



SAN DIEGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Critical Incident Review Board

In-Custody Death Information Release

DATE OF INCIDENT: February 4, 2023

TIME: 10:30 a.m.

LOCATION: Tri-City Medical Center (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 February 1, 2023, at about 9:55 a.m., while conducting a safety check of the Lower West housing unit at the Vista Detention Facility, a Sheriff's deputy found Incarcerated Person Ryan Thuresson unresponsive inside a cell. Thuresson was the sole occupant of the cell. Deputies initiated cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), administered Naloxone, and summoned medical staff. Sheriff's medical personnel arrived at about 9:59 a.m. to assist with lifesaving measures, including applying an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and administering additional doses of Naloxone.

At about 10:10 a.m., Vista Fire Department (VFD) personnel arrived and took over lifesaving measures, including applying a Lund University Cardiopulmonary Assist System (LUCAS) CPR machine. VFD paramedics were able to restore Thuresson's pulse and transported him to the Tri-City Medical Center. Members of Thuresson's family were contacted prior to his passing to provide input on his care and treatment. Despite the efforts of emergency responders and hospital staff, a doctor pronounced Mr. Thuresson deceased on February 4, 2023, at approximately 10:37 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. Evidence seized from the scene is pending laboratory analysis.

The San Diego County Medical Examiner's Office conducted an independent investigation and post-mortem. The cause of death was determined to be "combined fentanyl and fluorofentanyl toxicity" and the manner was "accident." (ME Case #2023-00429)

The CIRB conducted a preliminary review of this incident on March 15, 2023, with no action items or policy recommendations at that time.