



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Inmate Death at FCI Butner I

WASHINGTON, D.C.: On Thursday, March 26, 2020, inmate Charles Richard Rootes, went into respiratory failure at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Butner I, in Butner, North Carolina. He was evaluated by institutional medical staff and transported to a local hospital for further treatment and evaluation. While at the local hospital, Mr. Rootes tested positive for COVID-19. On Friday, March 27, 2020, his condition declined and he was placed on a ventilator. On Saturday, April 11, 2020, Mr. Rootes, who had long-term, pre-existing medical conditions which the CDC lists as risk factors for developing more severe COVID-19 disease, was pronounced dead by hospital staff.

Mr. Rootes was an 81 year-old male who was sentenced in the Eastern District of Tennessee to a 99-year sentence for Kidnapping, National Motor Vehicle Theft Act, and Rape. He had been in custody at FCI Butner I since October 22, 2019.

FCI Butner I is a Medium security facility that currently houses 641 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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