PRESS RELEASE

September 15, 2017
For Immediate Release

The Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) is investigating an apparent suicide that occurred in the early morning hours on September 14, 2017. At approximately 3:10 AM, correctional officers found Inmate Rodney Thomas James, #1164070, hanging from a bed sheet tied to the upper bunk in his room at the Casa Grande Transitional Housing Facility in Las Vegas, Nevada. James was housed alone at the time. Responding staff made immediate notification to 911 and attempted to provide emergency medical care until help arrived. James was pronounced dead at approximately 5:25 AM by emergency medical staff at the scene.

Inmate James, a 50 year old, male, was committed from Douglas County on August 12, 2016 and was serving 28 to 72 months for Driving Under the Influence. Investigators from the NDOC Inspector General’s Office, Las Vegas Metro Police Department and the Clark County Coroner responded. An autopsy is being scheduled per NRS 209.3815. Next of Kin have been notified.

Casa Grande Transitional Housing Facility (CGTH) opened in 2005 and provides inmates housing in a dorm like environment during the re-entry phase or the last 18 months of their sentence. Inmates seek employment, pay room and board and restitution if court ordered during their stay. We currently have approximately 300 inmates eligible for work at Casa Grande.