

Russian asylum-seeker in U.S. dies after 86-day hunger strike



Seattle, November 28 (RHC)-- In the U.S. state of Washington, a Russian asylum seeker held at the Northwest Detention Center has died. Forty-year-old Amar Mergansana had been on hunger strike for 86 days when he was transferred to a hospital earlier this month after losing consciousness.

Mergansana arrived in the U.S. last December via the U.S.-Mexico border and was taken into ICE custody. He began his hunger strike to protest conditions at the Northwest Detention Center -- which is run by for-profit prison company GEO Group -- and his possible deportation. The group Northwest Detention Center Resistance is demanding an investigation into his death.

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