

NEWS RELEASE

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Commissioner Terra Taylor

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

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DOC announces inmate death

Smyrna, DE – The Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) today announced the death of **Harold Wright**, a 71-year-old inmate from James T. Vaughn Correctional Center (JTVCC).

On Friday, June 19, 2026, at approximately 3:40 p.m., while walking to his housing unit from another building on the prison compound, Wright was observed suddenly losing consciousness and falling to the ground. A medical alert was immediately issued and life-saving measures were initiated by facility medical staff. Emergency Medical Services Paramedics arrived and continued life-saving measures. Wright was pronounced dead at JTVCC on June 19 at 4:43 p.m. by medical providers via the on-site Paramedics.

Delaware State Police were contacted and responded to JTVCC to conduct an independent death investigation. Wright's body was turned over to the Division of Forensic Science to determine cause of death.

Wright had been in DOC custody since 1984 and was serving a sentence of 3 Life terms plus 27 years for 1st Degree Rape, 1st Degree Kidnapping, Possession of a Deadly Weapon During the Commission of a Felony, Possession of a Deadly Weapon by a Person Prohibited, Possession of Marijuana, Theft, and Forgery.

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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