



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Secretary Gary Westcott

### **UPDATED: An Investigation is Underway Following the Death of an Elayn Hunt Correctional Center Inmate**

*An altercation at the prison may have resulted in the death of an offender*

BATON ROUGE, La. – Possible criminal charges are pending following the death of 23 year-old Elayn Hunt Correctional Center inmate Javonta Broden. Iberville Parish Sheriff's Deputies and Department of Corrections are investigating the death. The inmate died shortly after 2 p.m., Sunday at the prison.

Broden and his cellmate, 44-year-old Louis Keller were apparently involved in an altercation inside the cell Sunday afternoon. Correctional officers making routine rounds discovered the unresponsive inmate inside the cell shortly after 1 p.m., Sunday. Correctional officers immediately began CPR and attempted to revive Broden. He was pronounced dead at 2:12 p.m.

Broden was serving five 30-year sentences for five counts of Attempted 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Murder in East Baton Rouge Parish that occurred on May 10, 2020, and one 30-year sentence for a September 11, 2020, Manslaughter in East Baton Rouge Parish. All six sentences were being served concurrently. He arrived at Elayn Hunt Correctional Center on July 22, 2024, after serving a portion of his sentence at other facilities in the state.

Keller is serving five years for a third offense Domestic Abuse Battery and three years for a Domestic Abuse Battery Child Endangerment that happened on February 16, 2020, both out of Caddo Parish. These two sentences are being served consecutively, for a total of eight years. On June 20, 2022, after serving his necessary incarceration time, Keller released onto goodtime parole supervision. He violated the conditions of his release, and his goodtime parole was revoked on May 17, 2024. Keller arrived at Elayn Hunt Correctional Center on August 19, 2024, after serving a portion of his sentence at other jails.

An autopsy has been requested by the Department. Possible criminal charges are pending the outcome of the investigation and the autopsy. As this is an ongoing investigation, no further details are available at this time.

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