forensic Science to determine cause of death.

Blackburn, of Claymont, DE had been in DOC custody since 2022 and was serving a 10-year prison sentence for Possession of a Firearm by a Person Prohibited/Possession of Ammunition by a Person 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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