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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**INMATE ON INMATE HOMICIDE AT MERCER COUNTY CORRECTIONS CENTER**

**Hopewell**—At approximately 1:30 a.m., corrections officers observed water flowing from under the door of a cell located in the Receiving and Detention area at the Mercer County Correction Center. When officers entered the cell, they discovered the body of Darryl Boone, age 38. Standing by the door was Boone's cellmate, Lamar Gaines, age 19.

Officers secured Gaines and then rendered emergency aid to Boone. EMS personnel also responded and continued in the attempt to revive Boone but, they were unsuccessful in their efforts.

The preliminary investigation indicates that Gaines choked and suffocated Boone. There were also indications of a physical assault.

Gaines was charged with the murder of Darryl Boone and bail was set at \$1 million full cash by Judge F. Patrick McManimon.

Gaines was being held at the corrections center in lieu of bail for a February 2012 robbery and carjacking. On Thursday, October 3, 2013, Gaines was involved in an assault that occurred in the gym area of the correction center that left another inmate hospitalized. He was charged with attempted murder as a result of that incident.

Boone was being held at the correction center in lieu of bail on a recent vehicular homicide charge. Boone's cause of death is pending autopsy.

Further information will be released as it becomes available.