



News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

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Homicide at Baltimore City Detention Center

Detainee Killed and Suspect Identified

TOWSON, MD (April 2, 2009)---A 26-year old pre-trial detainee was stabbed to death this morning at the Baltimore City Detention Center, and correctional staff have already identified a possible suspect. The stabbing occurred at 10:43 this morning during an outside recreation period at the facility, which houses men and women who are awaiting trial on Baltimore City criminal charges (and a few sentenced Division of Correction inmates).

The Internal Investigative Unit (IIU) of the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services will be the primary investigating agency, and has sent a team of detectives to the scene. As is standard procedure, IIU has requested help from the Maryland State Police crime lab.

The victim, Nathaniel George, had been held without bail since August on rape and other charges. At least one other detainee has been identified as a possible suspect.

Further information about weapons and other details is not available at this time pending the outcome of the initial investigation. The institution is not currently on lockdown.

BCDC and Central Booking are in the Maryland Division of Pretrial Detention and Services (DPDS). Today's incident notwithstanding, DPDS has been experiencing the benefits of a major violence reduction effort. No serious weapon assaults by detainees on staff have been reported over the past three fiscal years, while serious physical assaults on staff have dropped by 71% from FY2006 to FY2008, and none have been reported in the first eight months of FY2009. Serious physical assaults by detainees on other detainees dropped 18% from FY2006 to FY2008. During the same time period serious weapon assaults dropped by 52%.

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