



U. S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons
Federal Correctional Institution
Hopewell, Virginia

For Immediate Release
September 24, 2025

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Death at FCI Petersburg Low

HOPEWELL, VA: On Wednesday, September 24, 2025, at approximately 3:20 a.m., Sean Jason Harstine was found unresponsive at the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Petersburg Low in Petersburg, Virginia.

Responding employees initiated life-saving measures. Emergency medical services (EMS) were requested while life-saving efforts continued. Mr. Harstine was subsequently pronounced deceased by EMS personnel.

No employees or other incarcerated individuals were injured and at no time was the public in danger.

Mr. Harstine was a 39-year-old male who was sentenced in the Eastern District of North Carolina to 270 months for Conspiracy to Distribute and Possession with Intent to Distribute Methamphetamine, Heroin, Possession of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Drug Trafficking Crime and Aiding and Abetting. He had been in custody at FCI Petersburg Low since September 23, 2025.

FCI Petersburg Low is a low security facility.

Additional information about the Federal Bureau of Prisons can be found at www.bop.gov.

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