August 17, 2000

State Prison Inmate Dies Overnight

(Pierre) - A state prison inmate died early this morning at Unit C of the Jameson Annex of the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls.

56-year old John Luther was found in his bed at approximately 6:15 AM. Prison staff and medical personnel attempted CPR, but were unable to revive him.

An autopsy conducted by the Minnehaha County Coroner's Office determined the cause of death as a heart attack. The state Division of Criminal Investigation is investigating, as is the common practice for any inmate death.

Luther was serving a two-year sentence for DWI out of Lawrence County.