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CBP statement regarding the death of a Salvadoran National

Release Date: June 2, 2019

According to initial reports, U.S. Border Patrol agents from Rio Grande Valley Sector apprehended a man near the border in Roma, Texas, at 12:10 p.m., CDT. Shortly after taking him into custody, agents called Emergency Medical Services after they observed signs that the man was suffering from an apparent seizure at 12:22 p.m. An EMT-certified Border Patrol Agent quickly initiated emergency medical care until EMS arrived at 12:29 p.m. EMS continued emergency care and transported him to a local hospital at 12:45 p.m. Despite all efforts to save the 33-year-old man's life, hospital authorities pronounced him deceased. At this time, CBP is not releasing the identity of the individual until confirmation that the man's loved ones have been notified. The care of those in CBP's custody is paramount. Consistent with policy, CBP's Office of Professional Responsibility has initiated a review. The Department of Homeland Security's Office of the Inspector General and the Government of El Salvador have been notified.

Statement Attributable to Acting Commissioner John P. Sanders:

"A 33-year old Salvadoran man suffered a seizure and passed away after emergency medical personnel attempted to save his life. On behalf of the men and women of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, we extend our deepest condolences to those who are just learning of the tragic death of their loved one."

ON BACKGROUND:

TIMELINE: June 2, 2019

12:10 PM Agents apprehend a group of illegal aliens near Roma Texas.

12:21 PM Agents advise that a man was suffering a seizure. Agents advise that the man has become unresponsive.

12:22 PM Agents request EMS via service radio. RGV Sector contacts EMS. 911 operator dispatched EMS.

12:25 PM A certified EMT Border Patrol Agent arrives in the area and administers CPR.

12:29 PM EMS arrives.


12:31 PM Paramedics administer emergency care and perform CPR.

12:45 PM EMS took the man to the local hospital. Border Patrol agents escorted the ambulance.

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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