



State of Utah

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# Utah Department of Corrections Executive Office

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Here is information requested about autopsy results for Christopher Lee Lucas, 25, who died at the Utah State Prison on September 13.

Manner of death: homicide

Cause of death: cardiopulmonary arrest following physical altercation and pepper spray exposure.

Investigations by the Utah Department of Corrections' Law Enforcement Bureau and by the Unified Police Department are still ongoing.

Officers observed Lucas and another inmate fighting in their cell on September 13. Verbal orders to stop were ignored, and officers deployed pepper spray. Lucas collapsed as he was being walked out of the cell. Lucas was transported to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Four correctional officers were placed on administrative leave at the time of the incident. The officers returned to work after approximately two weeks following an initial investigation that determined the use of force to stop the assault was appropriate.

**NOTE:** Requests for the autopsy report should be made to the Office of the Medical Examiner. However, the office does not release autopsy results without a court order or permission of next-of-kin.

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