



Media Release



from the
Pima County Sheriff's Department
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Clarence W. Dupnik
Sheriff of Pima County

In-Custody Inmate Death

April 20, 2009

On April 19, 2009 at approximately 10:30 p.m., deputies from the San Xavier District responded to the Pima County Adult Detention Center located at 1270 E. Silverlake Road in reference to a rescue follow-up. According to staff at the jail, an inmate had possibly taken an unknown drug which caused him to be lethargic. The inmate identified as Alejandro Antonio Alvarez, (DOB 05/15/86), was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

Alejandro Alvarez was booked into the Pima County Adult Detention Center on January 20, 2008, and held on a \$750,000 bond for 1st Degree Murder and physical abuse against a child. He was scheduled for court on April 20, 2009, in Division 17 of Superior Court, where he was expected to sign a plea on the charges.

At approximately 5:00 a.m. this morning, Mr. Alvarez passed away. The Pima County Sheriff's Homicide Unit detectives responded to further investigate. Detectives learned that Mr. Alvarez was on prescription medications. There is reason to suspect that the inmate may have intentionally overdosed on his prescription medications. At this time, the investigation continues into the exact cause of death and whether the inmate intentionally caused himself harm.

The autopsy is scheduled for tomorrow; however, Homicide detectives will wait until toxicology results are received before making a final decision in this case.

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