

Close-out Memorandum of the  
Investigation Regarding  
**Brian Jennings**  
**July 19, 2025**



State Attorney's Office  
Eleventh Judicial Circuit  
Miami-Dade County  
**May 13, 2026**



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE  
State Attorney

DATE: May 12, 2026

FROM: STAFFING/REVIEW TEAM

RE: IN CUSTODY DEATH CLOSEOUT MEMO  
SAO CASE # 62/25/07/19/003

Based on the information obtained and reviewed during the investigation, the conclusion of the staffing/review team is the following:

On July 19, 2025, at about 12:08 PM 911 received a call from a family member of Brian Jennings indicating they needed help because Jennings was possibly having a mental breakdown and had run into the street naked. Deputies Charles Fleming Jr and Cynteria Godbee responded and activated their Body Worn Cameras. The officers observed Jennings sitting in the street, wearing only black underwear, flailing his arms and making unusual noises. As the officers approached, Jennings began kicking at the officers. The officers attempted to handcuff Jennings to stop the kicking, and they instructed him to comply. A little over a minute later, officers attempted to lift Jennings off the ground and noticed he had passed out. Deputy Fleming checked for a pulse, removed the handcuffs, and began chest compressions. The encounter is captured on BWC footage. Fire Rescue arrived, continued treatment, and Jennings was transported to the hospital where he was pronounced deceased. An autopsy later revealed the cause of death was acute cocaine toxicity.

Based on a review of the facts and evidence in this encounter, it is determined that the actions of Deputies Charles Fleming Jr. 30-10576 and Cynteria Godbee 30-10580 were lawful, and did not cause the death of Brian Jennings.

The members of the staffing/review team for this case are:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jose Arrojo

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deisy Hernandez

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen Hoague

  
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Stephen K. Talpins

  
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Howard Rosen

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nilo Cuervo

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marie Jo Toussaint

Approved by State Attorney on this 13 day of May, 2026.

  
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KATHERINE FERNANDEZ RUNDLE  
State Attorney



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: STAFFING/REVIEW TEAM

DATE: 5/12/26

FROM: Elvia Medina Marcus  
Assistant State Attorney

RE: In Custody Death  
SAO Case #: 62/25/07/19/003

Stewart Hedrick  
Assistant State Attorney

OFFICERS INVOLVED:	Deputy Charles Fleming Jr – MDSO (30-10576) Deputy Trainee Cynteria Godbee – MDSO (30-10580)
DECEASED	Brian Jennings
DATE & TIME:	July 19, 2025 @ Approximately 1:07 PM
LOCATION:	street near 3000 NW 92 Street, Miami, Florida
LEAD/REPORTS RECEIVED:	FDLE Special Agent Michael Tovar/ January 28, 2026
CASE #	MI-37-0146
SAO CASE #	62/25/07/19/003

## FACTUAL SUMMARY

On Saturday July 19, 2025, the Miami Dade Sherriff's Office received a dispatch at approximately 12:08 describing a violent male running in the street near 3000 NW 92 Street, Miami, Florida. This dispatch was proceeded by a 911 call made by W \_\_\_\_\_ L

. I \_\_\_\_\_ relayed to 911 that Jennings was acting crazy, needed help, was possibly having a mental breakdown, and had run out onto the street naked. Two officers responded, Deputy Charles Fleming Jr and Deputy Trainee Cynteria Godbee.

Upon arrival, the officers observed Brian Jennings in the street; his two cousins (Washington Lewis and Timothy Hill) were outside the home in the front yard attempting to help him. The arrival, and the description of the scene that follows was captured on Body Worn Camera. Jennings was sitting in the middle of the street, wearing only black underwear, flailing his arms and making unusual noises. As the officers approached, Jennings began kicking at the officers. The officers attempted to handcuff him to stop the erratic movements and kicking. Deputy Fleming displayed, but did not deploy, his taser from his belt, while both officers directed Jennings onto the ground to allow for the handcuffs to be placed on his wrists. The cousins of Jennings pleaded with Jennings to cooperate. The officers held Jennings to secure the handcuffs. His wrists were handcuffed behind his back while Jennings lay with his stomach and front of his body facing the ground. The time from the initial encounter to the handcuffs being secured was approximately one minute and seven seconds.

