Record of Death

Provided by South Carolina Department of Corrections, February 1, 2022

Name: HENSON, RICHARD MICHAEL

SCDC#: 364452

Sex: M

Race/ethnicity: White, not of Hispanic origin

Date of birth: 3/7/1991

Date of commitment: 6/18/2019

Date of death: 11/4/2019

Cause of death: Suicide

Assigned institution: TURBEVILLE

Death location: OUTSIDE MEDICAL

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HOMEPAGE

28-year-old inmate dies on way to hospital, SC prison official says

BY NOAH FEIT

UPDATED NOVEMBER 05, 2019 1:01 PM

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Underfunded and understaffed, South Carolina's prisons have a lot of problems. Here are the five main issues facing the South Carolina Department of Corrections. BY **ASHLEN RENNER**

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An inmate of a South Carolina prison died as he was being rushed to a hospital Monday night, Department of Corrections officials said.

No foul play is suspected in the death of Richard Michael Henson, who was locked up in the Turbeville Correctional Institution, according to the S.C. Department of Corrections. That is about 60 miles east of Columbia.

Suicide is suspected in the 28-year-old's death, the Department of Corrections said on Twitter.

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After finding Henson, prison officers tried to rescue him and gave him aid, but the 28-year-old died while he was being transported to a local hospital, the Department of Corrections said.

While suicide is suspected, Henson's death is being investigated, and an autopsy will be performed, according to the tweet.

Turbeville is a male-only, medium-security facility, according to the Department of Corrections.

Henson was serving an indeterminate sentence of 1-6 years under the Youthful Offender Act (YOA) for first-degree assault and battery, Department of Corrections spokesperson Chrysti Shain told The State Tuesday.

Most of the inmates at Turbeville were sentenced under the YOA, which is a behavior and performance-driven program for convicts primarily between 17-25 years old, according to the Department of Corrections.

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Henson began serving a shock incarceration sentence in June 2015, and was release to YOA parole in November of that year, Shain said.

After being arrested on a parole violation in March 2019, Henson was returned to the Department of Corrections, according to Shain.

He was locked up again on June 18, and spent most of that time incarcerated in Turbeville, prison records show.

Henson was eligible for parole in May 2020, and prison records show his projected release date was Sept. 13, 2020.

Since being returned to the Department of Corrections in 2019, Henson had not been disciplined or attempted to escape, according to prison records.

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This story was originally published November 5, 2019 11:04 AM.

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DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE, STANDARDS, AND INSPECTIONS
SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
REPORT OF INMATE DEATH

(Sections 24-9-35 and 17-7-10, South Carolina Code of Laws)
(Standards 1047 and 1049, Minimum Standards for Local Detention Facilities in South Carolina)
(SCDC Policies/Procedures HS-18.04 and PS-10.05)

1. FACILITY: Turbeville Correctional Institution

2. NAME OF DECEASED: Richard Henson SCDC# 364452

3. HOME ADDRESS [redacted]

4. DESCRIPTION: DOB [redacted] HEIGHT 5'4" WEIGHT 153 lbs HAIR Blonde
EYES Brown SEX Male RACE White SOC SEC # [redacted]

5. ARRESTING OFFENSE(S): Assault and Battery
SENTENCED ☑ PRETRIAL ☐

6. DATE AND TIME OF COMMITMENT: 6-18-19

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF RELATIVE(S) OF THE DECEASED CONTACTED: Atonna Watkins(Mother)
[redacted]

8. RECORD OF DECEASED INMATE'S PHYSICAL CONDITION UPON ADMISSION: Good

9. CAUSE OF DEATH: Asphyiation by Hanging -Pending Autopsy Report

10. TIME AND DATE OF DEATH: ____ a.m. 7:23 p.m. 4th day November month 2019 year

11. NAME OF DOCTOR WHO PRONOUNCED DEATH: ER Doctor - [redacted] Sumter, S.C. 29150

12. NAME OF CORONER WHO ORDERED AUTOPSY: Sumter County Coroner, Sumter, S.C. 29150

13. AUTOPSY PERFORMED BY: Newberry Pathology Associates, Newberry, S.C. 29150

14. NAME OF PERSON DISCOVERING DECEASED, TIME DISCOVERED, AND LOCATION WITHIN FACILITY:
Lt. Barbara Thomas and Ofc. Julian Shaw at approx. 6:42 p.m. on 11-4-19 in cell 229 on Wyboo A-Wing.

15. AT THE TIME OF DEATH: 1024 (Actual Count) 14 (# of Officers on Duty)

16. WHEN INMATE WAS LAST SEEN ALIVE: Approx. 7:13 p.m. as EMS exited Trubeville Medical with offender.

NOTIFY BY TELEPHONE AT: (803) 896-8502

MAIL OR DELIVER REPORT TO:

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE, STANDARDS, AND INSPECTIONS
POST OFFICE BOX 21787
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29221

A/W James C. Quattlebaum

SIGNATURE OF OFFICIAL MAKING REPORT

Associate Warden for Operations
TYPED OR PRINTED TITLE OF OFFICIAL

11/12/19
DATE OF REPORT

SCDC 8-2 (Revised July 1, 2011)

Records for Production FOIA-0115-22 Group 8 000020