

Independent Civilian Advisory Commission on the Sheriff's Office

October 7, 2026 - Regular
Meeting



COUNTY OF **SAN MATEO**
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
INDEPENDENT CIVILIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION

Item 1: Roll Call



Item 2: General Public Comment

General Public Comment – *This item is reserved for persons wishing to address the Independent Civilian Advisory Commission on a topic within the jurisdiction of the Commission but that is not on the agenda. Public comments on matters on the agenda shall be heard at the time the matter is called.*

The Commission may not discuss or take action on items not on the agenda.



Item 3: Motion to Approve Agenda



Item 4: Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes

...
September 2, 2026 - Regular Meeting



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
INDEPENDENT CIVILIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION

Item 5: Brief Update on Sobering Center



COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE

Sobering Center Update

Restoring a safe alternative to jail for people detained for intoxication

Independent Civilians Advisory Committee on the Sheriff's Office
October 2026

A safe place to sober up, then connect to care

A short-term, 24/7 facility where adults who are intoxicated, but medically stable and cooperative, can recover safely instead of going to jail or an emergency room.



Why it matters: frees deputies and jail beds, costs less than jail, and opens a door to treatment.

No County sobering center since May 2025

1992

First Chance Sobering Station
opens, operated by StarVista

May 21, 2025

StarVista closes unexpectedly
and sobering services end

~2x

Cost to hold a DUI arrestee in
jail compared with a sobering
center



Without a sobering center, an increased number of people detained for intoxication are booked into jail.

Current alternatives to jail



The law

Penal Code § 647(f)

Public intoxication is a misdemeanor only when the person can't care for their own safety or the safety of others, or is blocking a public way.

The gap: no voluntary option for people who are only intoxicated

IF THE PERSON IS...

THEN



Medically unstable

Emergency dept. / EMS



A psychiatric danger or gravely disabled

5150 / crisis pathway



Facing an eligible low-level offense

Cite and release



Violent, unsafe, wanted, or facing a serious offense

Jail / public safety



Intoxicated only, stable and cooperative

Sobering center (2027)

Interim center: ~March 2027

County buys former First
Chance site on Mahler Rd.,
Burlingame

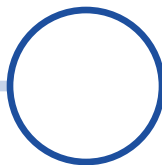
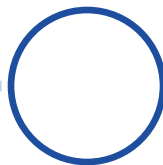
Operator recommended;
contract in negotiation

Public Works finishes site
work; fire sprinkler
certification

May 5, 2026

Sep 14, 2026

Late Dec 2026



Jul 13, 2026

Dec 2026

~Mar 1, 2027

County Health releases
operator RFP

Contract goes to the Board
for approval

Opens within 60 days of
approval and site completion

Done: site purchased, RFP issued, operator selected. **Next:** Board approval, site work, opening.

Permanent facility: Horizon Treatment Services

69 beds under one roof

16

Sobering

17

Detox

36

Residential



Who

Nonprofit running three sobering stations in California, including Oakland, plus the Palm Avenue detox center in San Mateo.



Why it matters

Sobering, detox and residential care in one place: a person brought in by law enforcement can move straight into treatment.



Status

State approved moving the grant to 826 Mahler Rd. Board voted 4-1 to negotiate a long-term lease. No firm completion date yet.

\$25M

State Prop. 1 grant, Oct 2025

\$2.5M

County match from opioid settlement funds

TAKEAWAYS

Two tracks to restore sobering services



NEAR TERM

Interim sobering center

- Mahler Road, Burlingame
- Contract to Board in December 2026
- Target opening about March 2027



LONG TERM

Horizon facility

- 69 beds: sobering, detox, residential
- \$25M state grant, \$2.5M County match
- State approved the Burlingame site

Questions?

Item 6: Presentation



Transparency Data Dashboard



Item 7: Presentation



Process Following In-Custody Death





SAN MATEO COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Death in Custody Process Overview

Presented by
Captain William Fogarty
DA Senior Inspector Nicole Von Ghlan
Chief Deputy Coroner Elizabeth Ortiz

Our Mission

The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office protects and serves our communities by delivering professional policing and correctional services while upholding our commitment to public safety, community engagement, and organizational excellence.

