



PRESS RELEASE: Corrections Secretary Contacts Victim's Mother

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OLYMPIA, Wash. – In reviewing records of inmates released within the timeframe of January 1 and May 31, 2015, and prior to their [sentence recalculation](#) date, the Washington Department of Corrections (DOC) has confirmed that Jeremiah Smith, 26, allegedly committed first degree murder during the period of time in which he should have been incarcerated.

Smith was admitted to the Washington Corrections Center on August 26, 2010 and released from prison on May 14, 2015. His crimes of conviction included First Degree Robbery, First Degree Burglary, and Second Degree Assault. His correct release date should have been August 10, 2015. The attempted robbery that led to the death of Ceasar Medina occurred on May 26, 2015. Smith is currently in the custody of Spokane County jail.

On Wednesday afternoon, Corrections Secretary Pacholke made contact with the mother of Ceasar Medina. "I'm heartsick that this tragedy occurred at all, much less during the time in which Jeremiah Smith should have been incarcerated," Pacholke stated.

The Department of Corrections generally does not release the names of victims. However, Mr. Medina's identity has already been reported.

The agency provided notification to the victim's surviving family prior to releasing this information.