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Prison inmate dies in hospital - Another fell - Times-Picayune, The (New Orleans, LA) - March 31, 2005 - page 01

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A month after an Orleans Parish Prison inmate died of tuberculosis, a second inmate has died of suspected bacterial pneumonia, Criminal Sheriff Marlin N. Gusman announced Wednesday.

Clarence Webb died Wednesday at Charity Hospital, a press release said. An autopsy will be performed today, chief coroner's investigator John Gagliano said.

The Sheriff's Office said Webb was booked March 1 with aggravated battery and acts of domestic violence.

While in Parish Prison, he had four routine scheduled examinations but had no medical complaints, the Sheriff's Office said.

But on the evening of March 19, Webb complained of a cold, cough and chest pain. He was examined by a doctor who sent him to Charity, the release said. He remained in the hospital until he died.

Webb was booked the day after inmate John E. Scott Jr., 24, of New Orleans, a murder suspect, died of tuberculosis.

Scott died Feb. 28, four days after he was taken from the prison to the hospital.

His wife, Rechnique Scott, maintains he was not treated soon enough.

Prison officials said Scott was tested twice for TB but both tests were negative.

After Scott's death, prison officials began screening employees and inmates who came in contact with Scott. As of early March, one other inmate had been diagnosed with tuberculosis.

Webb died the same day a rally was held at Tulane Avenue and South Broad Street protesting Scott's death.

"The purpose of the rally was to bring the point out that the system killed John Scott. He never had his day in court, and he's dead," said the Rev. Marie Galatas, pastor of New Creation Christian Church, who organized the rally.

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Bob Ussery can be reached at russery@timespicayune.com or (504) 826-3324.

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