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Prison inmate dies after beating

By Stephen Betts | Jun 08, 2011



Warren — A 51-year-old Maine State Prison inmate died June 7, two weeks after being taken to the hospital following an assault.

Lloyd Franklin Millett died Tuesday evening at Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor, according to Associate Maine Corrections Commissioner Jody Breton.

She said the Maine State Police, Maine Attorney General's Office, and the Maine Medical Examiner were notified of Millett's death as is the policy of the department when an inmate dies.

State police have been investigating the case since the assault was reported May 24 at the prison. Few details have been released. Breton said she could not comment further on an ongoing investigation.

Maine Public Safety spokesman Stephen McCausland said an autopsy will be conducted. He said one inmate is suspected in the May 24 assault.

Millett was serving a life sentence for the murder of two women in the Lewiston area in 1995.

This is the second possible homicide involving an inmate in a little more than two years.

On April 24, 2009, prisoner Sheldon Weinstein died. State police determined in May 2009 that the death was a homicide that resulted from a beating.

No one has been charged in the case. McCausland said June 8 that no new developments have occurred in that case.

Advocates for inmates have claimed that the death of prisoner Victor Valdez on Nov. 27, 2009, also deserves to be investigated further than what was done by the state.

The Maine Prisoner Advocacy Coalition filed a request in March with the U.S. Department of Justice calling for a federal probe of the way inmates are treated.

The coalition claims that inmates contacted the organization eight days prior to Valdez's death, stating he had been carried from his cell to a segregation unit of the prison by guards. Valdez was

bleeding profusely, according to the inmates who contacted the coalition. Valdez, who did not speak English, was being sent to segregation for not responding quickly enough to a lockdown command, the coalition stated.

<http://knox.villagesoup.com/news/story/prison-inmate-dies-after-beating/407706?cid=183053>