Once the handcuffs were in place, Jennings was instructed by the officers not to get up and to calm down. Immediately after placement of the handcuffs, Jennings can be seen moving his head from one side to another on the ground, and his breathing was observable, as his back raised and fell. Deputy Godbee continued to secure Jennings on the ground. At the same time, officers attempted to find out from the cousins what had happened before their arrival and Deputy Godbee requested Deputy Flemings contact fire rescue. Deputy Godbee requested the cousins get clothes for the Jennings, and tissues or wipes. She attempted to speak to Jennings. He did not respond. At this time, the officers attempted to transfer Jennings from the ground. The time from when the handcuffs were secured to the attempts to lift was approximately one minute and eleven seconds.

Jennings did not respond to the attempts to lift him. The two cousins assisted the officers in lifting him, then brought out a chair for him. When he did not respond to attempts to get him in the chair,

Deputy Fleming instructed the cousins to back up, as it appeared Jennings had passed out. After a few seconds of him lying on his side and not moving, Deputy Fleming checked for a pulse, removed the handcuffs, and began chest compressions. Chest compressions continued until Fire Rescue had arrived. Rescue efforts continued and Jennings was transported to the hospital. Jennings was transported to Jackson Memorial Hospital Emergency, where he was pronounced deceased at approximately 1:07 p.m.

As part of the investigation, MDSO CSI Corina Gerberg reported to the hospital to photograph and assess Jennings' body. MDSO CSI Elena Huezco reported to the street and the home to photograph the scene and collect any evidence. No evidence was found on scene. FDLE Special Agent Joseph Romero conducted the processing of Deputy Fleming and Deputy Godbee, with photographs taken by CSI Huezco. Cousins Washington Lewis and Timothy Hill were later interviewed by FDLE Special Agent Michel Tovar. These interviews were recorded. The statements of the two cousins were consistent and they relayed that Jennings had arrived at their house at approximately 11:00 am. Jennings left the home briefly with Lewis to go to a store but decided to not to go and returned to the house. Back at the house, Jennings began making delusional statements and acting irrationally. Jennings then ran into the roadway and removed his pants, shirt and shoes. Lewis then called the police. Neither cousin reported they were aware of any mental illness or illegal drug use.

On July 24, 2025, Associate Medical Examiner Tiffany Sheganoski prepared a report under case number MDME 2025-02065 summarizing the finding of an autopsy conducted of Jennings on July 21, 2025. As part of her review, Medical Examiner Sheganoski also communicated with Jennings' spouse, who indicated a history of drug use, but that she believed he had been sober for three years. As part of this autopsy, a toxicology report was also prepared. Associate Medical Examiner Sheganoski determined Jennings' cause of death based on the totality of the investigative data was Acute Cocaine Toxicity. The manner of death was reported as accident. The toxicology report was authored by Dr. Diane M. Moore, and indicated the presence of Cocaine in Jennings' system, among several other substances.

### **ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION**

The role of the State Attorney in this investigation and in conducting this review is limited to determining whether a criminal violation of Florida law has occurred, whether any person may be held criminally responsible, and whether such criminal responsibility can be proven beyond a reasonable

doubt in a court of law. The State Attorney does not establish law enforcement agency policy, procedures, or training requirements. Nor does the State Attorney have any responsibility for determining disciplinary action or pursuing civil litigation in these matters. The State Attorney's role is to determine whether the actions of Deputy Fleming Jr and Deputy Trainee Godbee constitute a criminal act that can be proven beyond and to the exclusion of every reasonable doubt.

We have reviewed the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Investigative Summary into the Police Use of Force in this incident. We have also reviewed the sworn statements, body worn camera footage, and other evidence compiled by FDLE under FDLE Case Number MI-37-0146. We find the summary to be complete, thorough, and consistent with the witness statements and body worn camera footage from the scene. We adopt and attach that Investigative Summary hereto and also offer our conclusion based on the results of our investigation and review.

Brian Jennings was acting erratically and kicking at officers as they approached him. The officers worked quickly to attempt to secure Jennings for their safety and the safety of those around him. In the immediate moments after their arrival, they communicated with the family to try to assess what was going on, tried to speak to and calm down Jennings, have his family get him more clothes, bring him a chair, wipe off his face, and called rescue. Upon realizing that the non-responsive behavior of Jennings was not just passing out, they began chest compressions, called in for a more urgent response from rescue, and continued lifesaving efforts until further help arrived. Based on a review of the facts and evidence in this encounter, it is determined that the actions of Deputy Fleming Jr and Deputy Trainee Godbee were lawful and did not cause death of Brian Jennings.

Prepared by:

*/s/ Elvia Medina Marcus*

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Elvia Medina Marcus  
Assistant State Attorney

*/s/ Stewart Hedrick*

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Stewart Hedrick  
Assistant State Attorney