CBP Statement on Death in Custody

Release Date: December 22, 2019

On Friday, Dec. 20, CBP Officers at the Hidalgo Port of Entry made a determination that a 42-year-old male Mexican citizen violated immigration law by falsely claiming to be a US Citizen. As a result, he was arrested and processed for Expedited Removal and was held for criminal prosecution. The individual passed away at the East Hidalgo Detention Center on Dec. 21, 2019 (calendar:T2:Dec.%2021,%202019). According to initial reports, the cause of death is suspected to be the result of suicide. The incident remains under investigation by La Villa Police Department, and CBP’s Office of Professional Responsibility.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is the unified border agency within the Department of Homeland Security charged with the management, control and protection of our nation’s borders at and between official ports of entry. CBP is charged with securing the borders of the United States while enforcing hundreds of laws and facilitating lawful trade and travel.

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