

MEDIA RELEASE

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY Sheriff-Coroner

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Jim Hart Sheriff-Coroner

Media Release: May 11, 2020 In-Custody Death

On May 10th around 6:00p.m. Correctional Officers found an unresponsive male inside his cell at the Santa Cruz County Main Jail. Correctional Officers began performing life saving measures and called paramedics. Despite their efforts he was pronounced deceased at the jail.

He is identified as 21-year-old, Tamario Smith. Mr. Smith was arrested in January 2020 for domestic violence related charges.

Mr. Smith did not share a cell with anyone, there is no foul play suspected and no signs of trauma or visible injuries. Mr. Smith was not showing any signs or symptoms related to COVID-19. The forensic pathologist is performing an autopsy and toxicology test to determine cause and manner of death.

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