



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
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Utah Department of Corrections

Executive Office

ROLLIN COOK
Executive Director

BROOKE ADAMS
Public Information Officer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 5, 2016

Contact: Public Information Officer Brooke Adams
(801) 545-5536, office
(801) 560-7608, cell
brookeadams@utah.gov

Executive Director Rollin Cook is available today for interviews about this release. Please contact Brooke Adams if you would like to request an interview.

UDC completes investigation into Cory Lee Henderson case

An investigation by the Utah Department of Corrections has found that communication errors and failure to process a federal detainer in a timely manner resulted in incomplete information being shared with the Utah Board of Pardons and Parole as it evaluated whether to parole Cory Lee Henderson.

The Department initiated a review of Henderson's supervision immediately upon learning of the parolee's involvement in the fatal shooting of Unified Police Officer Doug Barney on January 17. Henderson was a high-risk offender who absconded from the Fortitude Treatment Center on December 18; a temporary hold listing for Henderson was requested that evening and a fugitive warrant was issued for him on December 21.

The investigation, led by the Department's Law Enforcement Bureau, included numerous interviews and a thorough document review. The investigation found that:

- An on-duty supervisor with Adult Probation and Parole misidentified the law enforcement agency that arrested Henderson on Oct. 3, 2015. In addition, the supervisor did not clearly communicate the arrest date to Henderson's agent. That led the agent to pull a previous arrest report, which was used to amend the AP&P fugitive warrant for Henderson.
- On Nov. 2, 2015, the agent notified a Utah Board of Pardons and Parole hearing officer he could not locate the new charges and asked that the inaccurate information be stricken from the amended warrant. As a result, the board did not have the correct information about Henderson's Oct. 3, 2015, arrest on weapons and drug charges during a Nov. 4 parole violation hearing.

- A federal detainer filed with the Utah Department of Corrections on Nov. 25, 2015, was not electronically scanned into the Department's database — which triggers an automatic notification to the Board of Pardons and Parole — until Dec. 18, 2015.

As a result of its investigation, the Department has taken corrective action to improve communication and documentation of arrest information received from outside law enforcement agencies. That includes requiring AP&P supervisors to keep a thorough, time-sensitive log of contacts from other law enforcement agencies. Supervisors also will be required to enter information into the Department's electronic database upon receipt.

Also, records specialists will be required to immediately scan detainers into the Department's electronic database.

In addition, the Department is reviewing its operational policies and procedures at the Fortitude Treatment Center to enhance its safe, effective and successful operation and management of offenders as well as its response to fugitives.

The Department is in the process of considering any necessary disciplinary action for those directly involved.

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