

PFE/MAR: July 2025
GJ # 49

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
JASPER DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)	
)	
v.)	Case No.
)	
ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON)	
PATRICIA HILTON HAMMONDS)	
BRADLEY SCOTT ALLRED)	
JAMIE ANN JOHNSON)	
DANA MICHELLE BLACKWOOD MCMILLAN)	

INDICTMENT

The Grand Jury charges that:

INTRODUCTION

At all times relevant to this Indictment:

The Defendants and the Walker County Jail

1. Between January 12, 2023, and through and including January 26, 2023, the Walker County Sheriff’s Office (“WCSO”) managed the Walker County Jail (“Jail”) in Jasper, Alabama.
2. The WCSO, in coordination with Walker County officials, contracts with an outside medical contractor to provide medical and mental health services to pre-trial and post-conviction detainees held in the Jail. Under this contract, the medical contractor employs various medical staff who work in the Jail.
3. Per the medical contractor’s policies and training, all medical staff hired by the medical contractor and assigned to the Jail were obligated to

follow the medical contractor's Health Services Policy and Procedure (HSPP), which was based on the National Commission on Correctional Health Care's Standards for Health Services in Jails and Standards for Mental Health Services in Correctional Facilities.

4. The medical contractor employed a Registered Nurse who acted as the Regional Director and who oversaw the provision of medical services to approximately ten jails in the region. The role of the Regional Director was to provide support to medical staff of any individual jail and manage any conflicts, disputes, or concerns between medical staff and the correctional or administrative staff of any jail.
5. Between January 12, 2023, and January 26, 2023, defendant **ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON** was the Jail's Nurse Practitioner, who was principally responsible for supervising medical services.
6. Between January 12, 2023, and January 26, 2023, defendant **PATRICIA HILTON HAMMONDS** was the Jail's Health Services Administrator, who was principally responsible for managing the provision of medical services and interactions with Jail staff.
7. Between January 12, 2023, and January 26, 2023, defendants **BRADLEY SCOTT ALLRED**, **JAMIE ANN JOHNSON**, and **DANA MICHELLE BLACKWOOD MCMILLAN** were among the Jail's Licensed Practical Nurses who were principally responsible for day-to-day care for pre-trial and post-conviction detainees.
8. The Jail is a two-floor structure designed to hold approximately 250 detainees, consisting of several dorms designated by letter, a medical unit, and other specialty units.
9. A limited number of detainees were held for limited periods in observation cells in the "Booking" area. Booking contained a desk which formed the central hub of detainee intake, jail movement, communication, and operations. Eight Booking cells could be observed by officers several feet away at the Booking desk.

10. Among the eight Booking cells, BK5 was a concrete box with a small grate on the floor that opened into a hole for fluids to drain from the cell. Capable of being “flushed” only from outside of the cell, BK5 was often referred to as the “drunk tank” in that it could easily be hosed down when drunk people held there would vomit. BK5 typically housed a detainee for only a short period of time.
11. BK5 had no sink, no toilet, no bunk, nor a raised platform on which to sleep. Temperatures in BK5 and other Booking cells were routinely colder than other parts of the Jail.
12. Detainees housed in BK5 depended on Jail correctional and medical staff for their food, water, clothing, bedding, medical and mental health care, access to a toilet and shower, and communication with anyone outside the Jail.
13. Per the medical contractor’s training and policies, as part of the booking process, all detainees booked into the Jail were supposed to receive a medical and mental health screening (“Receiving Screening”) to ensure that urgent health needs were met and to determine, among other things, their fitness for confinement.
14. Per the medical contractor’s training and policies, in addition to the Receiving Screening, all detainees were to receive an “Initial Health Evaluation” to review, at a minimum, the Receiving Screening results, and to evaluate the detainee’s health status including questioning about any symptoms that significantly impacted the health, safety, and welfare of the detainee.
15. Medical personnel maintained a Daily Assignment Sheet which identified each detainee that needed to receive the Initial Health Evaluation.

