



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

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Inmate Death at FCI Terre Haute

WASHINGTON, D.C.: On Tuesday, November 17, 2020, inmate James Lee Wheeler tested positive for COVID-19 at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Terre Haute in Terre Haute, Indiana, and was placed in medical isolation. On Wednesday, November 25, 2020, Mr. Wheeler was evaluated by institution medical staff for confusion and decreased oxygen saturation. On the same day, he was transported to a local hospital for further treatment and evaluation. On Monday, December 7, 2020, Mr. Wheeler, who had long-term, pre-existing medical conditions which the CDC lists as risk factors for developing more severe COVID-19 disease, was pronounced deceased by hospital staff.

Mr. Wheeler was a 78-year-old male who was sentenced to a Life sentence following convictions in the Middle District of Florida and the Northern District of Ohio for Obstruction of Justice, Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Prohibited Activities, and Conspiracy to Possess with Intent to Distribute Cocaine, Methamphetamine, LSD, Marijuana, Ecstasy, and Valium. He had been in custody at the Federal Correctional Complex Terre Haute in Terre Haute, Indiana, since May 22, 2017.

FCI Terre Haute is a medium security facility that currently houses 887 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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