



# SAN DIEGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

## Critical Incident Review Board

### In-Custody Death Information Release

DATE OF INCIDENT: July 22, 2022

TIME: 10:12 a.m.

LOCATION: George Bailey Detention Facility

The Sheriff's Homicide Unit conducts a thorough investigation of every in-custody death. In addition to the investigation conducted by the Sheriff's Homicide Unit, the Sheriff's Critical Incident Review Board (CIRB) conducts a review of in-custody deaths. The CIRB is comprised of department leadership and the Sheriff's Legal Advisor and performs a critical review of each incident. The focus of the CIRB is to assess the department's civil exposure because of a given incident. The review may identify potential misconduct, criminal negligence or behavior, policy violations, training deficiencies, or other areas where we can improve and make our facilities safer for staff and those in our custody. This release synthesizes the reviewed incident and any resultant actions taken to improve our operations.

On July 22, 2022, at about 10:12 a.m., members of the incarcerated population in Module 2A at the George Bailey Detention Facility (GBDF) notified Sheriff's deputies of someone in medical distress inside the housing unit. Deputies responded and found Incarcerated Person Abdiel Sarabia, was lying on his bunk. Sarabia was unresponsive and not breathing. Deputies immediately requested that medical staff respond to the module, administered a dose of Naloxone to Sarabia, and began cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). At about 10:16 a.m., Sheriff's medical staff arrived on scene and took over lifesaving measures. Sheriff's medical staff administered additional doses of Naloxone, performed chest compressions, and applied an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to Sarabia. At about 10:22 a.m., paramedics arrived on scene and assisted with the continuing lifesaving measures. Despite the efforts of Sheriff's medical staff and emergency responders, Sarabia was pronounced deceased by a doctor at 10:35 a.m.

As is the protocol for all in-custody deaths, the San Diego Sheriff's Homicide Unit investigated this incident and documented the scene. Investigators recovered a white powdery substance from Sarabia's assigned bed and submitted the substance to the crime lab for testing and identification.

The San Diego County Medical Examiner's Office conducted an independent investigation and post-mortem. Further testing and evaluation was determined necessary. The cause and manner of death are still pending completion of the final Medical Examiner's report. (ME Case #2022-02391)

The CIRB conducted a preliminary review of this incident on August 17, 2022, with no action items or policy recommendations at that time.