



**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
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Preliminary autopsy indicates inmate death was due to asphyxiation

Pierre, S.D. - The preliminary autopsy on a state prison inmate indicates he died as the result of asphyxiation.

Andrew Smith, age 27, died Sunday, August 20th. Smith was an inmate at the Mike Durfee State Prison in Springfield. He was serving a three-year sentence for Grand Theft out of Yankton County.

According to Warden Bob Dooley, Smith was found in a weight room located in the basement of his housing unit. Preliminary information indicates that Smith was lifting weights alone in the room and dropped or lost control of the barbell causing it to fall. Smith was transported to the Tyndall hospital where he was pronounced dead.

The Division of Criminal Investigation is conducting the investigation.

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