The Arrest, Detention, and Death of Individual #1

16. On January 12, 2023, WCSO deputies responded to the home of Individual #1, a 33-year-old man, after a request from Individual #1’s

family that deputies conduct a mental health welfare check. Deputies arrested Individual #1 after he fired a gun while law enforcement was on his property.

17. Individual #1 was held at the Jail as a pre-trial detainee from on or about January 12, 2023, through on or about January 26, 2023.
18. During the entirety of his two-week detention, Individual #1 was housed in cell BK5.
19. During much of his two-week detention, Individual #1 had no blanket, mattress, or clothing, and was routinely left naked on the bare concrete floor.
20. During much of his two-week detention, Individual #1 was routinely covered in feces and was not provided with regular opportunities to shower or use a toilet. During approximately the last five days of Individual #1's detention, he was not removed from BK5 and was given no opportunity to shower or use a toilet.
21. During his two-week detention, Individual #1 appeared to need medical and mental health treatment, including regularly demonstrating signs that he was experiencing delusions.
22. From on or about January 14, 2023, through on or about January 26, 2023, Individual #1's name appeared on the Daily Assignment Sheet in the section that identified detainees that needed to receive the Initial Health Evaluation. During this period, defendants **PATRICIA HILTON HAMMONDS, BRADLEY SCOTT ALLRED, JAMIE ANN JOHNSON, and DANA MICHELLE BLACKWOOD MCMILLAN** reviewed the Daily Assignment Sheets.
23. During his two-week detention, neither defendants **ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON, PATRICIA HILTON HAMMONDS, BRADLEY SCOTT ALLRED, JAMIE ANN JOHNSON, DANA MICHELLE BLACKWOOD MCMILLAN**, nor any other member

of the Jail's correctional and medical staff provided Individual #1 with a Receiving Screening or an Initial Intake Evaluation.

24. During Individual #1's two-week detention at the Jail, correctional officers approached defendant **ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON** with concerns over the treatment of Individual #1.
25. During Individual #1's two-week detention, defendants **ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON, PATRICIA HILTON HAMMONDS, BRADLEY SCOTT ALLRED, JAMIE ANN JOHNSON, DANA MICHELLE BLACKWOOD MCMILLAN**, and other co-conspirators known and unknown to the grand jury, failed to provide Individual #1 with constitutional conditions of confinement including, but not limited to, adequate food, water, clothing, shelter, sanitation, and medical and mental health care.
26. From on or about January 12, 2023, through on or about January 26, 2023, while Individual #1 was detained at the Jail, defendants **ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON, PATRICIA HILTON HAMMONDS, BRADLEY SCOTT ALLRED, JAMIE ANN JOHNSON, DANA MICHELLE BLACKWOOD MCMILLAN**, and other co-conspirators known and unknown to the grand jury, did not alert the Regional Director or other responsible members of the medical contractor's staff to any concerns about Individual #1's conditions of confinement or their failure to provide medical or mental health care to Individual #1.
27. On January 26, 2023, near the end of Individual #1's two-week detention, defendant **ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON** examined Individual #1 after being called to the Jail by correctional officers. She reported that Individual #1 was cool to the touch, emaciated, dehydrated, and not communicating verbally. Defendant **ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON** told correctional officers that Individual #1 should be sent to the hospital, but that correctional officers could wait approximately one hour for the incoming shift to arrive before doing so.

28. Despite reporting that Individual #1 was “cool to the touch,” defendant **ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON** did not provide Individual #1 with a blanket, mattress, clothing, or other means to warm himself. Defendant **ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON** left Individual #1 naked in the cell. Defendant **ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON** left the Jail before the incoming shift arrived.
29. Several hours later, Individual #1 was carried to a patrol vehicle to be transported to the hospital. Upon arrival at the hospital parking lot, Individual #1 suffered cardiac arrest. Hospital personnel attempted lifesaving measures, and Individual #1 died a few hours later.
30. Hospital personnel documented Individual #1’s core body temperature as 72 degrees Fahrenheit.
31. A Medical Examiner for the State of Alabama performed an autopsy on Individual #1 and found Individual #1’s death to be a homicide caused by “hypothermia,” “sepsis resulting from infected injuries obtained during incarceration,” and “medical neglect.”

