ATTACHMENT G

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED AS OF 12:00 PM ON THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2019

Community for Accountability: United for Racial Justice

a presentation by

The Contra Costa County Racial Justice Coalition

for the consideration of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and the general public

The 2019 Contra Costa County TRUTH Act Forum

July 30, 2019

Today, we have come together to demand <u>accountability</u>.

California law requires <u>transparency</u> from local law enforcement about their collaboration with ICE.

We, the people of Contra Costa County, have the right to know <u>the truth</u>.

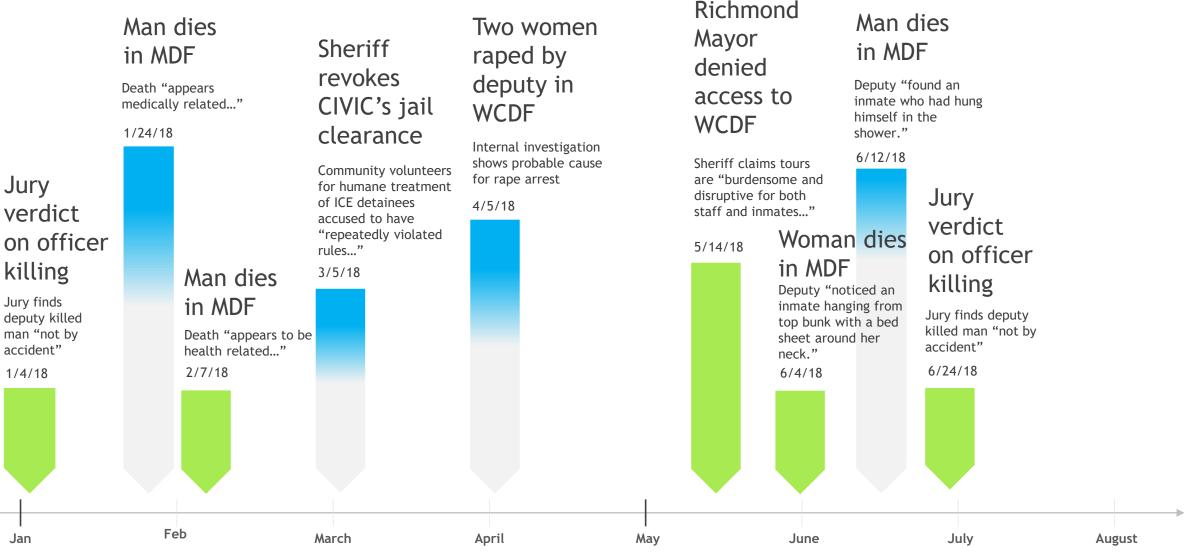
Sheriff Livingston's answers at this forum cannot be accepted at face value.

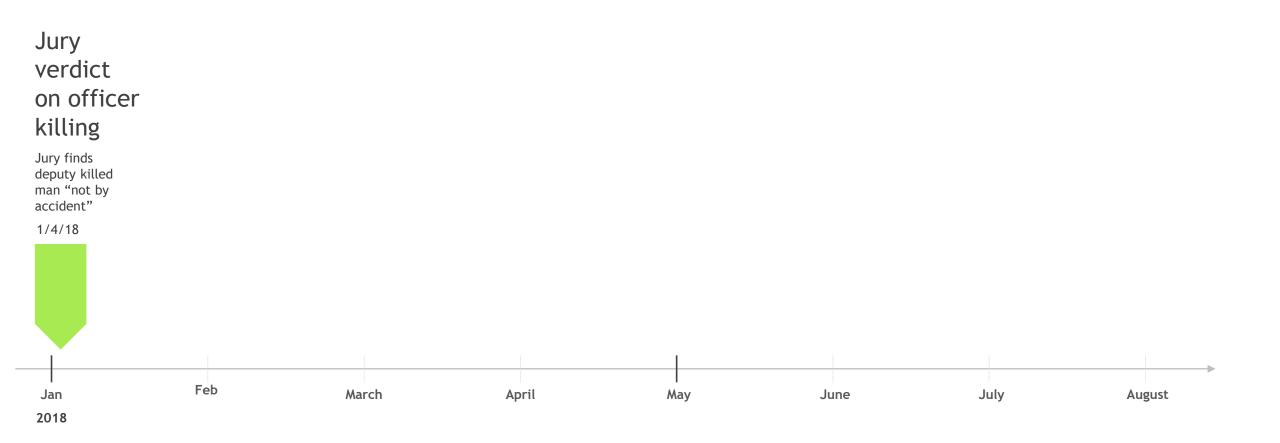
We must consider also the sheriff's track record of dishonesty and disregard for the law.

Inhumane treatment of immigrants is part of a larger practice of racial injustice in Contra Costa County.

The following timeline proves that <u>Sheriff Livingston is not credible</u>.

Given this history, oversight of the sheriff is the only way we will get the truth.







TO: News / Assignment Desk or News Editor

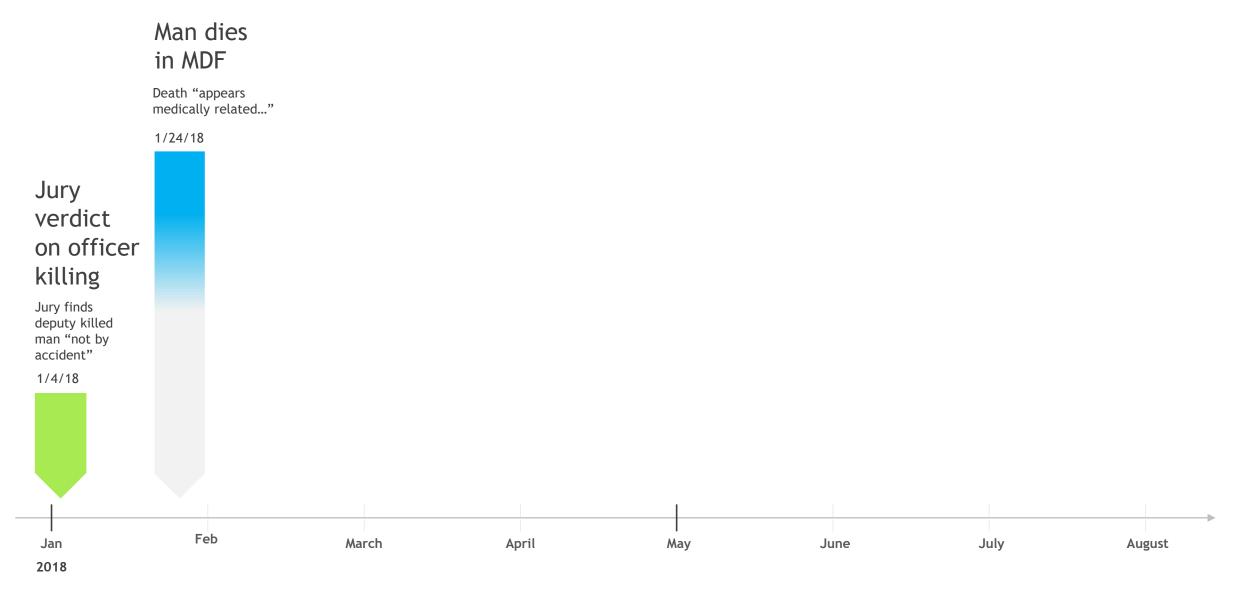
CORONER'S INQUEST FINDING

Sheriff-Coroner David O. Livingston announces that a coroner's jury has reached a finding in the July 4, 2017 death of 42-year-old Zepp McKinley Crouchst of El Cerrito. The finding of the jury is that the death is - at the hands of another person, other than by accident.

