Inmate drowns in Aiken County quarry

AIKEN

An inmate assigned to the Lower Savannah River Pre-Release Center drowned Saturday when he went swimming in an abandoned quarry in Aiken County, authorities said.

Cecil James, 21, of Norway drowned in the quarry near Graniteville, said Aiken County Coroner Sue Townsend. She said James, who worked during the day for a local construction company and was required to sleep at the pre-release center, was on his lunch break when he went to the quarry.

Ms. Townsend said James was accompanied by another inmate and a supervisor, who apparently could not save him. She said James was either a poor swimmer or couldn't swim at all.

The coroner said an inquest was not likely. She said the death had been ruled accidental.

1986 Jul Cecil James drowns at quarry SC

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