



Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

ANNE MARIE SCHUBERT
District Attorney

Stephen J. Grippi
Chief Deputy

Michael A. Neves
Assistant District Attorney

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 10, 2017

TO: Captain Eric Buehler, Commander
Sacramento County Sheriff's Department
Correctional Services Unit
651 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

RE: In-Custody Death – Barry Monroe
SSD Report No. 16-03646
Date of Incident: July 24, 2016

The above case was referred to this office for review of the circumstances surrounding the July 24, 2016, death of inmate Barry Monroe while in the Sacramento County Main Jail.

Monroe was arrested on July 22, 2016, at approximately 7:30 p.m. for possession of heroin and marijuana for sale, resisting a peace officer, and destruction of evidence. At the time of the arrest, he attempted to swallow heroin. As Sacramento Police officers detained Monroe, he spit out the substance and denied swallowing it. After being booked at the Sacramento County Main Jail, Monroe was assigned to a cell.

On July 23, 2016, at approximately 3:43 p.m., another inmate was assigned to share the cell with Monroe. This inmate later indicated that when he arrived to the cell, he heard Monroe snoring in the top bunk with one leg and arm hanging off the side. The inmate went to sleep on the bottom bunk. Later, he went to see the nurse, returned to the cell, and slept. During his time in this cell, the inmate did not communicate with Monroe, but noticed that he snored throughout the day. At one point, the inmate tried to wake him up, but Monroe continued to sleep. The inmate did not believe that Monroe had any distress or required any medical emergency. The inmate later transferred to a different cell the next day at approximately 2:46 p.m.

Sacramento Sheriff Deputy Alfonso Ceja began his shift as a jail floor officer on July 24, 2016, at 6:30 a.m. Deputies conducted cell checks during the morning and at approximately 1:50 p.m., 2:50 p.m., 4:04 p.m., and 4:55 p.m. Nothing unusual was noted. At approximately 5:41 p.m., Deputy Ceja conducted an inmate count. When he arrived at Monroe's cell, Deputy Ceja observed Monroe lying on the top bunk with his arm hanging off the side. Deputy Ceja rattled

the cell door and called out to him a few times, but Monroe was unresponsive. Deputy Ceja quickly completed his count and returned to the control room to request assistance. Deputies Ceja and Ross Nishio proceeded to the cell, entered, and checked on Monroe at approximately 5:45 p.m. Deputy Ceja called out Monroe's name a couple times, but he did not respond. Monroe's body was cool and he did not have a pulse. The deputies immediately requested medical assistance, carried Monroe to the ground, and provided him with cardiopulmonary resuscitation. A jail nurse responded and deployed the Automated External Defibrillator with negative results. Sacramento City Fire Department personnel arrived on scene at approximately 5:54 p.m. and continued medical assistance. Monroe was pronounced deceased at approximately 5:57 p.m.

Forensic Pathologist Brian Nagao, M.D., conducted an autopsy and concluded that the cause of Monroe's death was drug intoxication. He also suffered from acute pneumonia and cardiomegaly. The Sacramento County District Attorney's Crime Lab confirmed the presence of methamphetamine, amphetamine, delta-9-THC, 11-hydroxy-THC, 11-nor-9-carboxy-THC, morphine, codeine, and a heroin metabolite in Monroe's blood sample. No evidence of criminal misconduct is presented or suggested in any of the supporting reports. The District Attorney's Office will not take any further action in this matter.

cc: Rick Braziel, Office of the Inspector General
Lieutenant Lisa Gayman