



County of Santa Cruz

Sheriff-Coroner

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Phil Wowak
Sheriff-Coroner

Sheriff's Media Release

Date/Time of Incident/Event: 11/20/2012 1842 hours
Location of Incident: 259 Water Street Santa Cruz - Main Jail
Case Number: 12-09896
Type of Incident: Inmate Death in Custody
Suspect(s): N/A
Photo(s) Available: Yes ___ No X

Description of Incident:

On 11/20/2012 at 1842 hours, a 47 year old male inmate was found unresponsive in his bunk during an evening check by jail personnel. Medical and corrections staff provided immediate life saving care until relieved by Santa Cruz Fire and AMR paramedics. The inmate was pronounced dead at the scene after the resuscitation efforts were deemed ineffective.

The Coroner's detectives are currently conducting an investigation into the circumstances of the death. At this time there is no evidence of criminal activity or suspicious circumstances surrounding the death. The inmate had significant history of substance abuse and was suffering from withdrawal symptoms at the time of his death.

The Sheriff's Office Coroner unit will be conducting a medical exam on the decedent at 1300 hours on 11/21/2012.

No further details will be released at this time, pending notification of next of kin.

Additional press inquiries should be directed to Lieutenant Shea Johnson who can be reached at 831-212-1773.

Press Release Prepared by: Lt. Shea Johnson

Press Release Approved by: Lt. Shea Johnson

Date/Time of Media Release: 11/21/2012 1100 hours