



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jun. 15, 2017

KULANI CORRECTIONAL FACILITY INMATE PRONOUNCED DEAD

HILO – At approximately 2:45 a.m., Kulani Correctional Facility (KCF) staff responded to calls for an inmate in distress in one of the housing dorms. Assigned staff began administering aid and called 911 Emergency Medical Services (EMS). During this time, inmate Wesley Chong became unconscious and unresponsive. Staff performed CPR until EMS arrived to take over at 3:36 a.m. Chong was pronounced dead by EMS staff at approximately 3:43 a.m.

As is normal procedure, Hawaii Police were notified and an internal investigation as well as law enforcement investigation are pending. His official cause of death is pending by the medical examiner's office, but foul play has been ruled out by responding law enforcement entities.

Chong was serving time for Manslaughter. He had a life sentence with the possibility of parole. His next parole hearing was scheduled for July 2017.

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