



U. S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons
United States Penitentiary
Pine Knot, Kentucky

For Immediate Release
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Death at USP McCreary

PINE KNOT, KY: On Monday, February 16, 2026, at approximately 11:30 a.m., employees responded to multiple incarcerated individuals fighting at the United States Penitentiary (USP) McCreary in Pine Knot, Kentucky.

Responding employees isolated and contained the incident, and at no time was the public in danger. Emergency medical services (EMS) were requested while life-saving efforts continued.

Mr. Kenneth Lee was transported by EMS to a local hospital and was subsequently pronounced deceased by hospital personnel.

Two additional inmates were transported to a local hospital for evaluation and treatment. One employee sustained injuries and was transported to a local hospital for evaluation.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation was notified.

Mr. Lee was a 33-year-old male who was sentenced in the Western District of Oklahoma to a 112-month sentence for Felon in Possession of a Firearm. He had been in custody at USP McCreary since December 12, 2024.

USP McCreary is a high security facility.

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

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