



# SAN DIEGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

## Critical Incident Review Board

### In-Custody Death Information Release

DATE OF INCIDENT: March 16, 2022

TIME: 9:41 a.m.

LOCATION: San Diego Central Jail

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 March 16, 2022, at 9:41 a.m., while conducting a safety check of a housing unit at the San Diego Central Jail, Sheriff's deputies found Incarcerated Person William Schuck on his bed, unresponsive, with no pulse, and not breathing. Schuck was inside his assigned cell and was the sole occupant. Deputies initiated cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and summoned medical staff. Medical staff arrived to assist with lifesaving measures, including applying an Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

At about 9:49 a.m., San Diego Fire Department personnel arrived and took over lifesaving measures. At about 9:54 a.m., Falck paramedics arrived to assist and prepare Schuck for transport to a local hospital. Despite the efforts of emergency responders, a doctor pronounced William Schuck deceased at 10:18 a.m. As is the protocol for all in-custody deaths, the San Diego Sheriff's Homicide Unit investigated this incident.

The San Diego County Medical Examiner's Office conducted an independent investigation and post-mortem. Schuck tested positive for cocaine during a presumptive test. The cause and manner of death are still pending the completion of the Medical Examiner's final report. (ME Case #22-00982)

The CIRB conducted a preliminary review of this incident on May 18, 2022. There were no policy changes or action items identified during that review.

UPDATE:

The CIRB conducted its final review of this incident on May 10, 2023, with the following action items listed:

Item #1 – The circumstances of the incident were referred to the Sheriff's Internal Affairs Unit for review.