



**U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
Detainee Death Report: GONZALEZ-Soto, Benjamin**

General Demographic/Background Information

- **Date of Birth:** November 24, 1985
- **Date of Death:** July 8, 2022
- **Age:** 36
- **Gender:** Male
- **Country of Citizenship:** Mexico
- **Marital Status:** Single
- **Children:** N/A

Immigration History

- In 2011 and 2012, Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto entered the United States at or near Nogales, AZ without authorization or parole by an immigration officer. In June 2011 and February 2012, ICE removed Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto from the United States to Mexico.
- Prior to April 5, 2022, at an unknown location, Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto entered the United States without authorization or parole by an immigration officer.
- On June 29, 2022, the Phoenix Police Department arrested Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto for possession/use of drug paraphernalia and obstruction of highway/public throughfare. On that same date, ICE lodged an Immigration Detainer – Notice of Action, Form I-247, with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO).
- On June 30, 2022, MCSO transferred Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto to ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) Phoenix, and ICE issued Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto a Notice to Appear (NTA), Form I-862, charging him with violation of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), as a noncitizen present in the United States without being admitted or paroled.
- On July 1, 2022, ERO Phoenix transferred Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto to the Florence Service Processing Center (FSPC) in Florence, AZ, to await receipt of the prior removal documentation from the National Records Center (NRC).

Criminal History

- On June 29, 2022, the Phoenix Police Department arrested Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto for possession/use of drug paraphernalia (NCIC Code/Charge: 3550 and 35AA) and obstruction of highway/public throughfare.

Medical History

On July 1, 2022, a licensed practical nurse (LPN) completed Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto's intake screening using interpreter service in his native language (Spanish), documented no medical history, and normal vital signs (VS). Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto denied a history of drug and alcohol use. The LPN completed Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto's coronavirus disease 2019, which showed negative results.

On July 2, 2022, an advanced practice provider (APP) completed Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto's physical examination. Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto reported a history of daily drug use, for the past year (last use: June 28, 2022), experiencing body aches, nausea, vomiting, mild anxiety for two to three days, and



a history of opiate withdrawal in April 2022. The APP documented normal VS, completed a clinical opiate withdrawal scale (COWS) assessment (scale used to measure the severity of opiate withdrawal symptoms), documented his score of six (scores below 12 indicate mild withdrawal; 13-24 indicates moderate withdrawal; 25-36 indicates moderately severe withdrawal; and scores above 36 indicate severe withdrawal), and ordered the following: clonidine (antihypertensive agent used to treat withdrawal symptoms) 0.1 milligrams (mg), promethazine (anti-nausea medication) 25 mg, and ibuprofen 600 mg, three times daily, as needed, for five days; and a COWS assessment three times daily.

On July 3, 2022, FSPC nursing staff completed Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto's three COWS assessments, approximately eight hours apart, and documented scores of seven, four, and six, respectively.

- **At approximately 4:32 p.m.**, an APP completed Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto's emergent evaluation for his complaint of weakness, chills, nausea, and body aches. The APP documented normal assessment findings, normal VS, and ordered his placement in administrative segregation for closer monitoring.

On July 4, 2022, nursing staff completed Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto's three COWS assessments, approximately eight hours apart, and documented scores of four, three, and seven, respectively.

- **At approximately 11:00 a.m.**, an APP re-evaluated Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto, documented normal VS, a normal assessment, and scheduled an APP follow-up in three days. Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto denied abdominal pain but reported body aches, chills, and nausea.

Between July 5 and 6, 2022, nursing staff completed Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto's COWS assessment, which ranged from five to twelve and he continued to receive opiate withdrawal medications, a medical doctor (MD) evaluated him for chest pain, abdominal pain, and vomiting, requiring medications to treat his nausea, vomiting and intravenous fluid resuscitation.

On July 7, 2022, an RN completed Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto's COWS assessment and documented his score of 10. Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto reported vomiting throughout the night but improvement in his abdominal pain, which he rated an eight on a 10-point scale. The RN documented the following VS: HR 128 bpm, 130 bpm, and 96 bpm; BP 80/56 mmHg; and respirations (R) 23 and 22 breaths per minute (normal range 12–20 breaths per minute) and notified the on-call provider, who gave a verbal order for Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto to receive a higher-level evaluation with the MD upon his arrival on duty.

- **At 7:51 a.m.**, an APP completed Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto's follow-up examination. Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto reported having nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, body aches, insomnia (difficulty sleeping), and agitation. The APP documented a normal abdominal exam, except for diffuse tenderness, ordered two liters of IV normal saline, and scheduled an APP follow-up evaluation on July 8, 2022.

Prior to inserting Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto's peripheral IV catheter, an RN documented the following VS: HR 137 bpm, BP 98/70 mmHg, and R 28 breaths per minute. After administering Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto's IV fluids, the RN completed his COWS assessment,



documented his score of three, and VS: HR 109 bpm, BP 116/94, and R 25 breaths per minute.

- **At 11:51 a.m.**, a Behavioral Healthcare Provider evaluated Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto for his substance abuse history, documented he appeared “in obvious physical discomfort as evidenced by periodic grimacing and shifting position due to pain,” and acknowledged medical staff’s awareness of his withdrawal symptoms.
- **At approximately 5:00 p.m.**, ICE transferred Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto to Central Arizona Florence Correctional Complex (CAFCC) along with his medical transfer summary.

A CAFCC custody officer (CO) notified medical staff of Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto’s complaints of withdrawal symptoms and noted him lying on the floor “in the fetal position.” An RN completed Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto’s COWS assessment, documented his score of eight, and the following VS: HR 117 bpm, BP 126/86 mmHg.

On July 8, 2022, an RN notified an APP of Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto’s medical history. The APP gave a verbal order to admit him into medical observation for monitoring. Later in the morning, Mr. GONZALEZ-SOTO fell. An RN evaluated Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto, documented a deep laceration above his right eye, and decreasing responsiveness, resulting in CAFCC calling a medical emergency. Mr. GONZALEZ-SOTO’s condition continued to decline, and he required emergency medical services.

Mr. GONZALEZ-SOTO went into cardiac arrest. CAFCC staff initiated cardiopulmonary resuscitation and continued life saving measures for approximately seven minutes, until American Medical Response and Florence Fire Department assumed his care. Mr. GONZALEZ-SOTO’s condition did not improve.

- **At 1:41 a.m.**, Florence Fire Department paramedics contacted Mountain Vista Medical Center in Mesa, AZ, and a medical doctor pronounced Mr. GONZALEZ-Soto deceased.