



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

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Inmate Death at USP Marion**

WASHINGTON, D.C.: On Wednesday, July 22, 2020, inmate Earl James tested positive for COVID-19 at the United States Penitentiary (USP) Marion, in Marion, Illinois. On Monday, July 27, 2020, he was evaluated by institutional medical staff for increased shortness of breath, coughing and hypoxia. He was transported to a local hospital for further treatment and evaluation. On Sunday, August 2, 2020, Mr. James, who had 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. James was a 65-year-old male who was sentenced in the District of Arizona to a 360-month sentence for Sexual abuse, Aggravated Sexual Abuse of a Minor and Abusive Sexual Contact, and Attempted Aggravated Sexual Abuse of a Minor. He had been in custody at USP Marion since August 18, 2008.

USP Marion is a Medium security facility that currently houses 1,216 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](http://www.bop.gov/coronavirus/index.jsp)

Additional information about the Bureau of Prisons can be found at [www.bop.gov](http://www.bop.gov).

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