

## Update on fallen Benedict student

Written by Staff Writer

Wednesday, 04 September 2013 08:22 - Last Updated Thursday, 05 September 2013 14:53

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## UPDATE

Earlier today, the Richland County Coroner Gary Watts released additional information concerning the death of a student at Benedict College. The student was found Tuesday in her dorm room.

The student was identified as 19 year old Ms. Ayaanah Gibson by the college after the family had been notified. The Coroner stated that she died from a loss of blood due to complications from child birth. Ms. Gibson was approximately 32 weeks pregnant and sometime Saturday afternoon or early Sunday apparently delivered a stillborn fetus in her room. No foul play is expected in this case.

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) investigation has found no signs of foul play in Ms. Gibson's death.

Benedict released this official statement this afternoon:

### **Fallen Benedict College Tiger Remembered at Fall Convocation**

The Benedict College family remembered Ms. Ayaanah Gibson along with other fallen Tigers this morning in the College's 2013 Fall Convocation. The ceremony which served as the official opening of the academic year paused for a moment of silence to salute all the individuals who are now considered "'Powers for Good' for life." Ms. Gibson was a freshman student majoring in chemistry from Sacramento, California.

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Please continue to pray for the Gibson and Benedict College Family.

\_\_\_\_\_ *Posted Wednesday,  
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State law enforcement officials were called to the campus of Benedict College on Tuesday after a female student's body was discovered. Coroner Gary Watts is expected to release more information today, but as of Tuesday night, it is believed the cause of death was natural and foul play is not suspected.

Benedict released this official statement last night: "The Benedict College family is deeply saddened this evening about the unexpected loss of one of its students. Please join the Benedict College family in praying for our fallen Tiger and her family. President David H. Swinton along with the Campus Minister, Student Government Leaders, and the Director of Campus Counseling spoke with students this evening in Antisdel Chapel about the unfortunate incident. After the meeting everyone in the Chapel held hands and prayed together as a family.

The College has arraigned for counselors to be available tomorrow morning starting at 9:00 a.m. to speak with students. Antisdel Chapel will remain open tonight for students who may want a quiet place to reflect and pray.

No other information will be available until after the Coroner's report and the parent's notification. The Richland County Coroner has indicated that there was no foul play involved."

More information will be reported as it becomes available.