

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

ADMINISTRATION

3200 East Highway 34 c/o 500 East Capitol Avenue Pierre, SD 57501-5070 Phone: (605) 773-3478 Fax: (605) 773-3194 Website: <u>http://doc.sd.gov/</u> Follow us on Twitter: @SouthDakotaDOC

May 22, 2013 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Michael Winder, Communications & Information Manager

Search underway for missing state prison inmate

RAPID CITY, S.D.- A search is underway for a state prison inmate who left the Rapid City Minimum Unit this morning.

Inmate Freddy Lawrence, age 54, was reported missing from his work assignment at the minimum-security facility in Rapid City this morning. A review of security cameras showed he left the facility on a bicycle just after 7:00 a.m. MDT. He was wearing a white shirt, black shorts and a black vest when he left the unit.

Lawrence is a Native American male, 5-feet-7 inches tall and weighs approximately 170 pounds. He has black hair and brown eyes.

Lawrence is serving a 5-year sentence out of Minnehaha County for possession of a controlled substance and another 5-year sentence out of Pennington County for possession of a controlled substance.

Anyone who sees Lawrence or knows of his whereabouts is asked to contact law enforcement immediately.

The minimum-security units across the state house an average of more than 1,000 inmates daily. The Rapid City Minimum Unit currently houses 197 inmates. Between 2,000 and 2,500 inmates are processed through the state's minimum-security units each year.

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Our mission is to protect the citizens of South Dakota by providing safe and secure facilities for juvenile and adult offenders committed to our custody by the courts. To provide effective community supervision to offenders upon their release and to utilize evidence-based practices to maximize opportunities for rehabilitation.