



# Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

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Chief Deputy

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## MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 8, 2019

TO: Captain Charles Meeks, Commander  
Sacramento County Sheriff's Department  
Correctional Services Unit  
651 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

RE: In-Custody Death – J.C. Feagins  
SSD Report No. 17-222562  
Date of Incident: July 6, 2017

The above case was referred to this office for review of the circumstances surrounding the July 6, 2017, death of inmate J.C. Feagins while in the Sacramento County Main Jail.

Feagins was arrested at 1:00 a.m. on July 5, 2017, and booked into the Main Jail at approximately 2:19 a.m. A nurse determined he was fit for incarceration. Because Feagins appeared to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs, a follow-up nursing visit was scheduled to evaluate Feagins for possible withdrawal symptoms. Feagins thereafter refused all offers for follow-up visits.

On July 6, 2017, at approximately 4:50 a.m., Feagins' cellmate pressed the emergency button in their cell. Through the intercom, he told Deputy Gursimran Sufi that Feagins was not waking up for breakfast. Deputy Sufi responded to the cell. He saw Feagins lying motionless on his back on the bunk. Feagins appeared to be asleep and was not responsive to Deputy Sufi. Deputy Sufi checked for a radial pulse on Feagins' right arm. He felt a faint pulse. Deputy Sufi called Feagins by his name, grabbed him by his shoulder, and shook him firmly. Feagins did not respond. Deputy Sufi called for a nurse.

The cellmate informed Deputy Sufi that Feagins had been coughing a few minutes earlier. Meanwhile, Deputy Zachary Triano arrived, checked Feagins' carotid pulse, and felt what he believed to be a faint pulse. Shortly thereafter, Sergeant Joshua Wheeler arrived and gave Feagins a sternum rub to assess Feagins' level of consciousness. Feagins remained unresponsive. Deputy Sufi requested immediate medical assistance from the Sacramento City Fire Department. Meanwhile, jail nurses responded and evaluated Feagins, began chest compressions, and employed an automated external defibrillator to monitor his condition.

Approximately ten minutes later, fire personnel arrived and rendered aid to Feagins. They declared Feagins deceased at 5:22 a.m.

Feagins' cellmate was later interviewed by investigators. He indicated Feagins went out of his cell for dinner the day before. He confirmed a deputy asked Feagins over the intercom if he wanted to see a nurse, but Feagins declined. He also indicated Feagins did not look particularly ill, just tired.

Forensic Pathologist Brian Nagao, M.D., conducted an autopsy and concluded the cause of Feagins' death was hypertensive heart disease.

No evidence of criminal misconduct is presented or suggested in any of the supporting reports. The District Attorney's Office will take no further action in this matter.

cc: Sacramento Sheriff Lieutenant Gail Vasquez  
Kimberly Gin, Sacramento County Coroner's Office  
Office of the Inspector General