



U. S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons
United States Penitentiary
Bruceton Mills, West Virginia

For Immediate Release
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Contact: K. Bigart
Public Information Officer
(304) 379-5000

Death at USP Hazelton

BRUCETON MILLS, WV: On Monday, May 25, 2026, at approximately 9:05 p.m., Cecil Buckner was found unresponsive at the United States Penitentiary (USP) Hazelton in Bruceton Mills, West Virginia.

Responding employees initiated life-saving measures. Emergency medical services (EMS) were requested while life-saving efforts continued. Mr. Buckner was subsequently pronounced deceased by EMS 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. Buckner was a 46-year-old male who was sentenced in the Middle District of Florida to a 414-month sentence for Conspiracy and Interfering with Interstate Commerce by Robbery, Carrying and Brandishing a Firearm During a Crime of Violence. He had been in custody at USP Hazelton since March 18, 2026.

USP Hazelton is a high security facility.

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

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