

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



**PRESS RELEASE**  
For immediate release

November 18, 2020

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**TO: News / Assignment Desk or News Editor**

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## **Sheriff's Office Investigates In-Custody Death at MDF**

The Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff and the Contra Costa District Attorney's Office continue to investigate an in-custody death at the Martinez Detention Facility per the officer-involved fatal incident protocol.

On Monday, November 16, 2020, at 5:07 PM, inmate Ezekiel McCoy sustained injuries during a fight with other inmates at the West County Detention Facility. He was transported by ambulance to the Contra Costa Regional Medical Center (CCRMC) in Martinez at 6:30 PM.

On Tuesday, November 17, 2020, at about 12:15 AM, McCoy arrived at the Martinez Detention Facility after being treated and cleared by medical staff at CCRMC.

McCoy was placed in a negative air flow room at MDF pending the result of a COVID-19 test. He was checked on throughout the day and last checked at 4:23 PM. About nine minutes later, deputies found McCoy unresponsive. Deputies and medical staff provided life-saving measures. The fire department was at MDF on an unrelated incident, and they responded immediately. McCoy was later pronounced deceased at the scene.

30-year-old McCoy of El Sobrante was originally arrested by the Pinole Police Department and booked into MDF on July 28, 2020. McCoy was being held on numerous charges that include attempted murder, child endangerment, burglary, having a concealed weapon in his car, domestic violence, making criminal threats, and probation violation. McCoy was being held in lieu of \$1,480,000 bail.

Anyone with any information on this incident is asked to contact the Investigation Division at (925) 313-2600 or through Sheriff's Office dispatch at (925) 646-2441. For any tips, email: [tips@so.cccounty.us](mailto:tips@so.cccounty.us) or call (866) 846-3592 to leave an anonymous voice message.

Reporters who have inquiries on McCoy's medical treatment should contact the Contra Costa Health Services Public Information Officer at (925) 608-5463 or at [DOC.PIO@cchealth.org](mailto:DOC.PIO@cchealth.org).

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**For more information, please call:**

Jimmy Lee, Public Information Officer: (925) 313-2643

*The Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office offers a full range of law enforcement services to over 1,000,000 residents in the 715 square mile county. Besides patrolling the unincorporated areas, Deputy Sheriffs provide comprehensive police services to a number of contract cities and special districts. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office operates county detention facilities, provides security for the courts and runs the Office of Emergency Services. Log on [www.cocosheriff.org](http://www.cocosheriff.org) for more information.*