



San Diego County Sheriff's Department

Homicide Unit

Media Information

SUBJECT: Death Investigation

LOCATION: 1173 Front Street, San Diego

DATE/TIME: October 29, 2019 / 3:40 p.m.

DECEASED: Michael Hossfeld, age 41

SUSPECT: None

The following information is fragmentary and has not been completely verified. It is based, in part, on hearsay and is intended for early information use rather than being a formal investigative report.

On July 20, 2019, Michael Hossfeld was found unconscious inside of a housing module at the San Diego Central Jail. Deputies initiated life saving measures and Hossfeld was transported to the hospital where it was determined that he had suffered a possible overdose on fentanyl. Hossfeld was in a coma and on life support until August 3, 2019, when his family made the decision to remove him from life support. He was pronounced deceased at approximately 2051 hours. He had been in custody for 691 days and was charged with multiple crimes, including robbery. The Sheriff's Homicide Unit responded to the hospital to investigate the death.

The Medical Examiner has concluded their autopsy report and provided it to the Homicide Unit on October 28, 2019. They have determined the cause of death to be anoxic encephalopathy due to acute fentanyl toxicity and the manner of death to be accidental. The Sheriff's Homicide Unit responds to investigate all in-custody deaths. The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call the Sheriff's Homicide Unit at (858) 285-6330/after hours at (858) 565-5200. You can also remain anonymous by calling Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

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