



# MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF **CORRECTIONS**

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## **MDOC Statement on Dalephenia Jones**

**Lansing, MI** - The Michigan Department of Corrections takes the health and safety of those under our supervision seriously and remains committed to transparently and rapidly providing new information as it becomes available. As part of that commitment, the department is alerting the public to the recent passing of Dalephenia Jones, who was incarcerated at Women's Huron Valley Correctional (WHV) Facility.

Dalephenia Jones passed away on July 2 at Trinity Health Hospital. On June 19, MDOC officers at WHV engaged with Ms. Jones, who was conscious, but appeared to be in need of medical assistance. She was promptly taken to the facility's healthcare area and MDOC healthcare staff requested outside emergency medical services (EMS). An ambulance was on grounds at the WHV within minutes to transport Ms. Jones to the emergency room. The hospital determined that Ms. Jones was having a cardiac event and she was taken into surgery after arrival at the hospital. Ms. Jones remained under care of hospital staff following the procedure and passed away 14 days after being admitted to the hospital.

Ms. Jones had multiple documented chronic medical conditions for which she was being offered medical treatment as part of a chronic care plan. Some of these chronic conditions have the potential to increase the risk for cardiac events.

Ms. Jones was 62 years of age and was sentenced in Wayne County to a life sentence in 1994. As this was an unexpected death, the department will be investigating the events preceding Ms. Jones being sent to the hospital and will provide information on the result of those investigations when they are complete.

The department continues to take meaningful actions at Women's Huron Valley Correctional, and other facilities, to improve the health and safety of incarcerated individuals. MDOC leadership and healthcare leadership have been regularly onsite at WHV providing oversight. In addition, experienced clinical leadership from across the state have been deployed to the facility and the department is hiring additional full-time medical

staff, developing a new healthcare staffing plan with enhanced nursing management, improving communication, among other action items that provide additional supports.

We encourage the public to stay up to date on the latest developments by visiting the MDOC Transparency and Action website at [www.michigan.gov/corrections/transparency](http://www.michigan.gov/corrections/transparency).

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