



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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November 15, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State prison inmate dies

(Pierre, S.D.)- A state prison inmate has died following an altercation between two inmates at the Mike Durfee State Prison in Springfield.

Inmates Dennis Lashley, age 62, and Kendall Osteen, age 49, were involved in an altercation in Harmon Hall, an inmate housing unit at the prison, this morning. Lashley was found unresponsive in his room and was taken by ambulance to a hospital in Tyndall, SD where he was pronounced dead a short time later. Preliminary information indicates there were no weapons involved.

Lashley was sentenced in February 2010 to two consecutive terms of 10 years with 5 years suspended for fifth offense Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) out of Minnehaha County.

Osteen was sentenced in December 2006 to 5 years for fourth offense DWI out of Pennington County. His sentence was scheduled to expire today.

The Division of Criminal Investigation is investigating this incident, including a review of security camera footage.

An autopsy will be conducted.