



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

State Prison Inmate Wade Aikins Dies

SIOUX FALLS, S.D.- A state prison inmate has died.

Inmate Wade Aikins, age 54, was found unresponsive in his cell at the Jameson Annex to the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls, this morning.

A preliminary investigation indicates the death is due to accidental asphyxiation. The Division of Criminal Investigation is investigating the death.

Aikins was sentenced to life in prison in 1985 after being convicted of second-degree murder in Lawrence County. Aikins was also sentenced in 1994 to consecutive 5-year sentences from Bon Homme County for attempted escape and possession of a weapon by an inmate.

An autopsy will be conducted.