

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY | 24-108

Findings of Misconduct by a BOP Medical Doctor for Inattention to Duty and Carelessness With Respect to Medical Care of an Inmate and Lack of Candor

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) initiated an investigation after receiving information from the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) alleging that a BOP medical doctor failed to provide adequate medical care to an inmate, who died later that day. During the course of the investigation, the OIG found indications that the medical doctor may have lacked candor during interviews with the OIG.

The OIG investigation substantiated the allegation that, in violation of BOP policy, the medical doctor was inattentive to duty and careless with respect to medical care of an inmate, who died later that day. The OIG investigation found that the medical doctor did not respond in a timely manner to medically assess the inmate, or even make contact with the inmate, after a correctional officer and another inmate alerted the medical doctor that an inmate in the medical isolation cell of the health services unit of the BOP facility was complaining of chest pains. The OIG investigation also found that the medical doctor deleted without reading an email sent the prior day notifying the medical doctor that an inmate had been placed in the medical isolation cell. Finally, the OIG investigation substantiated the allegation that the medical doctor lacked candor in some of the medical doctor's responses when interviewed by the OIG, in violation of DOJ and BOP policy.

Criminal prosecution of the medical doctor was declined.

The OIG has completed its investigation and provided its report to the BOP for appropriate action.

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Unless otherwise noted, the OIG applies the preponderance of the evidence standard in determining whether DOJ personnel have committed misconduct.