U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons

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Inmate Death at FCI Beaumont Low

WASHINGTON, D.C.: On Friday, November 6, 2020, inmate Robert Neal Hatchell tested positive for COVID-19 at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Beaumont Low in Beaumont, Texas, and was immediately placed in medical isolation. On Tuesday, November 17, 2020, in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines, Mr. Hatchell was converted to a status of recovered, following the completion of medical isolation and presenting with no symptoms.

On Friday, September 3, 2021, Mr. Hatchell was evaluated by institution medical staff for abdominal symptoms and subsequently was transported to a local hospital for further treatment and evaluation. On Monday, September 6, 2021, Mr. Hatchell, who had long-term, pre-existing medical conditions, which the CDC lists as risk factors for developing more severe COVID-19 disease, was pronounced deceased by hospital staff.

Mr. Hatchell was a 63-year-old male who was sentenced in the Southern District of Texas to an aggregate 15-year sentence for Distribution and Possession of Child Pornography and Sexual Exploitation of Children. He had been in custody at FCI Beaumont since July 10, 2017.

FCI Beaumont Low is a low security facility that currently houses 1,457 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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