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 Theo Lacy Facility

ORANGE, Calif. (Nov. 16, 2026) – On Sunday, Nov. 15, 2026, an inmate housed at the Theo Lacy Facility in Orange died at the hospital.

The inmate, a 61-year-old male, was booked by the Santa Ana Police Department on Oct. 29, 2026, for H&S 11351 (Possession of a Controlled Substance for Sale) and CPC 1203.2 (Probation Violation).

On Nov. 5, the inmate was transported by ambulance to a local hospital following a medical emergency. Preliminary information indicates no suspicious circumstances. The final cause of death will be determined after an independent autopsy and toxicology. The decedent's name is being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

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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