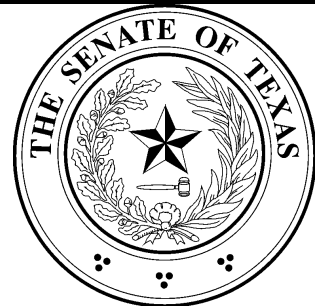


SENATOR
JOHN WHITMIRE
DISTRICT 15
NEWS RELEASE



January 14, 2008

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Whitmire concerned over Inmate Homicide

AUSTIN, Texas--State Sen. John Whitmire (D-Houston) today announced his alarm at the chain of events in the death of a Texas inmate from medical neglect complicating blunt force trauma. The death ruled a homicide by the Galveston County Medical Examiner last February, remains unexplained.

"I and the public need answers to this prison homicide, how did this happen, who is responsible and how can we prevent events such as this one". "I can no longer keep my request for explanations internal to my office "stated Senator Whitmire. "Who are the murders and where are those murders" he added.

"We have a certified death certificate that states an inmate was murdered by the lack of medical treatment and attention, we must examine this occurrence and the sequence of events that resulted in such a death" the Senator continued". "We will examine the process in detail at a Senate Criminal Justice Committee hearing, we must review and identify problems within our prison medical system that allows this type of death".

Senator Whitmire has set a hearing of the Senate Criminal Justice Committee for Thursday January 24, 2007 at 10:00AM, to examine the process and question those responsible for the safe keeping of inmates, along with the parties responsible for pursuing an investigation into prison deaths.

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