



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER

1104 N. MISSION RD, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90033



Odey C. Ukpo, M.D., M.S.
Chief Medical Examiner

DEATH INVESTIGATION SUMMARY

Medical Examiner Case Number: 2025-18661

Decedent Name: RIOS, DIEGO ALFONSO

Date of Birth: 02/03/1995

Date of Injury: 11/28/2025 (estimated)

Place of injury: North Claremont Blvd at Andrew Drive , Claremont, CALIFORNIA 91711

Pronounced date/time: 11/28/2025 4:37:00 PM

Date of examination: 12/04/2025

Medical Examiner Investigator: McGuire, Kristina

Deputy Medical Examiner: Dr. Moshea, Lauren

Supervisor Deputy Medical Examiner: Dr. Hunt, Brice

Forensic Technician: Fernandez, Roy

CAUSE OF DEATH A: CARDIOPULMONARY ARREST

CAUSE OF DEATH B: EFFECTS OF COCAINE AND ATHEROSCLEROTIC

CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE IN THE SETTING OF PRONE PHYSICAL RESTRAINT

MANNER OF DEATH: HOMICIDE

HOW INJURY OCCURRED: PRONE PHYSICAL RESTRAINT BY LAW ENFORCEMENT
AFTER INTAKE OF DRUGS

Dr. Moshea, Lauren

Dr. Hunt, Brice

Completed On: 02/05/2026 2:23 PM

Senior Deputy Medical Examiner

Approved On: 02/05/2026 7:09 AM

Families of the decedent please call (323) 343-0520 should you have any questions after reviewing this material.

Medical Report Summary

1. Postmortem toxicology detected cocaine
 - a. See separate toxicology report for further information
2. Atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease
 - a. Left anterior descending coronary artery: 70-80% stenosis
 - b. Right coronary artery: 70-80% stenosis
 - c. Left circumflex coronary artery: 50% stenosis
3. Pulmonary edema
 - a. Right lung: 750 grams
 - b. Left lung: 700 grams
4. Blunt force trauma
 - a. Contusions, multiple
 - i. Back with foci of subcutaneous hemorrhage
 - ii. Scalp with subgaleal hemorrhage, left occipital region
 - iii. Bilateral upper extremities
 - b. Superficial abrasions, bilateral upper extremities and knees
5. No traumatic injuries of the neck

Summary and Opinion Narrative

On November 28th, 2025, this 30-year-old male was found to be unresponsive after being handcuffed following a physical altercation involving prone restraint by law enforcement personnel. The encounter between the decedent and law enforcement personnel was initiated due to a 9-1-1 call stating that the decedent was acting erratically and driving away in a vehicle. During the traffic stop the decedent exited the vehicle and law enforcement personnel attempted to place him in handcuffs. Eventually he was taken to the ground and restrained in a prone position while handcuffs were being applied. Once the handcuffs were placed, he was found to be unresponsive and resuscitative efforts, including administration of Narcan, were attempted. He was transported to the hospital via ambulance and death was pronounced in the emergency department.

External examination revealed blunt force trauma including scattered abrasions and contusions predominately involving the torso and extremities. Internal examination revealed pulmonary edema and moderate to focally severe atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease. There were no acutely fatal traumatic injuries.

Postmortem toxicology detected cocaine and its metabolite benzoylecgonine in Mr. Rios' system. Cocaine is a stimulant narcotic which can have multiple adverse effects on the cardiovascular and central nervous systems. These effects can be suddenly fatal on their own and/or exacerbate underlying natural disease processes.

Body camera footage of Mr. Rios' encounter with law enforcement personnel was reviewed. It showed the use of a choke hold and prone physical restraint, including a knee on Mr. Rios' right upper back, during his interaction with law enforcement personnel. The choke hold itself did not incapacitate Mr. Rios as he continued to move and react after it was released. At autopsy there were no traumatic injuries to the anterior or posterior neck. The knee on his right upper back did not cause any fractures or injuries to internal organs. Based on the video footage there does not appear to be an overt asphyxial event throughout the encounter. However, the temporal relationship between the prone physical restraint and cardiopulmonary arrest suggests that these two events were likely not simply coincidental. Based on the autopsy findings, toxicology testing, and body camera footage Mr. Rios' death was multifactorial in etiology. Autopsy cannot determine the extent to which each individual factor played a role in death.

The cause of death is cardiopulmonary arrest due to effects of cocaine and atherosclerotic cardiovascular

disease in the setting of prone physical restraint. The manner of death is homicide due to volitional human involvement regardless of the intent of any individuals' actions.

