



Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Office of the Secretary

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October 2, 2006

STATE OF MARYLAND

ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR.
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL S. STEELE
LT. GOVERNOR

MARY ANN SAAR
SECRETARY

DIVISION OF CORRECTION

DIVISION OF PAROLE AND
PROBATION

DIVISION OF PRETRIAL
DETENTION AND SERVICES

PATUXENT INSTITUTION

MARYLAND COMMISSION
ON CORRECTIONAL
STANDARDS

CORRECTIONAL TRAINING
COMMISSION

POLICE TRAINING
COMMISSION

MARYLAND PAROLE
COMMISSION

CRIMINAL INJURIES
COMPENSATION BOARD

EMERGENCY NUMBER
SYSTEMS BOARD

SUNDRY CLAIMS BOARD

INMATE GRIEVANCE OFFICE

The Honorable Ulysses Currie
Chairman, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

The Honorable Norman Conway
Chairman, House Committee on Appropriations
1312 Whittier Drive
Salisbury, Maryland 21801-3241

RE: Report on Deaths in Correctional Facilities

Dear Chairman Currie and Chairman Conway:

The 2006 Joint Chairmen's Report requested on page 131 that

, provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services provides a detailed report to the budget committees about deaths in the correctional institutions in fiscal 2006. The report shall include the number of deaths, the dates of the deaths, and detailed information about the causes and circumstances.

The Department is providing the enclosed report for your review and comment. This report contains the information requested for the period July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006. The report divides the total number of deaths into a number of categories; i.e., natural, suicide, homicide, execution, intoxication, and unknown with a "rule-out" notation to help distinguish the circumstances surrounding the deaths. It also provides the pertinent details requested by the Committees.

The Committees also requested "that follow-up reports continue to be submitted as deaths occur." Upon approval of the budget committees, the Department would like to provide continued updates on deaths in our institutions on a quarterly basis so that we can provide the Committees with the most accurate information. Providing information on "a death requirement" would cause a tremendous use of time and supplies due to the number of natural deaths due to illness.

The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services would like to request the release of \$100,000 of its appropriation upon review and approval of this report.

I hope this report and all future reports on this matter are both informative and helpful to you and your respective committee members. If the Department or I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-339-5093

Sincerely,

Mary L. Livers, Ph.D.
Acting Secretary

Enclosure

c: Senator Patrick J. Hogan, Vice Chairman, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Senator James E. DeGrange, Sr., Chair, Senate Public Safety, Transportation
and Environment Subcommittee
Delegate Talmadge Branch, Vice Chairman, House Committee on Appropriations
Delegate Joan Cadden, Chair, House Subcommittee on Public Safety and
Administration
Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Members of the House Committee on Appropriations
Deputy Chief of Staff Mary Beth Carozza
Secretary Cecilia Januszkiewicz, Department of Budget and Management
Mr. Alan Friedman, Governor's Director of Legislative Relations
Mr. Warren G. Deschenaux, Department of Legislative Services
Ms. Rebecca Moore, Policy Analyst, Department of Legislative Services
Ms. Cathy Kramer, Department of Legislative Services
Mr. Robert Berkey, Supervisor, Budget Analysis, Department of Budget and
Management
Mr. Edward Cheston, Staff, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Ms. Shirleen Pilgrim, Staff, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
Ms. Elizabeth H. Moss, Staff, House Subcommittee on Public Safety and
Administration
Deputy Secretary G. Lawrence Franklin, DPSCS
Deputy Secretary Mary L. Livers, DPSCS
Assistant Secretary Richard B. Rosenblatt, DPSCS
Director Rhea L. Harris, DPSCS



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES**

**Preliminary Report
To the Joint Chairmen
On
Inmate Deaths**

October 2006

Pursuant to 2006 JCR Page 131-132
SB 110/Ch. 216, 2006
Budget Code Q00A01.01

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor
Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor
Mary Ann Saar, Secretary

Executive Summary

The Joint Chairmen's Report for the FY 2007 Operating Budget requires the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) to provide information on inmate deaths in Fiscal Year 2006. Specifically, the following information was requested:

..., provided that \$100,000 of this appropriation may not be expended until the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services provides a detailed report to the budget committees about deaths in the correctional institutions in fiscal 2006. The report shall include the number of deaths, the dates of the deaths, and detailed information about the causes and circumstances. It is the intent of the General Assembly that the report be submitted by September 1, 2006, and that follow-up reports continue to be submitted as deaths occur.

Death Data

In Fiscal Year 2006, there was a total of 68 deaths of individuals confined to correctional institutions. The largest number of those deaths fall into the "natural" or "illness related" category as a result of the lifestyles of these individuals. The table below provides a synopsis of these death events.

Manner of Death	Number of Deaths
Natural/Illness Related	46
Suicide	9
Alcohol/Drug Intoxication	5
Homicide	3
Execution	1
Unknown, rule out suicide	1
Unknown , rule out natural-illness	2

Deaths occurring in our facilities undergo extensive review by various individuals that include the contractual regional medical directors, contractual mental health staff, DPSCS quality assurance nurses, DPSCS medical director, DPSCS Director of Mental Health, and the State Coroner in some circumstances. These reviews help to determine the cause and manner of death when they are in question. Therefore, in some circumstances, we may not have determined the cause of death or manner of death immediately following the event. For this reason, we have reported a number of death events as "unknown" with a "rule out (R/O)" of certain manners of death based on preliminary reports.

The details of these death events, including date of death, the manner of death, and cause of death, are included in the table below.

