



Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

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August 11, 2016

Captain Jim Ortega, Commander
Sacramento County Sheriff's Department
Correctional Services Unit
651 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: In-Custody Death – Tammy Wood
SSD Report No. 15-300614
Date of Incident: November 22, 2015

Dear Captain Ortega:

The above case was referred to this office for review of the circumstances surrounding the November 22, 2015, death of inmate Tammy Wood while in the Sacramento County Main Jail.

At approximately 6:15 a.m., Sacramento County Sheriff Deputy Ileana Iosif was assigned as a floor/control officer on 7 West at the jail. She began her morning count and eventually checked Wood's cell at approximately 6:42 a.m. Wood was awake and the sole occupant of the cell. Deputy Iosif and a nurse later arrived at Wood's cell at approximately 8:16 a.m. to provide her with medication. Wood did not respond. Deputy Iosif knocked on the door, but Wood did not respond again. Deputy Iosif used her flashlight and saw Wood lying face down on her bunk. She called Wood's name and did not see any body movement. Deputy Iosif also saw liquid near the bunk.

Deputy Iosif entered the cell and determined that Wood had no pulse. She noticed that Wood's face was grey in color and soaked with moisture. Wood's hair was in her mouth and stuck to her face. Deputy Iosif immediately requested assistance. Deputy Iosif and the nurse moved Wood from her bunk to the ground to begin cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Deputy Corey Allmon arrived at the cell to assist. He conducted chest compressions, cleared Wood's airway, noticed there was an obstruction, and found half of an orange inside Wood's mouth. The orange was approximately 2.5 inches in diameter and the peel was still intact.

Other deputies and nurses arrived at the cell and continued medical treatment with an Automated External Defibrillator. Sacramento Metro Firefighters and Medics arrived, resumed emergency care, and transported Wood to Sutter General Hospital. She was pronounced deceased at approximately 9:05 a.m.

Chief Forensic Pathologist Joseph Pestaner, M.D., conducted an autopsy and concluded that the cause of Wood's death was asphyxia due to airway obstruction. The Coroner's Office classified the manner of death as accidental.

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