Decedent Identification

- Two unique patient identifiers reviewed
 - Same As Decedent Name
 - Decedent Name: RIOS, DIEGO ALFONSO
 - Case Num: 2025-18661

Phenotypic Sex

- Male

Type of examination

- Full

Form Sections

- Decedent Identification
- Prior Postmortem Procedures
- External Examination
- Evidence Of Traumatic Injury
- Internal Examination
- Cardiovascular System
- Respiratory System
- Digestive System
- Urinary Tract
- Male Reproductive Tract
- Endocrine System
- Lymphoreticular System
- Musculoskeletal System
- Head And Central Nervous System
- Special Senses
- Examination Procedures And Ancillary Testing
- Exam Start: 12/04/2025 08:54

Prior Postmortem Procedures

- Radiology Reviewed: Yes
 - CT Scans
- Interpretation: - Pulmonary edema
 - Anterolateral rib fractures, bilateral
 - Endotracheal tube
- Organ/Tissue Donation: No
- Mortuary Preparation: No

External Examination

General

- Appropriately-Developed

Race

- Hispanic

Phenotypic Sex

- Male

Body Weight and Height

- Weight: 222 lb
- Height: 69 in
- BMI: 32.7 lb/in²

Extremities

- Well developed

Skin

- Without Significant Pathologic Finding
 - Scars: Present
 - Elbow, Left
 - Posterior
 - Foot, Left
 - Anterior
- Description: White scar
- Description:
- White scar
 - Pink scar, distal to white scar

Tattoos

- None

Hair

- Short

Facial hair

- Mustache
- Beard

Hair color

- Black

Eye Color

- Brown

Sclerae

- Anicteric
- Congested

Conjunctival Petechiae

- Not identified

Facial petechiae (i.e. non-conjunctival)

- Absent

Ears

- Unremarkable

Nose

- Unremarkable

Oral cavity

- Dentition: Good Dentition
- Frenulae and Mucosae: Intact

Neck

- Normal

Chest

- Normal

Abdomen

- Normal

Back

Other: See evidence of traumatic injury

External genitalia

- Male

Other External Genitalia: Scrotum with red abrasions

Evidence of medical intervention/therapy at examination

- Oral airway device

Other Medical Intervention/Therapy: Central chest with multiple orange-red abrasions as well as anterolateral rib fractures, right ribs 6-8 and left rib 5, consistent with cardiopulmonary resuscitation efforts.

Right antecubital fossa with 1-1/4 inch purple contusions with puncture marks consistent with intravenous access.

Left antecubital fossa with 1/2 inch purple contusions with puncture marks consistent with intravenous access.

Postmortem Changes

- Livor mortis: Fixed (except in areas exposed to pressure)
- Color: Purple
- Location: Posterior
- Rigor mortis: Altered

External decomposition changes

- None

Internal Organs and Tissue

- Well Preserved

Evidence of traumatic injury**Blunt Force Trauma****Disclaimer for Labeling/Measuring Wounds**

The order in which the injuries are described is for descriptive purposes only and is not intended to imply the sequence of injuries. All medical examiner diagrams are not intended to be facsimiles nor are they drawn to scale.

- Diagrams Used for Injuries: 18661_000FORM20
- Blunt Force Trauma, Head and Neck: Applicable
 - External: Present

External #1

- Location: Right cheek
- Other Injury Type: Multiple scattered abrasions in a 1-1/4 x 1 inch area that range from 1/16 to 1/8 inch
- Description: Red

- Internal: Present

Internal #1

- Location: Posterior left scalp
- Description: Subcutaneous and subgaleal hemorrhage

- Blunt Force Trauma, Upper Extremities: Applicable

- External: Present

External #1

- Location: Anterior right shoulder
- Dimension: 1/2 inches
- Injury Type: Abrasion
- Description: Red

External #2

- Location: Medial upper right arm
- Dimension: 6 x 3 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Purple-green

External #3

- Location: Anterior right forearm
- Dimension: 1/4 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Purple

External #4

- Location: Lateral right wrist
- Dimension: 1 x 3/4 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Red

External #5

- Location: Medial right wrist
- Dimension: 1 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Red

External #6

- Location: Medial right wrist
- Dimension: 1/4 inches
- Injury Type: Abrasion
- Description: Red

External #7

- Location: Right elbow
- Other Injury Type: Multiple scattered abrasions in a 4 x 3-1/2 inch area that range from 1/8 to 1-1/2 inch

- Description: Red

External #8

- Location: Anterior left forearm
- Dimension: 3/4 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Purple

External #9

- Location: Medial left wrist
- Dimension: 1 x 1/2 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Red

External #10

- Location: Lateral left wrist
- Dimension: 1 inches
- Injury Type: Abrasion
- Description: Red

