



U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Detainee Death Report: ROSALES-Vargas, Salvador

General Demographic/Background Information

- **Date of Birth:** December 24, 1961
- **Date of Neurologic Death:** April 4, 2023
- **Age:** 61
- **Gender:** Male
- **Country of Citizenship:** Mexico
- **Marital Status:** N/A
- **Children:** N/A

Immigration History

- On April 12, 1986, immigration officials, in Chicago, Illinois, admitted Mr. ROSALES-Vargas to the United States as a Lawful Permanent Resident.
- On August 17, 2021, ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) officers issued Mr. ROSALES-Vargas a Notice to Appear under section 237(a)(2)(A)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act and lodged an immigration detainer.
- On February 15, 2023, the Bureau of Prisons released Mr. ROSALES-Vargas to the custody of ERO Atlanta under the First Step Act. ICE ERO temporarily booked Mr. ROSALES-Vargas into the Raleigh Hold Room, in Raleigh, North Carolina (NC), and later transferred him to Alamance County Detention Facility, in Graham, NC.
- On February 17, 2023, ERO Atlanta transferred Mr. ROSALES-Vargas to SDC, in Lumpkin, GA, pending removal proceedings.

Criminal History

- On February 26, 2010, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois convicted Mr. ROSALES-Vargas for the offenses of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine, distribution of cocaine, and possession with intent to distribute cocaine, and sentenced him to 240 months confinement.

Medical History

On February 18, 2023, a registered nurse (RN) completed Mr. ROSALES-Vargas's intake screening. Mr. ROSALES-Vargas reported a history of gastroesophageal reflux disease (acid reflux), hypertension (high blood pressure), benign prostatic hyperplasia (enlarged prostate), and an umbilical hernia (portion of intestines protruding through abdominal wall muscles). The RN documented normal vital signs (VS), completed his coronavirus disease 2019 test, which showed negative results, received an order to continue Mr. ROSALES-Vargas's medications (per his transfer summary), referred him to an advanced practice provider (APP) and cleared him for general population.



On February 20, 2023, an APP completed Mr. ROSALES-Vargas's initial physical examination, documented normal VS, except for an elevated blood pressure reading of 142/82 millimeters of mercury [(mmHg): normal range 90/60 – 120/80 mmHg], ordered baseline laboratory tests, continued his medications, and scheduled a chronic care follow-up.

On March 8, 2023, an APP completed Mr. ROSALES-Vargas's chronic care follow-up, documented normal VS, except for an elevated heart rate (HR) of 107 beats per minute [(bpm); normal range 60–100 bpm], reviewed his laboratory results, which showed values consistent with hyperlipidemia (elevated cholesterol and triglyceride levels) and prediabetes, and ordered electrocardiogram (records electrical signals from the heart to check for different heart conditions) and a medication to treat his hyperlipidemia.

Between March 16 and 30, 2023, SDC's medical staff evaluated Mr. ROSALES-Vargas for his umbilical hernia and complaints of abdominal pain. During those evaluations, SDC's medical staff documented Mr. ROSALES-Vargas's VS, and his systolic blood pressure ranged between 119–136 mmHg, diastolic 76–88 mmHg, and HR 76–88 bpm.

On March 31, 2023, at approximately 5:26 p.m., an RN evaluated Mr. ROSALES-Vargas for his reports of a “mini stroke” the evening prior and partial vision loss in his left eye. The RN documented normal vital signs, clear speech, symmetry with tongue protrusion, equal strength in both arms, and balanced gait. The RN consulted with the on-call provider who instructed the RN to schedule an APP appointment for April 3, 2023.

- At approximately 7:55 p.m., Mr. ROSALES-Vargas experienced a syncopal episode (loss of consciousness), and an SDC officer notified medical staff.
- At approximately 9:00 p.m., an RN evaluated Mr. ROSALES-Vargas and documented right sided weakness, slurred speech, facial asymmetry, and bladder incontinence. The RN notified the on-call provider and received an order to transfer Mr. ROSALES-Vargas to the Piedmont Medical Center (PMC) emergency room via emergency medical services (EMS) for further evaluation.
- EMS departed SDC at approximately 9:45 p.m.
- At approximately 10:33 p.m., a PMC physician admitted Mr. ROSALES-Vargas to the intensive care unit (ICU) with a diagnosis of cerebrovascular accident (stroke) due to bilateral occlusion of middle cerebral arteries.
- At approximately 10:45 p.m., a PMC physician ordered tissue plasminogen activator (medication used to treat strokes by breaking up the blood clots preventing adequate blood flow to the brain), and a PMC RN started the intravenous infusion at 10:56 p.m.

Between April 1 – 2, 2023, PMC monitored Mr. ROSALES-Vargas in the ICU. Repeat computed tomography scans showed a “large evolving left cerebral hemispheric infarct” (progression of the stroke that affected the left side of Mr. ROSALES-Vargas’s brain).

On April 3, 2023, Mr. ROSALES-Vargas’s status deteriorated. A PMC ICU physician evaluated Mr. ROSALES-Vargas and documented his decreased responsiveness, inability to form speech, fixed and dilated pupils, and the presence of decerebrate posturing (indicative of severe brain damage). After consulting with neurosurgery, the ICU physician documented Mr. ROSALES Vargas was unlikely to improve and ordered a hospice consult.



On April 4, 2023, at approximately 2:53 p.m., a nuclear medicine brain scan showed the absence of blood flow in Mr. ROSALES-Vargas's brain.

- At 4:52 p.m., a PMC physician declared Mr. ROSALES-Vargas deceased.