

Oakdale response to my questions

From: Roland Jimenez [rjimenez@bop.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 08, 2005 3:54 PM
To: Daniel Zwerdling
Subject: Detainee Rust

Attn: Daniel Zwerdling

In response to your recent inquiry, please find below the public information that we have available. Also, please note that your request for historical data and requests for reports must be submitted through the Freedom of Information Act. You should send your request for this information to the Federal Bureau of Prisons, FOIA Section, 320 First Street NW, Washington DC 20534 or you can make the request directly on our website at www.bop.gov.

It is the mission of the Federal Detention Center to provide a safe, humane and secure centralized location for the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service (BICE) to house aliens convicted of crimes in local, state and federal jurisdictions and who have completed their sentences and are to appear before the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) for administrative proceedings under the Immigration and Naturalization Act.

The mission for FDC Oakdale is unique for a Bureau of Prisons (BOP) facility. The detainees housed here follow the same policy and procedures used by all other facilities and are considered to be in the custody of the BOP until their release to BICE. However, the immigration and deportation process is controlled by BICE and all movement, in and out of the facility, is the responsibility of BICE. At the time of Mr. Rust's death, the inmate/detainee population was 989.

Richard Antonio Rust, Register Number 21491-265, a former detainee at the Federal Detention Center, Oakdale, Louisiana, died of an apparent heart attack on May 29, 2004. At approximately 6:20 p.m., Mr. Rust was found unconscious in the recreational area of the Federal Detention Center. Staff and medical personnel responded immediately, and CPR was administered until the responding ambulance arrived. Mr. Rust was pronounced dead by medical staff at a local area hospital at 7:29 p.m.

(Please refer to our website and specifically to Program Statement #6031.01, Patient Care, for additional information regarding CPR certifications).

Mr. Rust was a 34 year old male, being held for the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement awaiting deportation proceedings. He arrived on February 3, 2004, and was a citizen of Jamaica. Following his death, next of kin were notified and an autopsy was conducted by the medical examiners office out of the Lafayette Parish Forensic Center. The autopsy results revealed that Mr. Rusk's death was caused by cardiac arrhythmia due to acute exacerbation of heart failure, massive dilated and hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, and interstitial fibrosis of the heart.

Pursuant to BOP policy, the warden may order an autopsy and related scientific or medical tests to be performed on the body of a deceased detainee of the facility for unexplained deaths. The autopsy or tests may be ordered in situations only when the warden determines that the autopsy or test is necessary to protect the health or safety of other inmates.

A mortality review is completed on all deaths. (For additional information regarding mortality reviews, please see our Program Statement, #6013.01, Health Services Quality Improvement).

The Health Services Department at FDC Oakdale has seven staff including nurses, EMTs, physician assistants, and doctors with varying work assignment hours. At the time of Mr. Rust's medical emergency the institution did have an automatic defibrillator on site.

On May 30, 2004, a service was held in the chapel for all detainees that wanted to

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pay their respects for Mr. Rust.