



ORANGE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

SHERIFF-CORONER DON BARNES

NEWS RELEASE

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
OC Sheriff Public Affairs, 714-904-7042

In-Custody Death of an Inmate from the Central Men's Jail

SANTA ANA, Calif. (Feb. 2, 2026): On Sunday, February 1, 2026, an inmate who was housed at the Central Men's Jail in Santa Ana died at a local hospital.

The 77-year-old male inmate was booked by the Tustin Police Department on December 17, 2025, for PC 422 Criminal Threats and PC 417.4 Brandishing a Firearm.

On Saturday, January 31, 2026, the inmate was transported to a local area hospital via ambulance for respiratory-related issues. He was pronounced deceased at the hospital on February 1, 2026. A final cause of death will be determined following an independent autopsy and toxicology. The name of the decedent is being withheld pending next-of-kin notification.

The Orange County District Attorney's Office will investigate the in-custody death. The Orange County Sheriff's Department will conduct an in-custody death review. No additional information will be released at this time.

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