

HONORING FALLEN HEROES



Eugene Reiley Warden, SDSP

3/6/1936



Warden Reiley was shot and killed after being taken hostage during an escape from the South Dakota State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls March 6, 1936. The brother of an inmate smuggled two guns into the prison, breaking his brother and another inmate out of prison. Before leaving the prison grounds, the suspects stole several guns from the armory and took Warden Reiley hostage. Law enforcement officers intercepted the group several miles from the prison. A shootout ensued and Warden Reiley and one of the inmates were killed. A second inmate and a police officer were also wounded.

The names of the SD DOC staff members who have died in the line of duty are included on the South Dakota Law Enforcement Memorial in Pierre (right) and on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC (below).

Warden Reiley's name can be found at the National Law Enforcement Memorial on Memorial Panel 51-E: 25.

