



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

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Inmate Death at FCI Bennettsville

WASHINGTON, D.C.: On Tuesday, October 19, 2021, inmate Eugene Lamont Friend was found unresponsive at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Bennettsville in Bennettsville, South Carolina. Responding staff immediately initiated life-saving measures. Staff requested emergency medical services (EMS) and life-saving efforts continued. Mr. Friend was subsequently pronounced deceased by hospital staff.

Mr. Friend, who had pre-existing medical conditions which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) lists as risk factors for developing more severe COVID-19 disease, tested positive for COVID-19 post-mortem. Following a review of the recently received autopsy report, it was determined Mr. Friend's death was related to COVID-19.

Mr. Friend was a 50-year-old male who was sentenced in the Eastern District of Virginia to a Life sentence for Conspiracy to Interfere with Commerce by Violence and Carjacking. He had been in custody at FCI Bennettsville since February 11, 2016.

FCI Bennettsville is a medium security facility that currently houses 1,529 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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