DOD	Manner/Death	Cause	Notes	Hep B	Hep C	HIV	MRSA*
Jul-05	Natural	Cancer	Colon				
Jul-05	Natural	Cancer	Liver	Hep B	Hep C		
Jul-05	Natural	Hemorrhage	Ruptured bullae, artery bleed				
Jul-05	Natural	Cancer	Bladder				
Jul-05	Natural	Cirrhosis	Hep A, B, and C				
Jul-05	Natural	Cancer	Lung cancer				
Jul-05	Natural	HIV/AIDS	Hep A, B, and C				
Aug-05	Suicide	Asphyxia	Hanging, AIDS,				
Aug-05	Natural	Liver Disease	Liver failure, Hep C				
Aug-05	Natural	Renal Failure	End stage renal disease, AIDS, Hep C				
Aug-05	Unknown	Sepsis	Possible Septic Shock, Lung cancer, UTI		Hep C		
Aug-05	Suicide	Asphyxia	Hanging				
Aug-05	Natural	Cancer	Prostrate with multiple organ failure				
Aug-05	Alcohol/Drug Intoxication	Intoxication	Narcotic, Hep B and C,				
Sep-05	Natural	Cancer	Liver, Hep B, HIV	Hep B		HIV	
Sep-05	Natural	Pneumonia	AIDS			HIV	
Sep-05	Natural	Cancer	Liver, Hep C		Hep C		
Sep-05	Natural	Pneumonia	HIV from medical examiner's office			HIV	
Oct-05	Suicide	Asphyxia	Hanging; Bipolar				
Nov-05	Natural	Cardiac	Myocarditis				
Nov-05	Natural	Cancer	Esophageal				
Nov-05	A/D Intoxication	Intoxication					
Nov-05	Suicide	Asphyxia	Hanging				

DOD	Manner/Death	Cause	Notes	Hep B	Hep C	HIV	MRSA*
Dec-05	Natural	Cardiac	Hypertensive cardiovascular disease				
Dec-05	EXECUTION	Intoxication	Pavulon sodium pentothal potassium chloride				
Dec-05	Natural		Hodgkin's Disease				
Dec-05	Natural	Stroke	Cerebral stroke				
Dec-05	Natural	Hemorrhage	Intracerebral hemorrhage		Hep C		
Dec-05	Natural	Cardiac	Hypertensive cardiovascular disease				
Dec-05	Natural	Pneumonia	HIV, Hep C confirmed through medical examiner's office		Hep C	HIV	
Dec-05	Natural	Meningitis					
Jan-06	Natural	Pneumonia	Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, human immunodeficiency viral infec.				
Jan-06	Unknown	Cardiac	Possible Heart Attack				
Jan-06	Natural	Cardiac	Cardiovascular disease				
Jan-06	Natural	Cardiac	Hypertensive cardiovascular disease				
Jan-06	Suicide	Asphyxia					
Jan-06	Natural	Cancer	Liver, gastro-intestinal bleeding		Hep C		
Feb-06	Natural	Liver	End Stage liver disease	Hep B	Hep C		
Feb-06	Natural	Other	Complications of neuroleptic malignant syndrome				
Feb-06	Natural	Cardiac	Coronary artery disease, liver cirrhosis				
Feb-06	Natural	Cardiac	Cardiopulmonary failure, end stage liver disease		Hep C	HIV	
Feb-06	A/D Intoxication	Intoxication	Heroin intoxication				

DOD	Manner/Death	Cause	Notes	Hep B	Hep C	HIV	MRSA*
Mar-06	Natural	Sepsis	Bacterial myocarditis, with complicating endocarditis				
Mar-06	Natural	Cancer	Adenocarcinoma GI Tract				
Mar-06	Suicide	Asphyxia	Hanging				
Mar-06	Homicide	Stabbing	Multiple sharp force injury		Hep C		
Mar-06	Natural	Cancer	Lung				MRSA
Mar-06	A/D Intoxication	Intoxication	Narcotic intoxication	Hep B	Hep C		
Apr-06	Natural		AIDS		Hep C	HIV	
Apr-06	Natural	Cancer	Liver	Hep B	Hep C		
Apr-06	Natural	Sepsis	Endocarditic		Hep C		MRSA
Apr-06	A/D Intoxication	Intoxication	Narcotic				
Apr-06	Natural	Cardiac	Cardiac arrhythmia due to cardiomegaly				
Apr-06	Natural		End stage liver disease	Hep B	Hep C	HIV	
Apr-06	Natural	Sepsis	Multi-organ failure				MRSA
May-06	Natural	Cardiac	Hypertensive atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease				
May-06	Natural	Cardiac	Hypertensive atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease	Hep B	Hep C	HIV	
May-06	Homicide	Other	Asphyxia and sharp force injuries				
May-06	Natural	Cardiac	Secondary to stomach cancer				
May-06	Homicide	Stabbing	Multiple sharp forced injuries				
May-06	Suicide	Asphyxia	Hanging				
May-06	Suicide	Asphyxia	Cardiac arrhythmia, asphyxia and cutting wounds				
Jun-06	Natural	Pneumonia	Tonsilar lumpoma			HIV	
Jun-06	Natural		End stage liver disease		Hep C		
Jun-06	Unknown		Possibly suicide by hanging				

DOD	Manner/Death	Cause	Notes	Hep B	Hep C	HIV	MRSA*
Jun-06	Natural	Cirrhosis	Liver	Hep B	Hep C	HIV	
Jun-06	Suicide	Asphyxia	Asphyxia and narcotic heroin intoxication				

*Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus – Bacterial tissue infection.

Conclusion

The Department will continue to update the Committees on death events as they occur. Due to the extensive review of each death and the time lapse between the death event and the review process, the Department will submit the updates on a quarterly basis so that we can provide the Committees with the most accurate information.