The coroner's jury reached a verdict after hearing the testimony of witnesses called by the hearing officer, Matthew Guichard.

A coroner's inquest, which Sheriff-Coroner Livingston convenes in fatal incidents involving peace officers, is a public hearing, during which a jury rules on the manner of a person's death. Jury members can choose from the following four options when making their finding:

Accident Suicide Natural Causes At the hands of another person, other than by accident. Sheriff-Coroner David O. Livingston announces that a coroner's jury has reached a finding in the July 4, 2017 death of 42-year-old Zepp McKinley Crouchet of El Cerrito. The finding of the jury is that the death is - at the hands of another person, other than by accident.





TO: News / Assignment Desk or News Editor

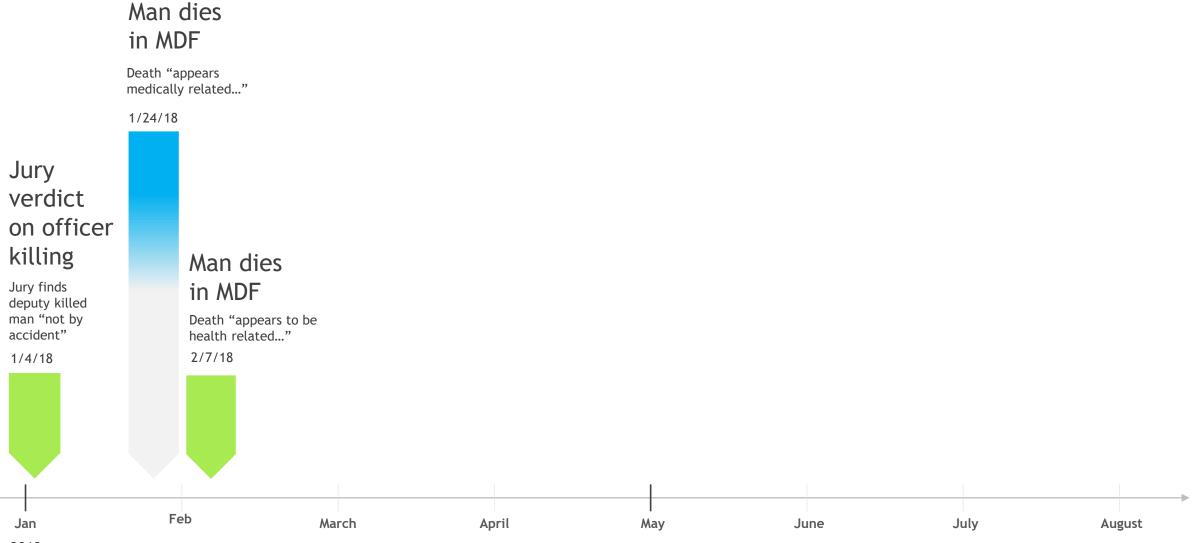
In Custody Death at Martinez Detention Facility

At about 12:47 AM today, a Deputy Sheriff was doing a room check at the Martinez Detention Facility (MDF) when he noticed an inmate was unresponsive in his bunk. The Deputy immediately called for medical assistance and started CPR.

Medical staff at MDF continued life-saving measures. An ambulance and the fire department responded to MDF. The inmate was later pronounced deceased. The 45-year-old male inmate is not being identified at this time. His death appears to be medically related.

The officer-involved protocol was initiated. Investigators from the Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff and the DA's Office are conducting an investigation into the death.

Medical staff at MDF continued life-saving measures. An ambulance and the fire department responded to MDF. The inmate was later pronounced deceased. The 45-year-old male inmate is not being identified at this time. His death appears to be medically related.





TO: News / Assignment Desk or News Editor

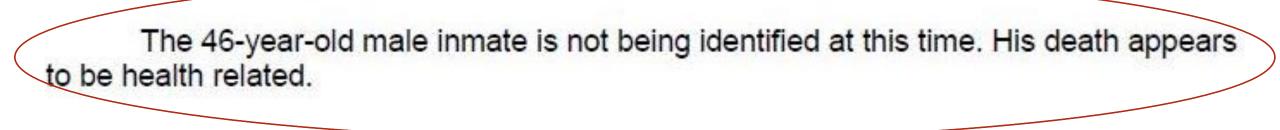
In Custody Death at Martinez Detention Facility

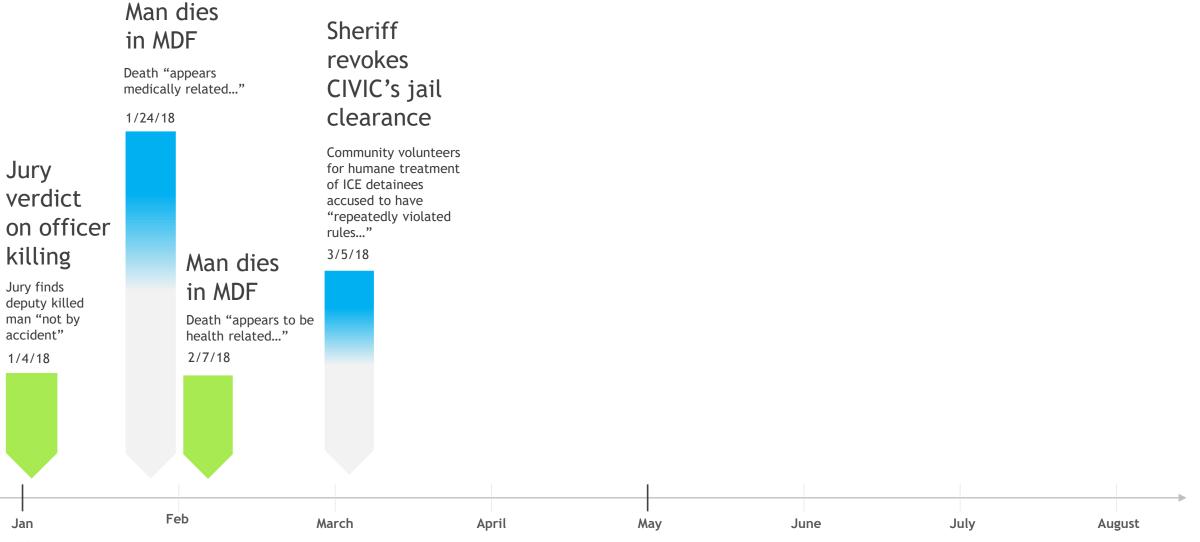
At approximately 10:37 AM today, Deputy Sheriffs were conducting lunch meal service on a module at the Martinez Detention Facility (MDF)

During meal service, the Deputies discovered that an inmate was not responsive. Deputies called for emergency medical assistance. Medical staff at MDF responded and started life-saving measures. The fire department and an ambulance responded and continued life-saving measures. The inmate was later pronounced deceased.

