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Police said man who died in CMU frat house was drinking before his death

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A college student whose body was found in a Carnegie Mellon University fraternity this weekend had been drinking vodka inside the house before his death, city homicide detectives said.

Results from an autopsy on Matthew Tembo were pending, though police have said foul play is not suspected. The medical examiner's office listed his age as 20, but officials with Carnegie Mellon and Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity's national headquarters in Memphis, Tenn., said their records indicate he was 22.

Carnegie Mellon's alcohol policy says that in campus residences, including fraternities, there is an expectation of privacy but that individuals are subject to applicable laws regarding alcohol use.

Though the official cause of death has not been determined, police have said it appears Mr. Tembo drank too much at a birthday celebration. Through interviews, police were able to determine that he was drinking in the house before his death, Detective Christine Williams said. Police do not know how much he drank or whether he drank anywhere other than the house during the night.

"Carnegie Mellon University police are working with the City of Pittsburgh police to investigate the student's death," the university said in a statement from campus spokesman Ken Walters. "It is premature to speculate on what happened or if any disciplinary action needs to be taken in this matter."

The medical examiner's office said Mr. Tembo was from France. He was a sophomore majoring in management at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. The fraternity's national headquarters said Mr. Tembo was an alumni member.

Mr. Tembo attended Carnegie Mellon during the 2007-08 year, school officials said.

Messages left at the house on Morewood Avenue were not returned.

Carnegie Mellon is offering support to students from its Counseling and Psychological Services.

The fraternity's national headquarters said Mr. Tembo was an alumni member.

"Our thoughts and prayers go out to this young man's family and our brothers at Beta Sigma as well as all of his friends in the Carnegie Mellon community," Justin A. Buck, the International Fraternity's executive vice president, said in a statement on the organization's website.

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