

# U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Detainee Death Report: MONTES, Felipe

## General Demographic/Background Information

Date of Birth: December 10, 1963Date of Death: January 30, 2021

• Age: 57

• Gender: Male

• Country of Citizenship: Mexico

• Marital Status: N/A

• Children: N/A

#### **Immigration History**

- On an unknown date, Mr. MONTES entered the United States at an unknown location without admission or parole by an immigration official.
- On March 4, 2020, ERO Atlanta encountered Mr. MONTES at Wheeler County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) in Alamo, GA and lodged an Immigration Detainer, a Notice of Action, Form I-247A with WCSO.
- On December 23, 2020, ERO Atlanta encountered and conducted a custodial interview with MONTES at WCSO in respect to MONTES' felony convictions.
- On December 28, 2020, WCSO released MONTES to ERO Atlanta. On this same date, ERO Atlanta issued Mr. MONTES a Notice to Appear (NTA), Form I-862, charging inadmissibility pursuant to Section 212(a)(6)(A)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended, in that he was an alien present in the United States without being admitted or paroled, or who arrived in the United States at any time or place other than as designated by the Attorney General.

### Criminal History

• On January 18, 2019, the Wheeler County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) in Alamo, GA, arrested Mr. MONTES. On November 30, 2020, the Superior Court of Wheeler County in Alamo, GA convicted Mr. MONTES of criminal attempt to commit a felony and criminal trespass and was convicted for 23 and 13 months respectively.

#### Medical History

# **Medical Records from Stewart Detention Center (SDC)**

On December 26, 2020, a registered nurse (RN) completed Mr. MONTES' pre-screening and intake screening, documented no history or current medical problems, and no coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) related symptoms.

The RN performed Mr. MONTES' COVID-19 test and cohorted him, per SDC's COVID-19 protocols.

On January 1, 2021, Mr. MONTES' COVID-19 test result showed negative results.



On January 4, 2021, an advanced practice provider (APP) completed Mr. MONTES' initial physical exam documenting normal findings.

On January 7, 2021, Mr. MONTES completed his 14-day cohort, and SDC transferred him to general population.

On January 10, 2021, Mr. MONTES' admitted to Piedmont-Columbus Regional Hospital (PCRH) ED in Columbus, GA due to difficulty breathing. PCRH diagnosed Mr. MONTES with pneumonia related to COVID-19, hypoxia (deficiency in the amount of oxygen reaching the tissues), performed a COVID-19 test that showed positive test results, and admitted him into PCRH's inpatient medical unit.

From January 15 to 18, 2021, Mr. MONTES' condition improved.

On January 19, 2021, Mr. MONTES' condition worsened, requiring placement on a continuous positive airway pressure device [(CPAP); used to keep the lungs expanded for better oxygen absorption during breathing). Later in the day, Mr. MONTES removed his CPAP mask and his SpO2 decreased to 40%, requiring subsequent intubation (the process of placing a tube in the trachea for mechanical ventilation support), and transfer to the intensive care unit (ICU). The medical doctor (MD) diagnosed Mr. MONTES with acute hypoxic respiratory failure, secondary to COVID-19 infection.

From January 20 to 28, 2021, Mr. MONTES' condition continued to deteriorate.

On January 29, 2021, Mr. MONTES' vital signs showed critically low results of blood pressure – 49/41 millimeters of mercury [(mmHg); normal range is 90/60 – 120/80 mmHg], heart rate – 117 beats per minute [(bpm) normal range is 60 – 100 bpm], temperature – 96.9 degrees (°) Fahrenheit (F) (normal range is 97.0 – 99.0°F), and SpO2 of 48%, with the mechanical ventilatory support.

On January 30, 2021, at approximately 12:27 a.m., Mr. MONTES went into cardiopulmonary arrest (no heartbeat, and no spontaneous breathing). PCRH medical staff initiated advanced life support measures: however, their efforts were unsuccessful. A PCRH MD pronounced Mr. MONTES deceased at 12:31 a.m.

Preliminary cause of death: Cardiopulmonary arrest, secondary to complications of COVID-19.