The 46-year-old male inmate is not being identified at this time. His death appears to be health related.

The officer-involved protocol was initiated. Investigators from the Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff and the District Attorney's Office are conducting an investigation into the death.







TO: News / Assignment Desk or News Editor

Revocation of Clearance for CIVIC Group

All volunteer groups that interact with the Office of the Sheriff incarcerated population and/or Federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainees must agree to the rules set forth in the Detention Facility Clearance Request. These cover: Harassment and Discrimination, Treatment of Offenders and Non-Fraternization, Code of Conduct/Ethics/Confidentiality Agreement and Custody Services Bureau Guidelines for Volunteers. Specific rules for volunteers include: must not engage in undue familiarity with inmates or family and friends of inmates; must not contact or correspond with an inmate or their family; must not take or send messages or items on behalf of an inmate; and must not trade, barter, lend or engage in any personal transactions with any inmate.

Every volunteer must take a class that covers the guidelines and safety for civilians in the detention facility. They also sign an agreement and are warned that clearance will be revoked if they violate any of the rules.

During an investigation, it was discovered Community Initiatives for Visiting Immigrants in Confinement (CIVIC) volunteers repeatedly violated rules by:

Providing their personal phone numbers and addresses to incarcerated persons.
Relaying messages to family and friends of incarcerated persons.
Receiving phone calls and mail from incarcerated persons.
Sending contraband to incarcerated persons.
Depositing money into the accounts of incarcerated persons.

The investigation found approximately 20 CIVIC volunteers repeatedly violated the rules for an extended period. On March 5, 2018, CIVIC's clearance was revoked, but like other groups that lose their clearance, they can appeal. CIVIC has not invoked its right to appeal. Access for some other organizations is currently being reviewed for possible violations.

"The Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff welcomes and partners with numerous community-based organizations and non-governmental groups to assist incarcerated persons with their rehabilitation and re-entry back to their communities when they are released," said Assistant Sheriff Matt Schuler. "While CIVIC's clearance was revoked, we continue to partner with numerous community and volunteer groups that provide needed services and resources to incarcerated persons."

There are currently over 20 programs available to the incarcerated population at West County Detention Facility. Many of the programs are run by volunteers from community-based organizations. The investigation found approximately 20 CIVIC volunteers repeatedly violated the rules for an extended period. On March 5, 2018, CIVIC's clearance was revoked, but like other groups that lose their clearance, they can appeal. CIVIC has not invoked its right to appeal. Acsess for some other organizations is currently being reviewed for possible violations.



MARCH 14, 2018 5:30PM EDT

Letter to Contra Costa County Sheriff David Livingston

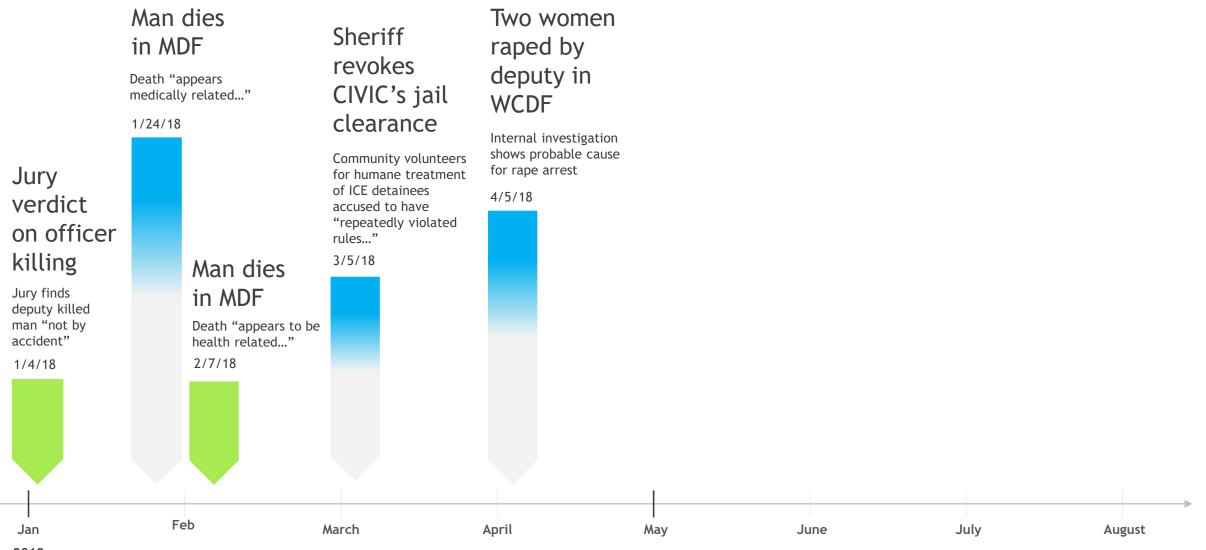
March 14, 2018

Sheriff David Livingston Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff 651 Pine Street Martinez, CA 94553

Re: Termination of Community Initiatives for Visiting Immigrants in Confinement (CIVIC, now known as Freedom for Immigrants) Visitation Programs at West County Detention Facility (WCDF)

Dear Sheriff Livingston:

Human Rights Watch writes to express our deep concerns regarding the termination on March 6, 2018 of the visitation program operated by Community Initiatives for Visiting Immigrants in Confinement ("CIVIC") for people held in immigration detention at the West County Detention Facility ("WCDF"). We are also troubled by the termination on





TO: News / Assignment Desk or News Editor

Contra Costa Sheriff's Office Arrests Deputy Sheriff in Sex Case

Detectives from the Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff have arrested Contra Costa Deputy Sheriff Patrick Morseman for unlawful sex with an inmate.

On Tuesday, the Office of the Sheriff immediately launched an investigation after receiving allegations of unlawful sex acts with two female county inmates committed by Morseman at the West County Detention Facility. A warrant was obtained for his arrest and a search warrant for his home. Morseman was also placed on administrative leave.

"Within 24 hours of learning of the allegations, we had interviewed the victims, collected and analyzed physical evidence, obtained search warrants, located the suspect, and made the arrest," said Sheriff David Livingston. "We are now moving forward with termination of employment and providing assistance services to the victims."

Morseman was arrested yesterday afternoon. After being interviewed by detectives, he was booked at county jail for engaging in sexual activity with a consenting adult in a detention facility. Morseman was being held in lieu of \$100,000 bail. He has since bailed out.