OUR THREE PILLARS

**COMMITMENT
TO
PUBLIC SAFETY**

**PUBLIC TRUST
AND
COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT**

**ORGANIZATIONAL
EXCELLENCE**

Reporting Requirements

Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) · State Level

SENATE BILL 519 · PASSED 10/4/2023

Established In-Custody Death Review (ICDR) within BSCC

1

Review all investigations

2

Make recommendations

3

Follow up

4

Make information public

TITLE 15 § 1046 AMENDED

Submit **DOJ Form BCIA 713** to BSCC within **10 days**

State of California
DEATH IN CUSTODY REPORTING FORM
BCIA 713 (Rev. 11/05)

PRINT

DOJ USE ONLY

RECORD KEY

AGENCY TYPE
☐ Police
☐ Sheriff
☐ Probation
☐ State
☐ Other Local

AGENCY NCIC NUMBER

COUNTY

DATE OF DEATH
MM / DO / YYYY

SUBJECT NAME
Last

DATE OF BIRTH
MM / DO /

CII NUMBER

GENDER
☐ Male
☐ Female

RACE/ETH
☐ Other /
☐ Black
☐ Chinese
☐ Camb
☐ Filipino
☐ Guama
☐ Hispan
☐ Americ
☐ Japan

DOJ USE ONLY

CUSTODY OFFENSE

CUSTODY STATUS
(Check One)
☐ Process of Arrest
☐ In Transit
☐ Awaiting Booking
☐ Booked - No Charges Filed
☐ Booked - Awaiting Trial
☐ Sentenced
☐ Out to Court
☐ Other

CUSTODIAL RESPONSIBILITY
AT TIME OF DEATH
(Check One)
☐ Process of Arrest
☐ City Jail
☐ County Jail
☐ Adult Camp or Ranch
☐ Local Juvenile Facility/Camp
☐ Adult Operations and Adult Programs (formerly
Division of Juvenile Justice (formerly CYA)
☐ State Hospital
☐ Other

FACILITY OF DEATH
(Check One)
☐ Crime/Arrest Scene
☐ Local Hospital
☐ City Jail
☐ County Jail
☐ Adult Camp or Ranch
☐ Local Juvenile Facility/Camp
☐ Adult Operations and Adult
Programs (formerly CDC)
☐ Division of Juvenile Justice
(formerly CYA)
☐ State Hospital
☐ Other

MANNER OF DEATH
(Check One)
☐ Pending Investigation
☐ Natural
☐ Accidental - Injury to Self
☐ Accidental - Injury by Other
☐ Suicide
☐ Homicide Willful (Law Enforcement Staff)
☐ Homicide Willful (Other Inmate)
☐ Homicide Justified (Law Enforcement Staff)
☐ Homicide Justified (Other Inmate)
☐ Execution
☐ Cannot Be Determined
☐ Other

DATA SUPPLIED BY (Please print the following info)

Name: Title:

Agency: Telephone:

Address:

Send completed form to: Department of Justice
Criminal Justice Statistics Center
P.O. Box 903427
Sacramento, CA 94203-4270
Facsimile: (916) 227-0427 or 227-3561
Telephone: (916) 227-3545

Submission of 10-Day Notice of Death

Before completing this survey, please review the **In-Custody Death Review Data Reporting Guide**. Use this form to notify the BSCC of all In-Custody deaths within 10 days of the death.

California Department of Justice's (DOJ) Death In-Custody Reporting Form (BCIA 713) must also be attached at the end of this form. As per Government Code 12525, agencies are still required to report a death to DOJ within 10-days of an in-custody death. Reporting an in-custody death to the BSCC does not relinquish agencies from this responsibility.

Note: This form uses conditional logics in providing questions. Not all questions are currently displayed, but appropriate questions will show when specific selections are made.

