



U. S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons
Federal Correctional Institution
Thomson, Illinois

For Immediate Release
March 5, 2026

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Death at FCI Thomson

THOMSON, IL: On Thursday, March 5, 2026, at approximately 2:25 p.m. Mickell Close was found unresponsive at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Thomson in Thomson, Illinois.

Responding employees initiated life-saving measures. Emergency medical services (EMS) were requested while life-saving efforts continued. Mr. Close was transported by EMS to a local hospital and subsequently pronounced deceased by hospital personnel.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation was notified.

No employees or other incarcerated individuals were injured and at no time was the public in danger.

Mr. Close was a 44-year-old male who was sentenced in the Southern District of Ohio to a 300-month sentence for Using a Minor to Engage in Sexually Explicit Conduct for the Purpose of Producing or Transmitting a Visual Depiction of such Conduct. He had been in custody at FCI Thomson since May 28, 2025.

FCI Thomson is a low security facility.

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

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