The investigation is ongoing and the case will be presented to the D.A.'s Office for the filing of formal charges.

"The actions of this one deputy are criminal, offensive and do not reflect on the good work of the other one-thousand employees of the Office of the Sheriff, said Sheriff Livingston. "We will work closely with the District Attorney to see the deputy is held accountable and make every effort to regain the public trust we work so hard to earn."

Morseman was arrested yesterday afternoon. After being interviewed by detectives, he was booked at county jail for engaging in sexual activity with a consenting adult in a detention facility. Morseman was being held in lieu of \$100,000 bail. He has since bailed out. News > Crime & Courts

Deputy arrested for allegedly having sex with West Contra Costa inmates

By NATE GARTRELL | ngartrell@bayareanewsgroup.com, RICK HURD | rhurd@bayareanewsgroup.com and AARON DAVIS | Bay Area News Group PUBLISHED: April 5, 2018 at 9:51 am | UPDATED: April 6, 2018 at 10:27 am

RICHMOND — A deputy with the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office was arrested Wednesday evening after it was revealed he was having a sexual relationship with two county jail inmates, according to multiple law enforcement sources.



Patrick Morseman, 26, a deputy employed at the West Contra Costa jail, is suspected of violating a state law that prohibits jail employees from having sex with inmates.

The two victims say they were raped, according to their attorney Joseph LaCome.

"Their feeling was that they had to go along with it, because of the consequences if they didn't," LaCome said.

LaCome said his clients would talk with Morseman and he would let

News > Crime & Courts

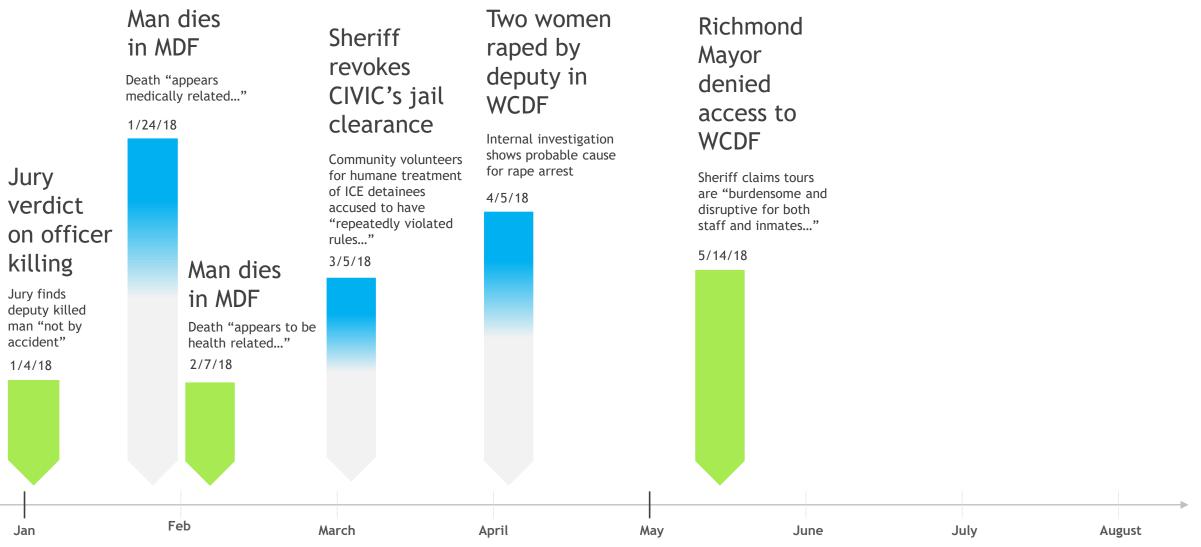
Exclusive: Internal sheriff's records show deputy suspected of rape, not 'consensual' sex



By AARON DAVIS and NATE GARTRELL | ngartrell@bayareanewsgroup.com | Bay Area News Group PUBLISHED: April 10, 2018 at 1:12 pm | UPDATED: May 4, 2018 at 11:30 am

RICHMOND — Detectives suspected that a Contra Costa County sheriff's deputy arrested for having "consensual" sex with two jail inmates actually may have abused his authority and raped them, according to internal records.

The records, obtained Tuesday by the Bay Area News Group, show that 26-year-old Patrick Morseman was arrested April 4 on felony suspicion of illegal consensual sex with two inmates. On the same day, a detective with the sheriff's office wrote an affidavit stating there was probable cause to believe the deputy had committed "multiple violations" of rape under color of authority and oral copulation with threats by a public official.



2018

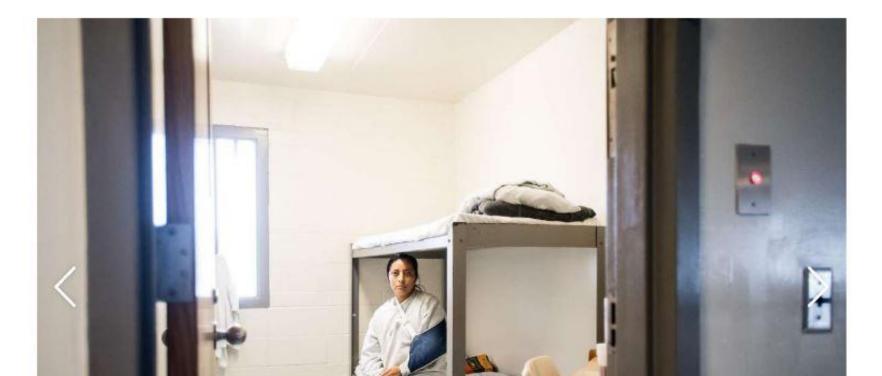


LOCAL // NEWS

Contra Costa sheriff stonewalls officials who want to tour troubled jail



Otis R. Taylor Jr. | April 22, 2018 | Updated: April 22, 2018 4:40 p.m.

