



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL
TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Stephen D. Crump, District Attorney General

PRESS RELEASE

BRADLEY COUNTY GRAND JURY INDICTS 3 BRADLEY COUNTY SHERIFF'S
OFFICE CORRECTIONS OFFICERS

On September 18, 2016, this office was notified by Chief Deputy Brian Smith of the Bradley County Sheriff's Office that an inmate had been found in a cell at the Justice Center and was deceased. The initial report from Chief Deputy Smith was that the death appeared to be a suicide by hanging.

I then requested that the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation conduct an investigation of the death.

During the course of that investigation, evidence was uncovered that three Bradley County Sheriff's Office corrections officers had committed criminal offenses during and following the events surrounding the death of the inmate.

Following the investigation, TBI Special Agent Danny Fay presented the matter to the December term of the Bradley County Grand Jury. The Grand Jury returned an indictment charging Gabriel Nathaniel Black with Official Misconduct, Tampering with Evidence, and Tampering with Governmental Records. Also indicted were Timothy Jason Boyd and Ronald Joshua Reddish for Official Misconduct.

Our office is grateful for the timely and efficient work of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. We are also grateful for the transparency of the entire command staff of the Bradley County Sheriff's Office in alerting agents to the activities of their subordinates. Their candor was crucial in the pursuit of justice.