



Date: 03/08/2023**NEWS RELEASE****NR# 23-3**

**Detectives conducting death investigation at the
John E. Polk Correctional Facility**

Seminole Co. Fla., (March 8, 2023) – The Seminole County Sheriff's Office is investigating the death at the John E. Polk Correctional Facility (JEPCF) of inmate Geoffrey Cairns, 35, of Apopka.

JEPCF staff performing routine checks of inmates this morning discovered Cairns unresponsive in his cell and hanging from a bedsheet tied around his neck. JEPCF staff immediately began CPR in an attempt to revive Cairns, but all efforts to save him were unsuccessful. The Seminole County Fire Department also responded and pronounced Cairns deceased shortly after arrival.

The investigation is ongoing, but the preliminary findings indicate the incident was a suicide, and there are no signs of foul play or suspicious circumstances surrounding his death.

Cairns had been incarcerated at the facility on petit theft charges since March 4.

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