CBP Statement Regarding a Death in Custody at the San Ysidro Port of Entry

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A 61-year-old U.S. citizen died after entering U.S. Customs and Border Protection custody at the San Ysidro port of entry on Sunday evening.

The man was detained by CBP officers and security staff at the San Ysidro port of entry and placed into a cell after he attempted to walk into a restricted area, became non-compliant with instructions, and exhibited abnormal behavior. A few minutes later, CBP officers noticed that the man was nonresponsive, and CBP officers with medical first responder training rendered aid until local emergency medical services personnel arrived and took over medical care shortly thereafter.

The San Diego Police Department is investigating the man’s death. Per CBP policy, the CBP Office of Professional Responsibility will review the incident. The care of individuals in CBP custody is paramount and we are committed to the health and safety of those in our custody.

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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