External #11

- Location: Superior left elbow
- Dimension: 1-1/4 x 1 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Red

External #12

- Location: Left elbow
- Dimension: 1 x 1/2 inches
- Injury Type: Abrasion
- Description: Red

External #13

- Location: Posteromedial forearm
- Dimension: 3/4 inches
- Injury Type: Abrasion
- Description: Red

External #14

- Location: Left third knuckle
- Dimension: 1/4 inches
- Injury Type: Abrasion
- Description: Red

External #15

- Location: Posterior left hand
- Dimension: 1 x 1/2 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Red

External #16

- Location: Left fifth knuckle
- Dimension: 1/2 x 1/2 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Red

- Internal: None

- Blunt Force Trauma, Torso: Applicable

- External: Present

External #1

- Location: Lateral upper left back
- Dimension: 2-1/4 x 1 inches
- Other Injury Type: Multiple confluent contusions
- Description: Purple

External #2

- Location: Upper left back
- Dimension: 4-1/2 x 1/4 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Purple

External #3

- Location: Upper right back
- Dimension: 3/4 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Purple

External #4

- Location: Lateral upper right back
- Dimension: 4 x 1-3/4 inches
- Other Injury Type: Multiple confluent contusions with associated petechiae
- Description: Purple

External #5

- Location: Medial upper right back
- Dimension: 1/2 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Purple

External #6

- Location: Lateral upper right back
- Dimension: 1/4 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Purple

External #7

- Location: Medial mid right back
- Dimension: 3/4 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Purple

External #8

- Location: Lateral mid right back
- Dimension: 3/4 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Purple

External #9

- Location: Lateral lower right back
- Dimension: 3/4 x 1/4 inches
- Injury Type: Contusion
- Description: Purple

- Internal: Present

Internal #1

- Location: Back
- Description: Scattered subcutaneous hemorrhages

- Blunt Force Trauma, Lower Extremities: Applicable
- External: Present

External #1

- Location: Right knee
- Other Injury Type: Multiple (approximately 13) abrasions in a 3 x 2 inch area that range from 1/16 to 1/2 inch
- Description: Red

External #2

- Location: Superior medial left knee
- Dimension: 1/4 inches
- Injury Type: Abrasion
- Description: Red

External #3

- Location: Inferior medial left knee
- Dimension: 1/16 inches
- Injury Type: Abrasion
- Description: Red

External #4

- Location: Lateral left knee
 - Dimension: 1/8 inches
 - Injury Type: Abrasion
 - Description: Red
- Internal: None

Internal Examination**Body Cavities**

- Organs in Normal Anatomic Positions: Yes

Right Pleural Cavity

- Smooth
- Glistening

Right Pleural Fluid

- None

Left Pleural Cavity

- Smooth
- Glistening

Left Pleural Fluid

- None

Peritoneal Fluid

- None

Peritoneal Surfaces

- Smooth
- Glistening

Cardiovascular System

- Heart Weight: 400 gr

Shape

- Usual

Pericardium

- Intact
- No Adhesions

Pericardial Fluid

- Within Physiological Range

Epicardial Surface

- Smooth
- Glistening

Coronary Ostia

- Normally Positioned
- %Stenosis: None

Foramen Ovale

- Closed

Septal Defects

- None

Coronary Arteries

- Coronary Dominance: Right Dominant
- Coronary Artery Atherosclerosis: Present
- Segmental
- Coronary Arteries Follow Normal Anatomic Course: Yes

Left Anterior Descending Artery (LAD)

- %Stenosis: Present
- Stenosis Percentage: 80
- Stenosis Location
 - Proximal
 - Mid
- Stenosis Description: Eccentric

Left Circumflex Artery (LCX)

- %Stenosis: Present
- Stenosis Percentage: 50
- Stenosis Location
 - Proximal
- Stenosis Description: Eccentric

Right Coronary Artery (RCA)

- %Stenosis: Present
- Stenosis Percentage: 80
- Stenosis Location
 - Proximal
 - Mid
 - Distal

- Stenosis Description: Eccentric

Chamber Dilation

- No

Heart Valves**Description**

- Leaflets Thin/Delicate
- Normal Number of Leaflets
- Absent of Vegetations
- Absent of Atheromas
- No Annulus Calcification

Chordae Tendinae

- Thin

Myocardium

- Usual Consistency
- Red-Brown
- Absent of Focal Lesions
- Absent of Abnormalities of Apices of Papillary Musculature

Endocardium

- Smooth and Glistening

Thickness (not including trabeculations)

- Left ventricular free wall: 1.2 cm
- Right ventricular free wall: 0.3 cm
- Septum: 1.1 cm

