



Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

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MEDIA ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 14, 2023

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In-Custody Death of Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office Resident

(CHARLOTTE, NC) – The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office is currently investigating the death of 71-year-old male resident, Elijah Kelly (PID 195945), who was housed at the Mecklenburg County Detention Center-Central (801 E. Fourth Street).

On Thursday, December 14, 2023, at approximately 4:34 am, a medical emergency was called by a detention officer in the housing unit where Mr. Kelly was assigned after he was discovered to be unresponsive. Detention personnel promptly started resuscitation efforts and continued until emergency medical personnel arrived. At approximately 4:51 am, the Charlotte Fire Department and Mecklenburg EMS (MEDIC) arrived and continued resuscitation efforts. Mr. Kelly was pronounced deceased at approximately 5:14 am on Thursday, December 14, 2023.

Requests for Mr. Kelly's health information may not be disclosed as it is protected by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

"Reporting the death of a resident in our care is always a difficult task. Everyone at MCSO has been affected by the death of Mr. Elijah Kelly, and we extend our deepest sympathies to his family and loved ones," said Sheriff McFadden.

Elijah Kelly was processed into custody at the Mecklenburg County Detention Center-Central on Thursday, October 19, 2023. The State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) will also conduct a thorough in-custody death investigation as the medical examiner determines the cause of death.

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