

SAN DIEGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Critical Incident Review Board In-Custody Death Information Release

DATE OF INCIDENT: June 9, 2021

TIME: 4:54 p.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 synopsizes the reviewed incident and any resultant actions taken to improve our operations.

On June 9, 2021, at about 4:54 p.m., incarcerated persons inside a housing unit at the George Bailey Detention Facility (GBDF) notified Sheriff's deputies about an individual in medical distress inside the housing unit. Deputies responded and found Incarcerated Person Jerry Aleman unresponsive on the floor. The deputies initiated cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), administered doses of Naloxone, and requested that medical staff respond to the housing unit as well as a notification to 911 for an emergency response. At about 4:57 p.m., Sheriff's medical staff arrived on scene and took over lifesaving measures including performing chest compressions and applying an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to Aleman. At about 5:09 p.m., Cal Fire and Mercy paramedics arrived on scene and assisted with the continuing lifesaving measures. Despite the efforts of Sheriff's medical staff and emergency responders, Jerry Aleman was pronounced deceased by a doctor at 5:27 p.m.

As is the protocol for all in-custody deaths, the San Diego Sheriff's Homicide Unit investigated this incident and documented the scene. No illicit substances were found at the scene.

The San Diego County Medical Examiner's Office conducted an independent investigation and post-mortem. The Medical Examiner's Office determined the cause of death to be "acute fentanyl intoxication," and the manner of death to be "accident." (ME Case #2021-01917)

The CIRB conducted a review of this incident on January 12, 2022, and listed the following as action items:

 Revise Detentions Policies and Procedures section I.64-Safety Checks of Housing and Holding Areas. This was completed on May 9, 2022.