



County of Santa Cruz

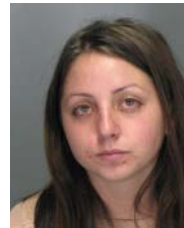
Sheriff-Coroner

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Steve Robbins
Sheriff-Coroner

PRESS RELEASE May 6, 2008

Incident Type: Death In-Custody Sheriff Case # 08-4312 Jail Case # 08W-510
Location: County Main Jail, H unit, 259 Water Street, Santa Cruz
Date and Time: May 6, 2008 0355 hours
Decedent: Rita Sativa Kraft, age 22



On Tuesday, May 6 2008 officers conducting hourly safety checks at approximately 3:20 am found Rita Kraft to be unresponsive. Officers entered the locked cell and called for medical assistance. Jail medical personnel arrived, followed by ambulance and fire personnel. Unfortunately, Kraft did not respond to life-saving efforts and was pronounced dead at 3:55 am by the emergency response team. Kraft shared the cell with another inmate, who told investigators she was tending to Kraft, who appeared to be ill when officers arrived for their routine safety checks. She was last seen by officers at approximately 2:19 am during previous safety checks; there was no indication of anything out of the ordinary at that time. There were no signs of trauma nor is foul play suspected.

The Sheriff's Coroner, Detectives and Crime Scene Investigations were called to investigate the circumstances and a medical examination will be scheduled to determine cause of death.

Kraft has been detained at the jail on charges of attempted homicide since October 2007. She did not have a history of self-harm while at the jail.

Prepared by: Craig Wilson, Lieutenant
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