



San Diego County Sheriff's Department

Homicide Unit

Media Information

SUBJECT: Death Investigation

LOCATION: 325 South Melrose Drive, Vista

DATE/TIME: February 7, 2019 / 8:45 a.m.

DECEASED: Withheld, pending family notifications

SUSPECT: None

The following information is fragmentary and has not been completely verified. It is based, in part, on hearsay and is intended for early information use rather than being a formal investigative report.

This morning just before 8:45 a.m., deputies at the Vista Detention Facility were performing a security check in a holding area when inmates in a holding cell knocked on the window to get the deputies attention. Deputies looked inside the cell and saw an inmate in apparent medical distress. The man did not appear injured, but soon after the deputies entered the cell to help the 56-year-old man, he became unresponsive. CPR was initiated and the man was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced deceased at about 9:52 a.m. The man was in custody for possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and a violation of his terms of parole. The Sheriff's Homicide Unit responded to investigate the death.

The San Diego County Medical Examiner's Office will conduct an autopsy to determine the cause and manner of death and notify the victim's family. The Sheriff's Homicide Unit responds to investigate all in-custody deaths. Our response is not an indication of foul play or suspicious circumstances. The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call the Sheriff's Homicide Unit at (858) 258-6330/after hours at (858) 565-5200. You can also remain anonymous by calling Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477.

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