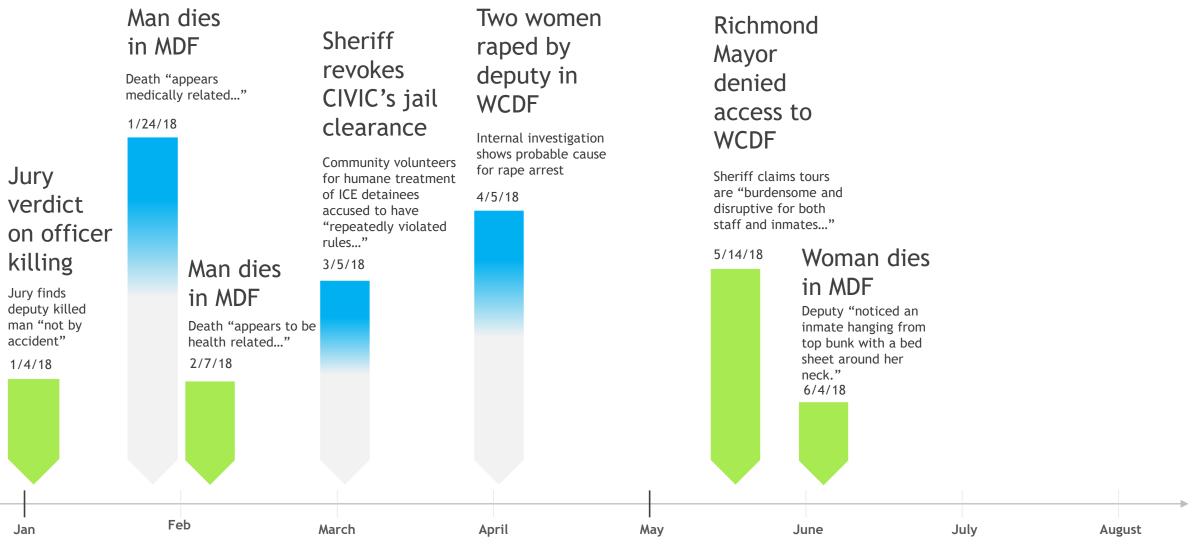


News

Contra Costa: Richmond Mayor blocked from jail as volunteer group returns

Truth Act Forum scheduled for July 24 and new data released on immigration court backlog and deportations









PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

June 4, 2018

TO: News / Assignment Desk or News Editor

In Custody Death at West County Detention Facility

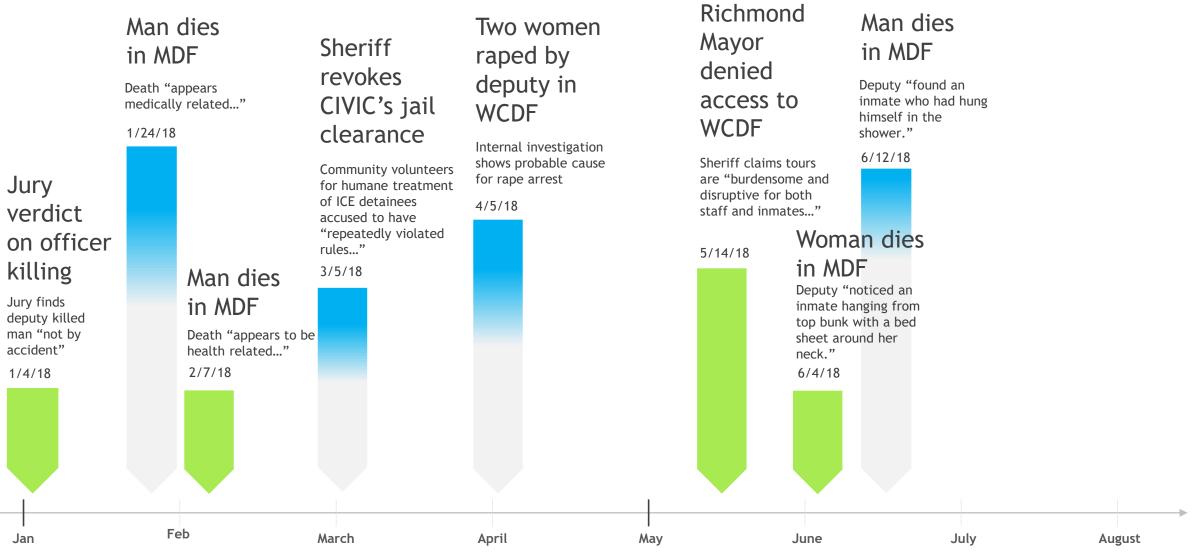
At approximately 2:48 this morning, a Deputy Sheriff conducting a routine room check at the West County Detention Facility noticed an inmate hanging from the top bunk with a bed sheet around her neck.

The Deputy immediately called for medical assistance and with help from another Deputy moved the inmate to the ground. Both Deputies performed CPR until medical personnel arrived. An ambulance and the fire department responded. The inmate was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The inmate is identified as 74-year-old Linda Thomas of Washington. She was recently convicted of first degree murder.

The officer-involved protocol was initiated. Investigators from the Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff and the District Attorney's Office are conducting an investigation into the death.

At approximately 2:48 this morning, a Deputy Sheriff conducting a routine room check at the West County Detention Facility noticed an inmate hanging from the top bunk with a bed sheet around her neck.









For immediate release

June 12, 2018

TO: News / Assignment Desk or News Editor

In Custody Death Investigation at Martinez Detention Facility

At approximately 7:43 this morning, a Deputy Sheriff at the Martinez Detention Facility found an inmate who had hung himself in the shower.

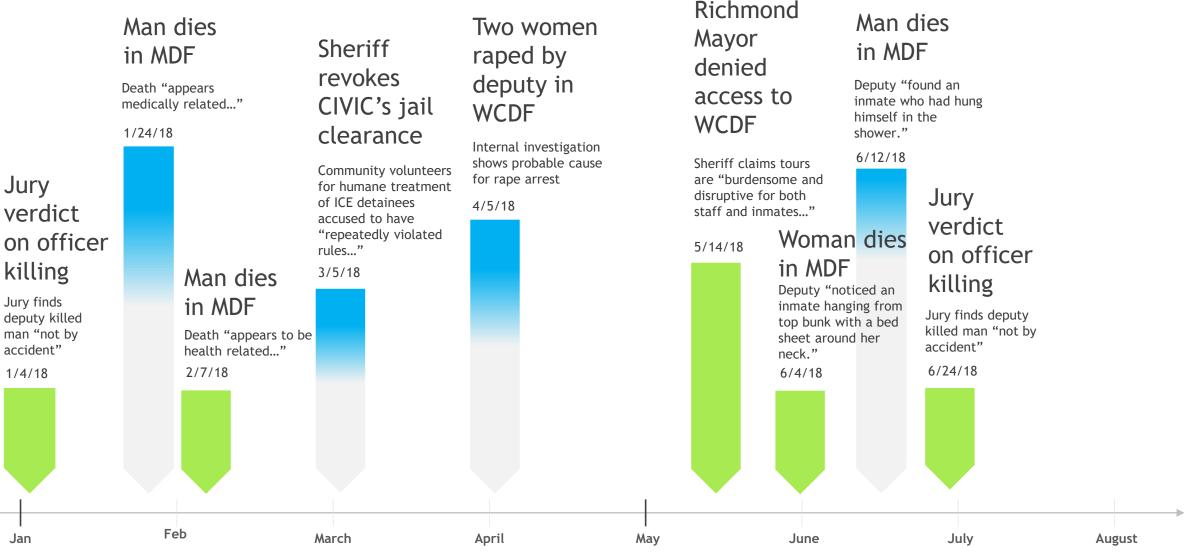
The inmate was unresponsive. Deputies called for medical staff at the facility and began CPR.

An ambulance and the fire department also responded to MDF. The inmate was later pronounced deceased at the scene.

