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Investigative Report Released for January 2022 In-Custody Death Investigation at Maryland State Police Centreville Barrack

BALTIMORE, MD (January 6, 2023) – The Independent Investigations Division (IID) of the Office of the Attorney General today released its <u>investigative report</u> of the January 21, 2022, incustody death investigation at Maryland State Police (MSP) Centreville Barrack.

On January 21, at 7:36 p.m., MSP troopers conducted a traffic stop on a black Cadillac sedan on U.S. 301 at McGinnes Road in Millington, Maryland. The troopers arrested the driver, 64-year-old Armar Womack of Delaware, under suspicion of driving while impaired and transported him to the MSP barrack in Centreville. At the time of his arrest, Mr. Womack was conscious and responsive to questions, although he showed some signs of impairment.

At the barrack, Mr. Womack showed further signs of impairment, including failing a field sobriety test, having rapid eye movements, and telling officers about recent drug usage. He was placed alone in a cell that was being monitored via video by troopers. About two hours after his arrest, Mr. Womack took a substance, later determined to be cocaine, out of his pocket and put it into his mouth. About 20 minutes later, Mr. Womack experienced the first of several seizures or tremors and fell to the floor of the cell. Over the next 18 minutes, Mr. Womack alternated between banging on the cell door and lying on the floor. Mr. Womack then experienced a large seizure, at which point troopers entered the cell and notified EMS, who arrived 16 minutes later and began treating Mr. Womack. He was transported to an area hospital, where he was pronounced dead at 11:44 p.m.

The IID concluded its investigation on November 10 and forwarded its investigative report to the Queen Anne's County State's Attorney's Office on November 15. The Queen Anne's County State's Attorney's Office notified the IID on December 7 of its decision not to prosecute the case.

The IID's report contains detailed investigative findings and an analysis of relevant legal issues. Because the Queen Anne's County State's Attorney's Office—not the IID—retains prosecution authority in this case, the report does not make any recommendations as to whether any individual should or should not be charged.

By law, the IID's report must remain confidential until any related prosecution is completed or the State's Attorney's Office declines to prosecute. If the local State's Attorney decides to prosecute the matter, the IID will release the report, with appropriate redactions for confidentiality, within 30 days of a final judgment of all defendants in the case. If the local State's Attorney declines to prosecute, the IID will release the report, with appropriate redactions for confidentiality, within 30 days of that determination.

https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/press/2023/010623.pdf