If you have any questions please contact BSCC staff at ICDRReporting@bscc.ca.gov.

Section A: General Information

1. County *

Select your county.

Select

4. Submitting Person's Full Name *

Enter the full name of the person submitting the report.

This should be the person the BSCC may contact to ask questions about the in-custody death, if necessary.

5. Submitting Person's Role *

Enter the role of the person submitting the report.

6. Submitting Person's Email *

Enter the email for the person submitting the report.

7. Submitting Person's Phone Number *

Enter the phone number for the person submitting the report.

+1 () -

Warning: Unauthorized Submission of Information

This web portal is intended to allow employees of law enforcement agencies to submit information required by Section 1046 of Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations. By accessing and using this web portal, you attest that you are authorized to submit the information on behalf of a local detention facility and that the information provided is accurate and truthful. Unauthorized submission of information, including false, misleading, or incorrect information may constitute a violation of California Penal Code section 502 and may result in criminal penalties, including the following:



In-Custody Death Reporting Timeline

Deadlines measured from the date of death

0
DAY

In-Custody Death Occurs

District Attorney’s Office leads the independent investigation under the OICI Protocol.

10
DAYS

Initial Notification

Submit DOJ Form BCIA 713 to BSCC (Title 15 § 1046) and post on the Sheriff’s Office website (AB 2761).

30
DAYS

Initial Death Review Report (IDRR)

Conduct the initial review and complete the written IDRR. Update the website posting.

60
DAYS

Submit IDRR to BSCC

Submit a copy of the IDRR to BSCC following the BSCC Data Reporting Guide.

BOARD OF
STATE AND
COMMUNITY
CORRECTIONS

BSCC
CALIFORNIA

In-Custody Death Review Submission of Initial Death Review Report

Before completing this survey, please review the **In-Custody Death Review Data Reporting Guide**. Use this form to submit the Initial Review Report to the BSCC within 60 days from the date of the in-custody death.

Note: This form uses conditional logics in providing questions. Not all questions are currently displayed, but appropriate questions will show when specific selections are made.

If you have any questions please contact BSCC staff at ICDRReporting@bscc.ca.gov.

Section A: General Information

1. County *

Select your county.

Select

Warning: Unauthorized Submission of Information

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- Fines up to \$10,000
- Imprisonment for up to three years in state prison
- Both fines and imprisonment

If you have any questions or require assistance, please contact our support team before proceeding.

Thank you for your cooperation.

☐ By checking this box, you acknowledge and agree to the terms outlined in this warning. *

☐ Send me a copy of my responses

Submit

[Privacy Notice](#) | [Report Abuse](#)



Title 15 § 1046: Death in Custody

Policy, initial review, and review team requirements

1

Reporting Policy

The facility administrator shall develop written policy and procedures to comply with the in-custody death reporting requirements of Government Code section 12525.

2

30-Day Initial Review

The facility administrator, in cooperation with the health administrator, shall develop written policy and procedures to conduct an initial review and complete a written report of every in-custody death within 30 days of the death.

3

Review Team

The team that conducts the initial review shall include, at a minimum, the facility administrator or designee, the health administrator, the responsible physician and other health care, and supervision staff who are relevant to the incident.

4

Scope of Review

Deaths shall be reviewed to determine the appropriateness of clinical care; whether changes to policies, procedures, or practices are warranted; and to identify issues that require further study.



Title 15 § 1046: Initial Review Report

Initial Review Report contents · submit to BSCC within 60 days

The facility administrator shall submit a copy of the initial review report of every in-custody death to the BSCC within 60 days of the death, comporting with the disclosure requirements of Penal Code § 832.10. The report shall contain:

1 Demographic Information

- Full name of the decedent
- Date of birth
- Date of death
- Time of death
- Gender
- Race and ethnicity
- Relevant medical history

2 Facility Information

- Name and location of the detention facility
- Description of the location where the death occurred within the facility
- Date and time of the incident
- Detention facility personnel (including names and roles) involved in the reporting of the death or incident

3 Circumstances

- Any relevant circumstances leading up to death, including behavioral health or medical issues

Minors (d): In any case in which a minor dies while detained in a jail, lockup, or court holding facility, the BSCC may inspect and evaluate the facility within 30 calendar days of the death. Any inquiry by the Board shall be limited to the standards and requirements set forth in these regulations.



