



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Department of Corrections
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March 16, 2021

Via Email Transmission Only
[dolovich@law.ucla.edu]

Sharon Dolovich, Professor of Law
Director, UCLA Law Covid-19 Behind Bars Data Project
P.O. Box 951476
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1476

Re: APRA Request

Dear Professor Dolovich:

We are writing in response to your Access to Public Records Act request dated March 13, 2021 and received in my office on March 15, 2021 wherein you request "the monthly count of inmates who have died while under the custody of the State of Rhode Island Dept. of Corrections from January, 2015 to December 2020 whether by facility or systemwide depending on the availability of the data. Please include cause of death information if available."

We have had an opportunity to review your requests and have attached hereto a three-page Excel Table which is responsive to same which are in possession of the Rhode Island Department of Corrections. Please be advised that we have redacted any information that is personally identifiable and not subject to disclosure pursuant to R.I.G.L. §38-2-2(A)(1)(b). Furthermore, we have redacted the facility locations as to each inmate death due to the size of the RI DOC, as this information could potentially be used for reidentification purposes which would violate the HIPAA Confidentiality Laws.

In accordance with Rhode Island General Laws §38-2-8, if you are dissatisfied with this response you may wish to file a complaint with the Department of the Attorney General, 150 South Main Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903 or the Rhode Island Superior Court of Providence County. Additional information concerning the Access to Public Records Act is available through the Attorney General's website at www.riag.ri.gov.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Kelly, Esq.
Executive Legal Counsel

KMK:dmg
Attachment

**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
HEALTH SERVICES**

Death List 2020

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Loc	Cause of Death	Sentence (life or life w/o parole)	M&M
		1/11/2020		Suicide (hanging) – (FINAL)		
		6/23/2020		Expired at RIH - Lung CA, CAD, Emphysema (pending M.E. report)		
		7/18/2020		Expired at Kent Hospital – CA Lung with Mets to liver – no autopsy		
		9/5/2020		Suicide (hanging) – (FINAL)		
		9/23/2020		Complications of interstitial lung disease (FINAL)		
		12/8/2020		Expired at RIH – Organic Cardiovascular Disease, natural death (FINAL)		
		12/19/2020		COVID-related death (Pending cause of death from M.E.)		
		12/25/2020		COVID-19 Pneumonia (FINAL)		

Death List 2019

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Loc	Cause of Death	Sentence (life or life w/o parole)	M&M
		7/30/19		? Suicide		
		8/7/19		Health related issues (CVA, etc)		
		11/14/19		Encephalopathy of uncertain natural etiology		

Death List 2018

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Loc	Cause of Death	Sentence (life or life w/o parole)	M&M
		4/1/18		Respiratory Failure – Final 8/23/18		
		4/22/18		Metastatic colon cancer – Final 8/23/18		
		6/3/18		Hanging – Suicide; Hanged self from medical bed railing using jail issued pants. Note: Pt transferred from Medium to ISC for Med Obs (FINAL 6/4/18 rec'd 6/15/18)		

		6/3/18		Hanging-Suicide; hanged self in jail cell using bed sheet. Note: Pt recommitted on date of death, exp of sentence on 6/1/18 (FINAL 6/5/18 rec'd 6/15/18)		
		7/9/18		Inmate expired at Hospice. Pending diagnoses from medical examiner		

Death List 2017

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Loc	Cause of Death	Sentence (life or life w/o parole)	M&M
		1/28/17		Hypertensive cardiovascular disease. Manner: Natural. (FINAL 4/11/17)		
		3/17/17		Multiple injuries due to jump from height; manner of death: Suicide . FINAL 3/20/17, received 4/7/17.		
		6/9/17		Lung cancer. Manner: Natural (FINAL 11/14/2017)		
		7/11/17 @11:40 am		Hanging. Manner: Suicide (FINAL 8/18/17)		
		9/7/17		Hepatocellular carcinoma. Manner: Natural. (FINAL 1/12/18)		
		12/6/17		Multiple organ failure due to cirrhosis of the liver. Other: history of hepatitis C, drug abuse. Manner: Natural. (FINAL 12/7/17)		
		12/10/17		Hanging with bedsheet. Manner: Suicide (FINAL 1/12/18)		
		12/22/17		Atherosclerotic coronary artery disease. Manner: Natural. (FINAL 12/22/17)		

Death List 2016

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Loc	Cause of Death	Sentence (life or life w/o parole)	M&M
		4/2/16		Cardiac arrhythmia associated with chronic substance abuse in Methadone maintenance therapy; hypertension, obesity, myositis. FINAL 9/7/16		
		8/5/16		Expired at Miriam Hypertensive cardiovascular disease, cardiomyopathy, atrial fibrillation, non-ST-segment myocardial infarction, alcoholism (UPDATED 8/18/17)		

Death List 2015

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Loc	Cause of Death	Sentence (life or life w/o parole)	M&M
		3/9/15		Hypoxic respiratory failure secondary to malignant pleural effusion secondary to metastatic renal cell carcinoma. Other: Hepatitis C. FINAL as of 6/4/15. Patient expired at RIH		
		4/24/15 (11:15 pm)		Expired at RIH. End stage liver disease with anasarca, jaundice, and portal hypertension due to hepatic cirrhosis and large liver mass consistent with hepatocellular carcinoma due to Hepatitis C and B infections due to history of alcohol and intravenous drug use. (FINAL from M.E.) Other: Hypertension		
		5/17/15		Hypertensive atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease with congestive heart failure and pacemaker. Other: Insulin dependent diabetes; hypercholesterolemia; obesity; anemia; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. FINAL 6/4/15		
		10/24/15		Cocaine Use; ambiguous genitalia with endocrine abnormalities. Natural death. (Amended Final 1/16/16)		
		11/1/15		Anoxic encephalopathy due to obstruction of upper airway, due to edema and acute inflammation, epiglottitis and laryngitis. FINAL 11/12/15		

Home Confinement: DOD 11/20/15. No further information at this time.