



NEWS RELEASE

DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Commissioner Terra Taylor

Presented by **Jason Miller, Office of the Commissioner, Chief of Communications and Community Relations**

245 McKee Road | Dover, DE 19904 | Office: 302.857.5232 | Jason.Miller@delaware.gov

DOC announces inmate death

Wilmington, DE -- The Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) today announced that Michael Sayles, a 39 year-old inmate with underlying health conditions from Howard R. Young Correctional Institution (HRYCI), died on Sunday, June 30.

On June 26, Sayles was transported from HRYCI by ambulance to ChristianaCare Wilmington Hospital for assessment and treatment after experiencing a sudden loss of consciousness. On June 30, while continuing to receive in-patient care his condition unexpectedly deteriorated, and he was pronounced dead at ChristianaCare Wilmington Hospital at 5:15 p.m. His body was released to the Delaware Division of Forensic Science to determine cause of death.

Sayles, from Wilmington, DE had been in DOC custody since March 30, 2024 and was being held on \$22,000 bail for 2 counts of Strangulation, one count of Assault, and one count of Endangering the Welfare of a Child.

If you are a crime victim in need of assistance, you are encouraged to call DOC Victim Services at 302-857-5440.

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