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Death in Custody in the RGV

Release Date: June 15, 2021

On June 6, 2021, a local resident contacted the Brownsville, TX Border Patrol Station regarding the presence of several suspected migrants. After Border Patrol Agents (BPAs) responded to the area, a passerby told them a person was hiding behind a nearby shed. The BPAs approached the shed and discovered a male Mexican Citizen unresponsive and exhibiting labored breathing. BPAs rendered assistance and notified Brownsville Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Brownsville EMS transported the man to the Valley Regional Medical Center (VRMC).

VRMC personnel treated the man for heat related illness while under hospital watch. On June 10, 2021, he succumbed to his ailments and was pronounced deceased by hospital staff. CBP has notified the Mexican Consulate regarding the man's passing.

The Cameron County Justice of the Peace and CBP's Office of Professional Responsibility are reviewing the incident. The DHS Office of Inspector General was also notified of the incident.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection is the unified border agency within the Department of Homeland Security charged with the management, control and protection of our nation's borders at and between official ports of entry. CBP is charged with securing the borders of the United States while enforcing hundreds of laws and facilitating lawful trade and travel.

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