



Waukesha County Sheriff's Department

Supplemental Narratives for Incident W25064073

SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE:

Supplement number: 48

Name: GUTHRIE KA

Date: 20:25:20 05/08/26

SUMMARY-CASE CLOSURE// DETECTIVE KELSEY GUTHRIE #8808

SUMMARY-CASE CLOSURE

On September 12, 2025, our department received a mutual aid request from Milwaukee County Jail for the death investigation of inmate Melvin R. Goodwin, who was housed alone in cell 26 of pod 6A. Earlier that day, inmates were locked down around 1:30 PM due to a shakedown in another unit. At 5:41 PM, a call was made for an unconscious inmate, and life-saving efforts were attempted before the Milwaukee Fire Department arrived.

Surveillance footage showed Goodwin appearing impaired before lockdown, struggled to stand, needed assistance from other inmates, and was helped into his cell, where the lights were turned off and the door closed. Based on this, staff identified the inmates who had contact with him, assisting him to his room.

Investigators conducted a shakedown of pod 6A due to concerns Goodwin may have been under the influence. During the search, contraband was found in cell 46 and 47. Contraband in 47 was not criminal in nature but found to be homemade ear plugs. Contraband in 46 was later tested at WSD, testing positive for cocaine. Officers and medical staff involved in the response were interviewed, along with inmates who came forward with information.

The deceased's cell was processed for evidence while the Medical Examiner conducted a parallel investigation. There was no evidence located to assist in this death investigation. Jail administration provided records related to Goodwin, and additional digital evidence collected later. Notification of next of kin was completed by detectives. An autopsy was conducted as well as toxicology to determine cause of death.

I spoke with Detective Berg and Detective Staat regarding interviews conducted with inmates and staff. Detective Staat advised that inmates Peters and Korth are prescribed [REDACTED]; however, each inmate accused the other of "cheeking" medication and distributing for payment within the unit. Additional inmates interviewed alleged that correctional officers were introducing contraband into the facility, though none provided verifiable information to support these claims or assist the investigation. Several inmates described a noticeable change in Goodwin's demeanor after having his hair braided and returning to the

top tier for count.

Detective Kendra Moonen and I interviewed Correctional Officer Deonte White regarding the death of Goodwin. Officer White was the assigned correctional officer on Goodwin's unit during the time seen impaired and time of medical emergency. Officer White stated while inmates were locking in, an inmate told White that the inmate in cell 26 had experienced some kind of episode and needed help up the stairs. When Officer White checked on him shortly after, Goodwin said he was fine, declined medical help, and appeared normal.

White continued his duties, including rounds, breaks, assisting in other pods, med pass, and a later shakedown. Around 5:30 PM, while delivering meals, Deonte saw the inmate in cell 26 lying on the bed and appearing to sleep. He did not closely check on him at that time. Later, during linen around 5:40 PM, White noticed the inmate's food tray hadn't been touched. Upon closer inspection, he found the inmate pale and unresponsive and called for medical assistance and secured the area.

I reviewed all video footage provided by Milwaukee County Jail. Goodwin appeared to engage in normal activity during the 48 hours preceding his death. He interacted with multiple inmates, and it was common for inmates to gather on the top tier, converse, and enter one another's cells. One interaction between Goodwin and inmate East appeared to involve the exchange of an unknown item. Both individuals appeared to attempt to conceal this exchange from the correctional officer.

Contraband recovered from jail staff during a facility shakedown was tested by Detective Berg and yielded a positive result for cocaine. Investigator Nathan Spittlemeister was notified of these findings and advised that Milwaukee County would pursue a separate investigation if the contraband was determined to be unrelated to Goodwin's death.

Staff provided communication records (text messages and phone calls) as well as inmate financial account activity (deposits and purchases) for Korth, Peters, and East. Review of these records did not reveal any evidence of payment from Goodwin or any associates to the aforementioned inmates in exchange for [REDACTED]. Staff also advised that the clinic does not have camera coverage and that inmates are not consistently documented as off-unit when attending [REDACTED] dosing, as the clinic is located within the jail.

The toxicology report and death certificate summary were obtained from the Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office. The manner of death for Goodwin was classified as accidental, with the cause of death listed as [REDACTED]. I spoke with Dr. Wieslawa Tlomak, who explained that the toxicology findings could not determine the time of ingestion, dosage, form of the substance, method of ingestion, or the number of doses consumed.

Based on the available information, the investigation cannot proceed further due to multiple unresolved factors. These include: multiple inmates with prescribed [REDACTED] conflicting statements regarding the distribution of [REDACTED] a suspicious but unverified exchange of an unknown item; lack of corroborating evidence from inmate communications or financial transactions; no identifiable connection between Goodwin and inmate financial activity; frequent inmate contact with Goodwin as observed on video; and the inability to establish a

timeframe for when [REDACTED] entered Goodwin's system.



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SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE:

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Name: GUTHRIE KA

Date: 21:24:17 07/13/26

CASE CLOSURE// DETECTIVE KELSEY GUTHRIE #8808

CASE CLOSURE

On 5/19/26 Detective Stilling and I met with CDDA Jeffrey Altenburg and DA investigator Liz Ibarra, providing the entire report in a binder and evidence on a thumb drive. We engaged in lengthy discussions regarding the investigation, leads that were followed, and evidence available. There was a consensus between all that there are too many unknown factors to be able to specify where or how Goodwin obtained the [REDACTED] CDDA Altenburg stated he would start working on the clearance letter, while I spoke with Goodwin's family and inquire if they would like to attend a meeting with us.

I spoke with Rayel Johnson, Goodwin's sister, advising her CDDA Altenburg and I agree there are too many unknown factors to refer charges or prosecute a suspect. I advised Johnson that CDDA Altenburg offered to meet with her in person to explain the investigation and decision to not prosecute this case. Johnson did request this meeting, which was ultimately set up for 7/8/26.

On 7/8/26 Detective Moonen, CDDA Altenburg, investigator Ibarra, and I met in the DA's office. I contacted Johnson by phone, as she was not at the office yet. Johnson stated she forgot to take off from work, and all parties agreed to have the meeting by speaker phone. CDDA Altenburg and I answered all questions for Johnson. I advised Johnson, I'd assist her with getting in contact with our records clerk so she can submit an open records request once the report is closed.

On 7/10/26 I received the clearance letter signed by CDDA Altenburg via email. This letter has been attached to this report for a verbatim account.

This report can be closed out.