The inmate's identity is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

The in-custody death protocol was initiated. Investigators from the Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff and the District Attorney's Office are conducting an investigation into the death. At approximately 7:43 this morning, a Deputy Sheriff at the Martinez Detention Facility found an inmate who had hung himself in the shower.

Contra Costa County Sheriff Accountability Timeline







For immediate release

June 26, 2018

TO: News / Assignment Desk or News Editor

CORONER'S INQUEST FINDING

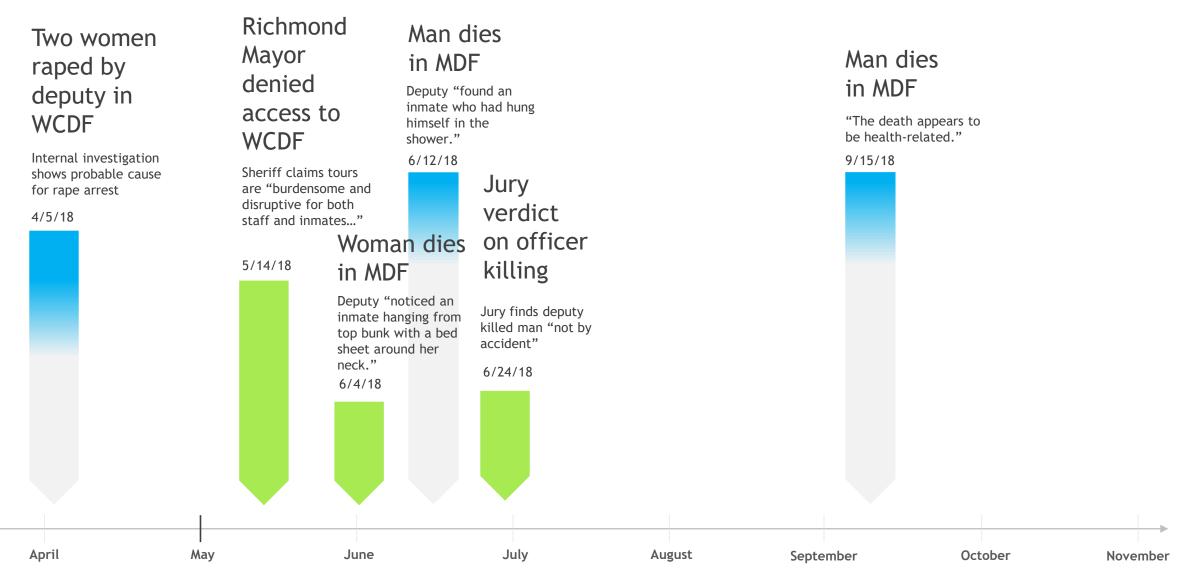
Sheriff-Coroner David O. Livingston announces that a Coroner's jury has reached a finding in the January 12, 2018 death of Terry Dean Amons Jr. The finding of the jury is that the death is "at the hands of another person, other than by accident."

The Coroner's jury reached a verdict after hearing the testimony of witnesses called by the hearing officer, Matthew Guichard.

A Coroner's inquest, which Sheriff-Coroner Livingston convenes in fatal incidents involving peace officers, is a public hearing, during which a jury rules on the manner of a person's death. Jury members can choose from the following four options when making their finding:

Accident Suicide Natural Causes At the hands of another person, other than by accident. Sheriff-Coroner David O. Livingston announces that a Coroner's jury has reached a finding in the January 12, 2018 death of Terry Dean Amons Jr. The finding of the jury is that the death is "at the hands of another person, other than by accident."

Contra Costa County Sheriff Accountability Timeline



Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff David O. Livingston Sheriff



PRESS RELEASE For immediate release

September 17, 2018

TO: News / Assignment Desk or News Editor

Martinez Detention Facility In Custody Death Update

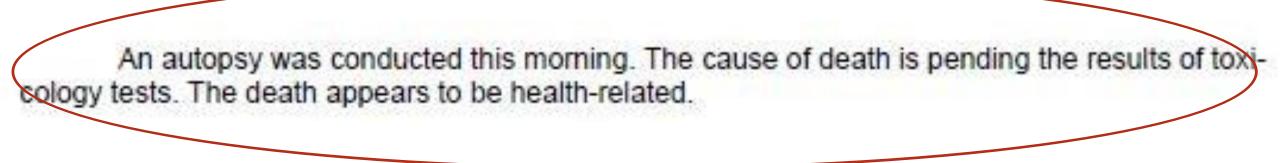
The investigation into an in custody death on Saturday at the Martinez Detention Facility is ongoing. Per the in custody fatal incident protocol, the investigation is being conducted by the District Attorney's Office and the Office of the Sheriff.

On Saturday, September 15, 2018, at about 2:50 PM, a Deputy Sheriff was conducting a room check at the Martinez Detention Facility when he noticed an inmate who was unresponsive. The Deputy called for facility medical staff to respond immediately and began life saving measures.

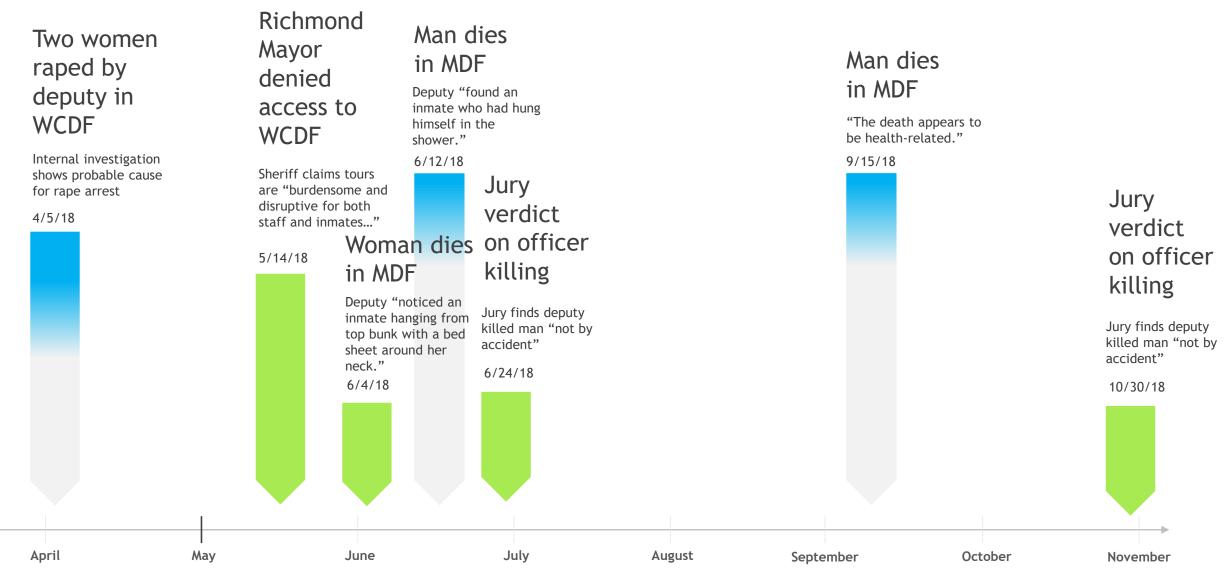
An ambulance and the fire department were notified and responded. The 61-year-old male inmate was later pronounced deceased. He is identified as Dwight Dunn, a transient in Concord.

