

INMATE DEATHS

STANDARD NO(S):

NYSSA # 115

DATE:

December 10, 2009

REFER TO:

Jack S. Stenberg

I. OBJECTIVE:

To establish the Seneca County Sheriff's Office policy and procedures for the investigation of inmate deaths in or outside of the Correctional Facility.

II. POLICY:

It is the policy of the Seneca County Sheriff's Office to thoroughly investigate all inmate deaths, whether or not such death occurs within the facility.

III. DETAILS:

- A. In the event of the death of an inmate committed to the Correctional Facility, the shift supervisor will:
 - 1. Ensure the inmate's cell and area of death is secured by physical presence.
 - 2. Cause administrative notifications to be made pursuant to "**Administrative Notifications**", this manual.
 - 3. Notify the SCSO Criminal Investigations Division.
 - 4. Ensure all Corrections staff prepare and file required reports by the end of their respective tour of duty.
- B. The Chief Administrative Officer or Corrections Lieutenant will make or cause to be made all notifications and reports to be filed in accordance with New York State Commission of Corrections Minimum Standards section 7022.4.
- C. After a death of an in custody inmate, the Sheriff will notify or cause to be notified a medical examiner or coroner.
 - 1. If the cause of death is unknown or the inmate was not under facility medical care, a postmortem may be in order.
 - 2. If the death was, or suspected to be, a suicide, a postmortem psychological profile may be warranted.
- D. The Criminal Investigations Division will conduct a full and thorough investigations surrounding the facts and circumstances surrounding the death of such inmate.

- E. Notification of the inmates next of kin or gurardian will be in compliance with “**Inmate Injury/Death – Notification of Next of Kin/Guardian**”, this manual.