
LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
NEWS RELEASE



CASE NUMBER: 18-0905
DATE/ TIME OF INCIDENT: 2/9/2018
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NATURE OF STORY: Detectives Investigate In-Custody Death
DECEASED: JACQUELINE COWANS, 53 year old female, Eugene

DETAILS:

Lane County Sheriff's Office detectives are investigating the death of a 53 year old female, identified as Jacqueline Cowans, who was found unresponsive in her cell at the Lane County Jail shortly after 11:00 am on 2/9/2018. The housing deputy had talked to Cowans just a few minutes prior when she asked to speak to medical staff. At that time, Cowans was not exhibiting any signs of a medical emergency; however, the deputy went to summon medical staff for her. Cowans was unresponsive when the deputy returned after a few minutes. Deputies and jail medical staff performed CPR for several minutes. Medics arrived shortly thereafter and continued CPR for several more minutes until Cowans was pronounced deceased.

Cowans was lodged at the Lane County Jail on February 1, 2018 for Unlawful Delivery of Methadone, Burglary in the first degree, and Possession of a Stolen Vehicle. Cowans was housed in a section of the jail where inmates who present with medical issues can be housed in close proximity to medical staff.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office is investigating the death in conjunction with the Lane County Medical Examiner's Office. The cause and manner of death have not yet been determined.

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