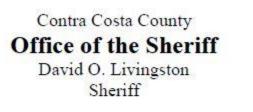
Dunn was booked into the Martinez Detention Facility on Sept. 5, 2018. He was arrested by the Division of Adult Parole Operations for a parole violation.

An autopsy was conducted this morning. The cause of death is pending the results of toxicology tests. The death appears to be health-related.



Contra Costa County Sheriff Accountability Timeline







PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

October 30, 2018

TO: News / Assignment Desk or News Editor

CORONER'S INQUEST FINDING

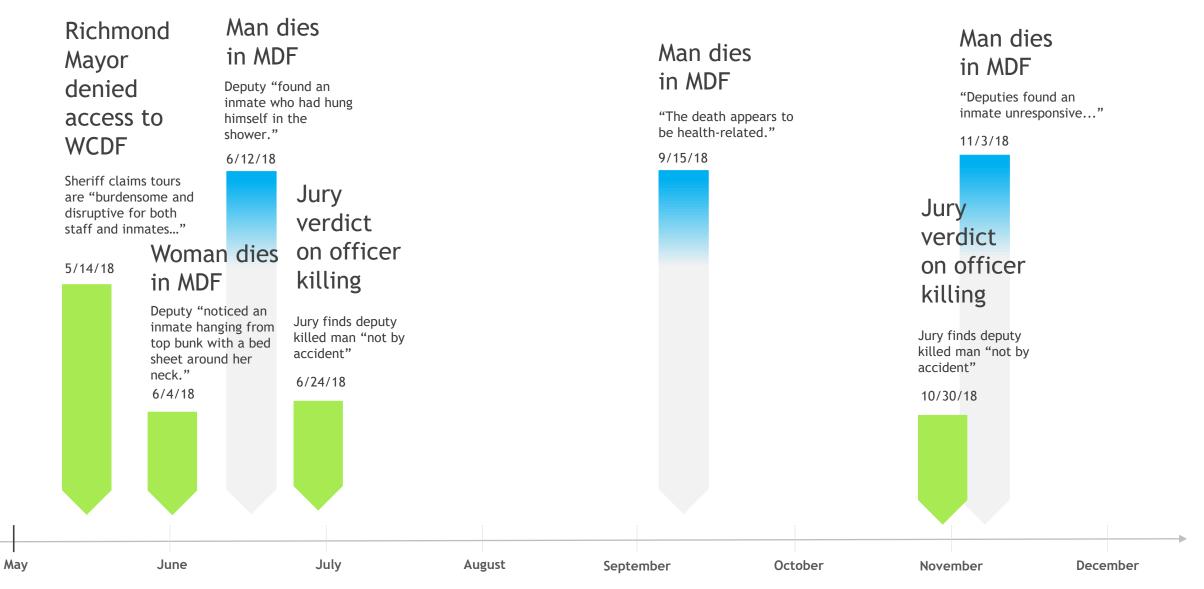
Sheriff-Coroner David O. Livingston announces that a Coroner's Jury has reached a finding in the February 8, 2018 death of Lloyd Joseph Harris IV. The finding of the jury is that the death is - at the hands of another person, other than by accident.

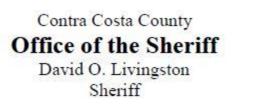
The Coroner's Jury reached a verdict after hearing the testimony of witnesses called by the hearing officer, Matthew Guichard.

A Coroner's Inquest, which Sheriff-Coroner Livingston convenes in fatal incidents involving police officers, is a public hearing, during which a jury rules on the manner of a person's death. Jury members can choose from the following four options when making their finding:

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Contra Costa County Sheriff Accountability Timeline







PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

November 5, 2018

TO: News / Assignment Desk or News Editor

Update on In Custody Death at the Martinez Detention Facility

The investigation into the in custody death is ongoing. Per the in custody fatal incident protocol, the investigation is being conducted by the Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office and the Office of the Sheriff.

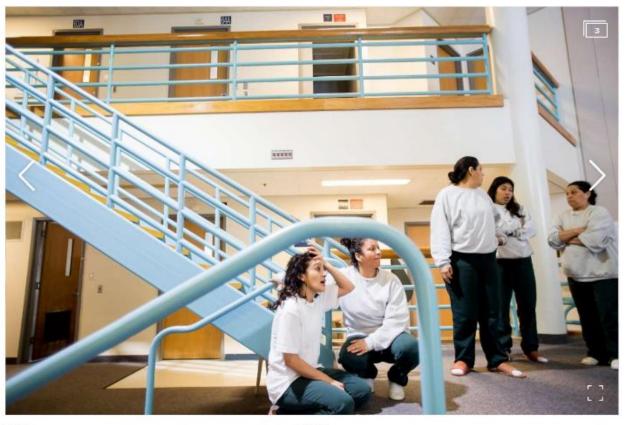
On Saturday, November 3, 2018, at about 11:27 PM, Deputy Sheriffs in the intake area of the Martinez Detention Facility were alerted to a medical situation in a holding room.

Deputies found an inmate unresponsive and called for medical personnel at MDF to respond. Deputies and medical staff immediately performed CPR on the inmate. An ambulance and the fire department were also called and responded. The inmate was later pronounced deceased at the scene.

He is identified as 26-year-old Karthik Kandaswamy of San Ramon. He was arrested by the San Ramon Police Department earlier on Saturday, November 3, 2018, for battery and resisting arrest. Deputies found an inmate unresponsive and called for medical personnel at MDF to respond. Deputies and medical staff immediately performed CPR on the inmate. An ambulance and the fire department were also called and responded. The inmate was later pronounced deceased at the scene. LOCAL // NEWS

Conditions worsen for some ICE detainees at Richmond jail

Otis R. Taylor Jr. | Nov. 10, 2017 | Updated: Nov. 10, 201711:26 a.m.



1 of 3

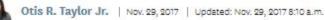
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Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainees gather at the West County Detention Facility in Richmond on Oct. 31, 2017.

Photo: Noah Berger, Special to The Chronicle

LOCAL // NEWS

Immigrant complaints of East Bay jail conditions prompt call for U.S. probe





A guard searches women returning to a residential building at the West County Detention Facility in Richmond, Calif., on Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2017. Photo: Nosh Berger, Special to The Chronicle

Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff David O. Livingston Sheriff



PRESS RELEASE For immediate release

December 22, 2017

TO: News / Assignment Desk or News Editor

Contra Costa Sheriff Announces Findings in Investigation into ICE Detention Complaints

The Office of the Sheriff has completed its investigation into complaints raised by several Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) female detainees at the West County Detention Facility (WCDF) in Richmond, California. The complaints were first reported in a local newspaper. The Sheriff's Office immediately launched an investigation. Investigators interviewed 110 witnesses, with audio recordings and translators where necessary, and viewed hundreds of hours of video surveillance recordings. They also examined log books, computer entries and other evidence.

