



# SAN DIEGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

## Critical Incident Review Board

### In-Custody Death Information Release

DATE OF INCIDENT: December 1, 2021

TIME: 2:52 p.m.

LOCATION: Vista 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 December 1, 2021, at about 2:52 p.m., a Sheriff's deputy conducting a safety check of the North House housing unit at the Vista Detention Facility found Incarcerated Person Gumerindo Alamos unresponsive inside a cell. Alamos was the only person assigned to the cell and was alone. Additional deputies responded to the area and initiated cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), summoned Sheriff's medical staff, and requested a 911 notification for an emergency response. Sheriff's medical staff arrived at about 2:55 p.m. to assist with lifesaving measures, including applying an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and assisting with CPR.

At about 3:08 p.m., Vista Fire Department (VFD) personnel arrived and took over lifesaving measures. Despite the efforts of Sheriff's medical staff and emergency responders, a doctor pronounced Gumerindo Alamos deceased at 3:20 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.

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 "atherosclerotic and hypertensive cardiovascular disease" with "non-small cell lung cancer, COVID-19 viral infection" and "diabetes mellitus" contributing, and the manner of death to be "natural." (ME Case #2021-4030)

The CIRB conducted a review of this incident on July 20, 2022, with no action items or policy recommendations at that time.