



**U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons**

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Inmate Death at FCI Bennettsville

WASHINGTON, D.C.: On Monday, August 30, 2021, inmate Rakeem Baskerville tested positive for COVID-19 at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Bennettsville in Bennettsville, South Carolina, and was immediately placed in medical isolation. On the same day, he was evaluated by institution medical staff for shortness of breath, and was subsequently transferred to a local hospital for further treatment and evaluation.

On Friday, September 3, 2021, Mr. Baskerville's condition worsened and he was placed on a ventilator. On Saturday, September 4, 2021, Mr. Baskerville, who had pre-existing medical conditions, which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) lists as risk factors for developing more severe COVID-19 disease, was pronounced deceased by hospital staff.

Mr. Baskerville was a 46-year-old black male who was sentenced in the District of New Jersey to a Life sentence for Conspiracy to Distribute More Than 5 Kilograms of Cocaine and More Than 1 Kilogram of Heroin. He had been in custody at FCI Bennettsville since August 24, 2017.

FCI Bennettsville is a medium security facility that currently houses 1,467 male offenders.

The Bureau of Prisons will continue to provide daily updates and information on actions related to COVID-19 at www.bop.gov/coronavirus/index.jsp.

Additional information about the Bureau of Prisons can be found at www.bop.gov.

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