COUNT ONE
18 U.S.C. § 241
(Conspiracy Against Rights)

32. Paragraphs 1 through 31 are hereby incorporated in the count set forth below.

33. From on or about January 12, 2023, through on or about January 26, 2023, in Walker County, within the Northern District of Alabama, the defendants,

ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON,
PATRICIA HILTON HAMMONDS,
BRADLEY SCOTT ALLRED,
JAMIE ANN JOHNSON, and
DANA MICHELLE BLACKWOOD MCMILLAN,

willfully combined, conspired, and agreed with one another, and with other persons known and unknown to the grand jury, to injure, oppress, threaten, and intimidate Individual #1 in the free exercise and enjoyment of the right, secured and protected by the Constitution and laws of the United States, to be free from the deprivation of liberty without due process of law, which includes the right to be free from unconstitutional conditions of confinement. The offense resulted in bodily injury to, and the death of, Individual #1.

Object, Manner and Means of the Conspiracy

34. It was the object of the conspiracy for **ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON, PATRICIA HILTON HAMMONDS, BRADLEY SCOTT ALLRED, JAMIE ANN JOHNSON, DANA MICHELLE BLACKWOOD MCMILLAN,** and other co-conspirators known and unknown to the grand jury, to act with deliberate indifference to a substantial risk of serious harm to Individual #1 by depriving him of humane conditions of confinement including, but not limited to, adequate food, water, clothing, shelter, sanitation, and medical and mental health care.

35. It was the manner and means of the conspiracy that **ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON, PATRICIA HILTON HAMMONDS, BRADLEY SCOTT ALLRED, JAMIE ANN JOHNSON, DANA MICHELLE BLACKWOOD MCMILLAN,** and other co-conspirators known and unknown to

the grand jury, recognized that Individual #1 was housed in a cell without access to running water and without access to a commode in cold temperatures for two weeks without clothes, a mattress, a blanket, or other thing to keep him warm while he lay on a concrete floor, often covered in feces; and defendants took no reasonable steps to ameliorate these conditions or to provide him with medical or mental health services despite obvious signs that Individual #1 experienced deteriorating physical and mental conditions.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 241.

COUNT TWO
18 U.S.C. § 242
(Deprivation of Rights)

36. Paragraphs 1 through 31 are hereby incorporated in the count set forth below.

37. On or about January 12, 2023, through on or about January 26, 2023, in Walker County, Alabama, within the Northern District of Alabama, the defendants,

**ALEISHA MICHELLE HERRON,
PATRICIA HILTON HAMMONDS,
BRADLEY SCOTT ALLRED,
JAMIE ANN JOHNSON, and
DANA MICHELLE BLACKWOOD MCMILLAN,**

while acting under color of law, aiding and abetting each other and others, willfully deprived Individual #1 of the right, secured and protected by the Constitution and laws of the United States, to be free from the deprivation of liberty without due process of law, which includes the right not to be subjected to deliberate indifference to any condition or combination of conditions that create a substantial risk of serious harm. Specifically, the above-named defendants deprived Individual #1 of humane conditions of confinement including but not limited to adequate food, water, clothing, shelter, sanitation, and medical and mental health care and were deliberately indifferent to the substantial risk of serious harm that these deprivations created. The offense resulted in bodily injury to, and the death of, Individual #1.

All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 242 and 2.

A TRUE BILL

FOREPERSON OF THE GRAND JURY

PRIM F. ESCALONA
United States Attorney

/s/ Electronic Signature

MICHAEL A. ROYSTER
Assistant United States Attorney

HARMEET K. DHILLON
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/s/ Electronic Signature

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