Sheriff’s Office Policies and Procedures

Sheriff’s Office Policy Manual · updated in 2024 to reflect regulatory changes

POLICY 515

Reporting In-Custody Deaths

Office policy is to follow State guidelines regarding, and reporting on, in-custody deaths.

POLICY 515.5

In-Custody Death Review

The Sheriff establishes a team of qualified staff to conduct an administrative review of every in-custody death. At a minimum, the review team should include (15 CCR § 1046):

- Sheriff and/or the Division Commander
- County Counsel
- District Attorney
- Investigative staff
- Health administrator, responsible physician, additional qualified health care professionals, supervisors, or other staff relevant to the incident

Policy
515

San Mateo County Sheriff's Office
Corrections Procedures Manual

Reporting In-Custody Deaths

515.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE
This policy provides direction for notifications, reporting, and review of in-custody deaths (15 CCR 1046).

515.1.1 DEFINITIONS
Definitions related to this policy include:

In-custody death - The death of any person, for whatever reason (natural, suicide, homicide, accident), who is in the process of being booked or is incarcerated or under supervision at any facility of this Sheriff's Office, including when they are outside the facilities (e.g., being transported to and from court).

BSCC - Board of State and Community Corrections

515.2 POLICY
It is the policy of this Sheriff's Office to follow State guidelines regarding notifications and reporting of in-custody deaths.

515.3 MANDATORY REPORTING
Consistent with the requirements of Government Code § 12525 and within 10 days of an in-custody death, Facility Commanders or their designees shall submit Death in Custody Reporting Forms (BCIA 713) to the California Department of Justice and provide a copy of that report to the BSCC.

If the decedent is a boarder (lodger) for another agency, the Division Commander shall notify that agency so that agency will assume responsibility for the notification of the decedent's family.

Pursuant to Article 37 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations 1963, in the case of the death of a foreign national, telephonic notification to the appropriate consulate post should be made without unreasonable delay and confirmatory written notification shall be made within 72 hours of the death to the appropriate consulate post. The notification shall include the incarcerated person's name, identification number, date and time of death, and the attending physician's name.

If a juvenile dies while in custody, the Division Commander or the authorized designee shall notify the court of jurisdiction and the juvenile offender's parent or guardian (15 CCR 1047).

The facility administrator shall submit a copy of the initial review report of every in-custody death to the BSCC within 60 days of the death. The administrator shall also provide a copy of the initial review report, which must comport with the disclosure requirements of Penal Code § 832.10 (15 CCR 1046).

515.4 PROCEDURE
Upon determining that a death in custody has occurred the Watch Commanders shall ensure that the Sheriff and all appropriate investigative authorities, including the Coroner, are notified without delay and that all reports are completed.

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Reporting In-Custody Deaths - 245



Initial Response and Investigation

Independent, multi-agency investigation of every in-custody death

IMMEDIATE

Multi-Agency Response

- **District Attorney's Office (Lead)**
- Deputy District Attorney
- Sheriff's Office Detectives (on-call and supervisor)
- Coroner's Office
- Forensic Laboratory
- Sheriff's Office Professional Standards Bureau (if suspicion of policy violation/misconduct exists)

PROTOCOL

Officer Involved Critical Incident (OICI) Protocol

- **2008** Protocol established
- **2014** Expanded and adopted
- **✓** Signed by the Sheriff and County Chiefs

LEAD AGENCY

DA's Office Formally Designated Lead Investigating Agency For:

- Discharge of a firearm by an officer which causes death or injury
- Intentional use of any deadly weapon by an officer which causes death or injury likely to produce death
- An intentional act by an officer which causes death or injury likely to produce death
- **Any death of a person while in custody or under an officer's control**



Comparative In-Custody Death Rates

Audited Benchmark Analysis 2006-2020



Statewide Benchmark & Lowest Tier Standing

- Report 2021-109 analyzed in-custody deaths across all California county detention facilities (2006–2020).
- San Mateo County recorded an annualized rate of 0.9 deaths per 1,000 Average Daily Population (ADP).
- Ranked in the lowest tier statewide and lowest among urban and mid-to-large county jail systems.

