



SHERIFF

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: October 22, 2023

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Death in Custody

Location: 300 Bradford Street, Redwood City

Incident: Death in Custody

Redwood City, CA – On Saturday, October 21, 2023, at approximately 9:18 PM, Correctional Officers assigned to the Maguire Correctional Facility discovered a 34 year-old white male, who was housed alone, unresponsive in his cell. He was discovered as part of the hourly checks our staff conduct to ensure the welfare and safety of incarcerated persons. Once discovered, Correctional Officers immediately initiated life-saving measures by administering CPR until medical staff, who are stationed inside the facility, arrived. Unfortunately, the individual was pronounced deceased at the Maguire Correctional Facility by Redwood City Fire Department and EMS.

San Mateo County Sheriff's Detectives, the District Attorney's Office, and the Coroner's Office were notified and responded to the scene. These three agencies are currently conducting independent investigations to determine the cause of death.

The incarcerated person was housed in our Behavioral Health Unit. The unit provides educational programming, increased recreational and out-of-cell time, and clinical, evidence-based programming to address serious mental illness. Residents who were previously unable to function successfully in a group setting have more opportunities to socialize, integrate, and receive clinical and programmatic support. Correctional Health Services and the Sheriff's Office also work closely with San Mateo County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services and community partners to design comprehensive release plans for every BHU participant.



Please understand that these investigations are thorough and take time to be done correctly. Once the investigation is complete, we will be fully transparent and publicize any additional information through press releases and social media. The death of any person in our care impacts our entire organization as we take great pride and care in taking care of our communities. Our employees that responded and provided life saving measures are being provided peer support resources as incidents such as this have a profound impact on the mental wellness of our employees.

At this time, initial information suggests the cause of death to be suicide but final determination will be made by the Coroner's Office once they have completed their exam and investigation. Out of respect and privacy for his family, we are withholding his name until notifications have been completed.

Written by: Sergeant Javier Acosta
San Mateo County Sheriff's Office case #23-08566