



SAN DIEGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Critical Incident Review Board

In-Custody Death Information Release

DATE OF INCIDENT: July 8, 2023

TIME: 3:25 p.m.

LOCATION: Tri-City Medical Center Hospital Guard Unit (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 June 28, 2023, Zeke Davis was booked into Sheriff's custody at the Vista Detention Facility. During the booking process Sheriff's health staff determined he should be transported to the hospital for follow-up. While at the Tri-City Medical Center, Davis was evaluated and admitted to the hospital for a pre-existing medical condition. On July 8, 2023, Davis was transferred to the hospital's Intensive Care Unit. Despite the efforts of hospital medical staff, Davis' condition continued to decline and a doctor pronounced him deceased 3:25 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 preliminarily determined the cause of death to be "cancer," and the manner of death to be "natural." The final Medical Examiner's report is still pending completion. (ME Case #2023-2212)

The CIRB conducted a preliminary review of this incident on August 16, 2023, with no action items or policy recommendations at that time.