

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State inmate dies in Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility

JACKSON –A state inmate at the Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility in Tutwiler has died.

Preston Ray Johnson, 33, was found unresponsive in his cell Tuesday morning. An emergency response team and medical staff immediately responded and EMS was called.

Johnson, MDOC # 177524, was pronounced deceased at 6:30 a.m.

His death appears to be a suicide, based on a preliminary investigation, according to the county coroner. An autopsy is planned.

Johnson was convicted of grand larceny twice and fleeing a law enforcement officer in 2019 in Panola County and received a total of nine years and 250 days to serve.

CoreCivic staff immediately notified MDOC of Johnson's death. An investigation is underway and the facility's staff and administrators are cooperating fully.

CoreCivic contracts with the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) to house inmates moved from the Mississippi State Penitentiary.