



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

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
September 9, 2021

Contact: Office of Public Affairs  
202-514-6551

**Inmate Death at FCI Talladega**

WASHINGTON, D.C.: On Wednesday, August 5, 2020, inmate Johnny Walter Spragg tested positive for COVID-19 at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Talladega in Talladega, Alabama, and was placed in medical isolation. Institution medical staff monitored Mr. Spragg's condition and provided treatment. On Monday, August 17, 2020, in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines, Mr. Spragg was converted to a status of recovered, following the completion of medical isolation and presenting with no symptoms.

On Thursday, November 19, 2020, Mr. Spragg was found unresponsive. Responding staff immediately initiated life-saving measures. Staff requested emergency medical services (EMS) and life-saving efforts continued. Subsequently, Mr. Spragg was transported by EMS to a local hospital. On the same day, Mr. Spragg, who had 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. Spragg was a 29-year-old male who was sentenced in the Northern District of Alabama to an aggregate 6-year sentence for Distribution of a Controlled Substance and Possession of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Drug Trafficking Offense. He had been in custody at FCI Talladega since August 5, 2020.

FCI Talladega is a medium security facility that currently houses 803 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).

###