The investigation found that nearly all of the complaints were unfounded and unsubstantiated. Claims of being "locked down" for 23 hours a day were false. The most time any ICE detainee was confined to their dormitory room was 1 hour and 24 minutes. These "lock downs" are commonly done for facility counts or for administrative reasons. At WCDF the detainees have keys to their rooms and free use of common bathroom facilities.

In one example, the person who complained in the article of being confined to her room for 23 hours was in fact confined for several days in a room with a full toilet and sink. She was confined in such a manner for disciplinary purposes after she assaulted another detainee.

Regarding the use of "red" biohazard bags for toilet needs, there was no evidence that any detainee was forced to use the bags in that manner. In very few cases detainees did use the bags for that purpose in violation of policy. Biohazard bag distribution is now limited to those detainees who are ill or have other medical needs. All inmates are free to use the bathrooms at any time, and even during "lock down" periods of approximately 1 hour, by notifying a Deputy Sheriff by using the call button in their rooms.

There were two complaints alleging limited access to healthcare that also appear to be unfounded based on detainee interviews. However, Contra Costa Health Services will be reviewing those specific complaints.

"Consistent with independent ICE inspections, we found that the alleged policy violations were largely unfounded," said Sheriff David Livingston. "In fact, many detainees told us they are well treated at the West County Detention Facility."

Sheriff Livingston added, "Some issues were identified, such as the use of profanity by a staff member or the quicker replacement of detainees' room keys when they are lost or damaged. We will use this opportunity to improve wherever we can."

The investigation will now be provided to the California Attorney General as Sheriff Livingston promised he would do. "Consistent with independent ICE inspections, we found that the alleged policy violations were largely unfounded," said Sheriff David Livingston. "In fact, many detainees told us they are well treated at the West County Detention Facility." The California Department of Justice's Review of

Immigration Detention in California

February 2019



Xavier Becerra California Attorney General experience extended lockdowns multiple times a day, when toilet facilities were mostly inaccessible, leading them to, at times, defecate and urinate in biohazard bags when locked in their cells. Facility restrictions on free time led female detainees who did not attend classes and did not have jobs to spend 20-22 hours in their cells every day. Further, while female detainees had access to classes, all extended count lockdowns, limited access to restrooms, and the shortening or cancellation of free time. The lack of a timely orientation and dissemination of information also created problems for detainees, who had to learn the facility's policies and procedures by word of mouth. Access to timely and adequate medical care was not always available. Importantly, language barriers exacerbated some of these problems for non-English speaking detainees.



LOCAL // OTIS R.TAYLOR JR.

State report on treatment of jailed immigrants shows the inmates weren't lying



Otis R. Taylor Jr. | Feb. 28, 2019 | Updated: Feb. 28, 2019 4 a.m.



Contra Costa County Racial Justice Coalition Contra Costa Immigrant Rights Alliance

Joint Statement March 18, 2019

This Tuesday, we will go before the Board of Supervisors and demand change. CCCRJC and CCIRA stand together in calling for meaningful oversight and respect for human rights in our county. The new State Attorney General's report documents inadequate medical care in our jails. It is unacceptable that women are being forced to use biohazard bags to defecate and urinate in their cells. We are alarmed that the results of an internal investigation on the rape of two women at WCDF by a sheriff's deputy were hidden from the public. Seven people have died in a Contra Costa County jail since 2018. We can't wait for another death or sexual assault for a new system of oversight. The County has a legal and ethical responsibility to protect avant norman incorrected in Centre Cente County from

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Activists critical of Sheriff's Department

They say report of immigrants' mistreatment in Richmond detention center contradicts prior report

By Josh Slowiczek

Seizing on a state report highly critical of the way undocumented immigrants were treated at the West County Detention Facility in Richmond, local activists are demanding independent oversight of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department and the ouster of its leader.

California Department of Justice report contradicts the rosier findings of the sheriff's internal affairs investigation into conditions inside the facility where immigrants facing potential deportation were held until last summer. The sheriff's conclusion that "nearly all of the complaints were unfounded and unsubstantiated" amounted to a whitewash, they

They say the recently released

previously suggested.

In addition to seeking oversight of the detention facility and an inquiry into the handling of the internal investigation, the activists say they intend to raise money and find a candidate to challenge and defeat Sheriff David Livingston in the 2022 election if he seeks a fourth term.

"Finding someone (to run) who is strong enough and has enough of a reputation themselves is certainly our number one goal," said Judy Weatherly, a founder and steering committee member of

Courageous Resistance and In- year." divisible El Sobrante/Richmond. "I don't think there's going to be that much of a problem at this point, partly because of this investigation."

But in a statement provided to this news organization, Livingston said his office is already regularly monitored by numerous state and federal agencies, including the Attorney General's office. which "noted how we fully cooperated in their investigation and their report confirmed information we had already released last

The statement pushed back at the critics, saying, "Now the same organizations who protest jails and call for oversight have revealed their true intentions: politics. Calls for more 'oversight' are nothing more than political theater."

Livingston, Concord's former police chief, was elected sheriffcoroner in 2010 and has run unopposed the past two elections.

The Department of Justice report, released late last month, **REPORT** » PAGE 2

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LOCAL // BAY AREA & STATE

Rights groups seek resignation of Contra Costa County sheriff



Otis R. Taylor Jr. | March 14, 2019 | Updated: March 14, 2019 8:14 a.m.



News > Crime & Courts • News

Too many bad cops? Contra Costa Sheriff says "hundreds of files" need review, balks at releasing disciplinary records

As other sheriffs release disciplinary records, Contra Costa Sheriff David Livingston says the "expense and inconvenience" of providing them trumps the public's right to know



News > Crime & Courts • News

Lawsuit alleges Contra Costa sheriff enables Norteño beatings, hazing in jail



The lawsuit was filed by a gang dropout who survived a brutal assault

By NATE GARTRELL | ngartrell@bayareanewsgroup.com and ANNIE SCIACCA | asciacca@bayareanewsgroup.com | Bay Area News Group PUBLISHED: June 10, 2019 at 9:05 am | UPDATED: June 10, 2019 at 4:50 pm News > Crime & Courts • News

Contra Costa sheriff settles jail beating lawsuit for \$90,000

By NATE GARTRELL | ngartrell@bayareanewsgroup.com | Bay Area News Group PUBLISHED: June 12, 2019 at 11:16 am | UPDATED: June 12, 2019 at 4:34 pm

Community for Accountability: United for Racial Justice

a presentation by

The Contra Costa County Racial Justice Coalition

for the consideration of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and the general public

The 2019 Contra Costa County TRUTH Act Forum

July 30, 2019