



MEDIA RELEASE

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Sheriff-Coroner

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Jim Hart
Sheriff-Coroner

FURTHER INFORMATION: INMATE DEATH AT MAIN JAIL

Date/Time of Incident/Event: 11/1/22 7:45 AM
Location of Incident: 259 Water St., Santa Cruz
Case Number: 2208489
Type of Incident: Inmate Death at Main Jail
Decedent(s): Mark Van Beckner
Photo(s) Available: Yes ____ No

Description of Incident:

On 11/1/22 at approximately 7:45 AM, inmate Mark Van Beckner at the Santa Cruz County Main Jail was found in medical distress. Jail Correctional Staff and Jail Medical Staff began treating the patient immediately and called for Emergency Medical Services. Ambulance and Fire personnel responded to the scene to assist in medical treatment of the patient. Despite the efforts of Jail Medical staff, Sheriff's Correctional Officers and Emergency Medical Services personnel, the patient was pronounced deceased 8:16 AM.

An autopsy performed by our forensic pathologist determined the cause of death to be internal bleeding caused by an aneurism of the arterial aorta. Toxicology reports are pending which may provide contributing factors to his death.

Beckner was a 57-year-old adult male and was a resident of the City of Santa Cruz.

Beckner's timeline of incarceration:

- 10/30/22-Booked into main jail after being arrested by Santa Cruz PD for Felony Possession of Stolen Property and Misdemeanor Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- 10/31/22-Housed in the jail
- 11/1/22 5:00 am- Correctional staff noticed Beckner appeared sick, and he was moved to an isolated cell for closer observation.
- 11/1/22 7:45 am- Beckner found unresponsive in his cell. Correctional Officers and Jail Nurses begin lifesaving efforts
- 11/1/22 7:46 am -Call is initiated to dispatch to initiate Emergency Medical Services
- 11/1/22 7:56 am- Emergency Medical Services arrive on scene and begin treating Beckner
- 11/1/22 8:16 am- Becker is determined as deceased

Prepared by: Lt. Patrick Dimick 11/9/22