Key Analytical Considerations When Evaluating Recent Trends

- **Synthetic Opioid Shift:** Statewide custodial mortality is increasingly driven by fentanyl, lethal synthetics, and poly-substance overdoses rather than natural causes.
- **Higher-Acuity Custodial Population:** Bail reform and diversion programs moved lower-level, healthier detainees out of custody, while realignment (AB 109) shifted individuals with more serious charges and longer sentences to local facilities. The result is an older population with higher medical and behavioral healthcare acuity.

Note: Individual in-custody deaths occurring within San Mateo County detention facilities over the subsequent period are detailed on the following slide.



AB 2761: Sheriff's Office Website

San Mateo County in-custody deaths · data current as of September 24, 2026

CA PENAL CODE § 10008
Requires publication of certain statistics on the official website

JAN 1, 2023
Effective date (introduced in the 2021–2022 Regular Session)

10 DAYS
Post for public view after the date of death

30 DAYS
Update the posting

Date	Facility	Location	Race	Gender	Age	Custodial Status	Manner*	Means of Death*
10/28/22	MCF	BHU – Behavioral Health Unit 4 West	W	M	56	Booked – Awaiting Trial	Natural	Not Applicable (Natural)
01/07/23	Emergency Department	Kaiser RWC	W	F	25	Booked – Awaiting Trial	Homicide	Toxic Effects of Methamphetamine, methylendioxy-methamphetamine, and Cocaine
10/20/23	MCF	Administrative Housing 3 West	W	M	64	Booked – Awaiting Trial	Natural	Not Applicable (Natural)
10/21/23	MCF	BHU – Behavioral Health Unit 4 West	W	M	34	Booked – Awaiting Trial	Suicide	Hanging
01/14/24	MCF	Detox Housing Unit 4 East	W	M	23	Booked – Awaiting Trial	Natural	Not Applicable (Natural)
03/15/24	MCF	General Population Unit 5 East	W	M	46	Booked – Awaiting Trial	Suicide	Hanging
03/15/25	MSCC	General Population Housing Unit 1 Valley	W	M	25	Sentenced – Awaiting Transfer to CDCR	Accident	Toxic Effects of Methadone, Amitriptyline, and Gabapentin
09/29/25	MSCC	General Population Housing Unit 3 Valley	B	F	31	Unsentenced – Awaiting Trial	Accident	Toxic Effects of Fentanyl

* As determined by the Coroner's Office. **Highlighted:** 3/15/25 death in custody, used as the posting example.



Overdose Deaths and Search Procedures

Every overdose death scene is preserved and investigated

1

Secure the Scene

Area treated as a crime scene for preservation of evidence.

2

Search Cell & Belongings

Thorough search of the decedent's cell and belongings in coordination with Coroner's Officer, Detectives and the District Attorney.

3

Review Video

Review of applicable CCTV and body-worn camera footage.

4

Review Medical Records

Review of Incarcerated Persons (IP) medical records: prescribed medications, requests, etc.

5

Review Jail Files

Review of the decedent's jail files for documented behavior, trends, etc.



Q & A





THANK YOU!

Item 8: Discussion



Workplans



Item 9: Discussion

Commissioner Requests / Suggestions for Future Agenda Items



Item 10: Commissioner and Liaison Announcements



Item 11: Announcements from the Sheriff's Office



All public comments should be sent to:

ICACFeedback@smcgov.org



Item 12: Adjournment

Next Commission Meeting:
November 4, 2026
6:30 – 8:30 pm