Pulmonary Artery

- Appropriate Caliber
- Normal Configuration

Ascending Aorta

- Appropriate Caliber Without Tortuosity or Widening
- Normal Configuration
- Atherosclerosis
- Mild

Major Arteries Arising From Aortic Arch

- Normal Configuration
- Patent

Thoracic Aorta

- Appropriate Caliber Without Tortuosity or Widening
- Normal Configuration
- No Atherosclerosis

Abdominal Aorta

- Appropriate Caliber Without Tortuosity or Widening
- Normal Configuration
- No Atherosclerosis

Venae Cavae

- Patent
- Thin-Walled

Respiratory System

Epiglottis, Larynx, Trachea

- Absent of Lesions
- Unobstructed
- Secretions, Frothy
 - Scant

Lung Weight

- Right Lung Weight: 750 gr
- Left Lung Weight: 700 gr

Right Lung Parenchyma

- Red/Purple or Tan/Pink
- Edema
 - Moderate

Left Lung Parenchyma

- Red/Purple or Tan/Pink
- Edema
 - Moderate

Bronchi

- Patent

Bronchial Mucosa

- Smooth and Glistening

Digestive System

Tongue

- Absent of Trauma and Lesions

Esophageal Mucosa

- Intact

Stomach

- Contents: Present
 - Content Quantity: 200 ml
- Content Description: Brown semi-solid food material
- Pill fragments: Absent

Gastric Mucosa

- Intact, with usual rugal folds without ulcers or mass lesions

Appendix

- Present
 - Normal

Small Intestine

- Without Significant Pathologic Findings

Large Intestine

- Without Significant Pathologic Findings

Liver Weight

- Liver Weight: 1950 gr

Liver Capsule

- Smooth
- Glistening
- Intact

Liver Parenchyma

- Consistency: Soft
- Color: Red-Brown
- Cirrhosis: Absent

Gallbladder

- Present
 - Normal
 - Bile Volume: Scant
 - Calculi: Absent

Pancreas

- Tan, Lobulated Without Fibrosis

Urinary Tract

- Right Kidney Weight: 150 gr
- Left Kidney Weight: 175 gr

Kidneys

- Surfaces: Smooth
- Color: Red-brown
- Corticomedullary Junctions: Clearly Demarcated
- Calculi: Absent

Bladder

- Absent of Mucosal Lesions
- Volume and Color of Urine: 150 mL yellow

Male Reproductive Tract**Prostate**

- Normal Size

Testes

- Present Within Scrotum

Breast Tissue

- Not Applicable

Endocrine System

Adrenal parenchyma

- Uniform yellow cortices and good demarcation from the medulla

Thyroid

- Present
 - Color: Red-brown
 - Appearance: Symmetric

Pituitary

- Normal Size Without Lesions

Lymphoreticular System

- Spleen Weight: 150 gr

Spleen

- Smooth, Intact, With Dark Red Parenchyma

Bone Marrow

- Dark Red and Trabeculated

Lymph Nodes

- Not enlarged

Thymus

- Involved

Musculoskeletal System

Bony Framework

- Normal

Vertebral column and Ribs

- Normal Curvature

Ribs

Other: See evidence of therapeutic intervention

Vertebral Bodies

- No Fractures

Head And Central Nervous System

Scalp

- Usual Thickness

Other: See evidence of traumatic injury

Calvarium

- Normal thickness

Brain Weight

- Brain weight: 1450 gr

Dura

- Normal without subdural fluid collection

Leptomeninges

- Normal without lesions or discoloration

Cerebral Hemispheres

- Symmetrical without lesions

Base of Brain

- Absent of lesions

Circle of Willis

- Normal

Cerebellum

- Symmetrical without lesions

Brainstem

- No Lesions

Spinal cord

- Not Examined

Special Senses**Eyes**

- Not Dissected

Middle Ears

- Not Dissected

Examination Procedures and Ancillary Testing**Photography Taken**

- Yes
- Photos taken prior to and during the examination

Special Dissection

- Layer-wise Anterior Neck Dissection

- Trauma: No
- Strap Muscle Hemorrhage: No
- Carotid Sheath Hemorrhage: No
- Thyroid Cartilage Injury: No
- Hyoid Bone Fracture: No
- Cervical Neck Injury: No

- Posterior Neck Dissection

- Trauma: No
- Soft Tissue Hemorrhage: No
- Posterior Muscle Hemorrhage: No

- Cervical Vertebral Injury: No
- Vertebral Artery Injury: No

• Back Dissection

- Trauma: Yes

See *Evidence of Traumatic Injury for trauma*.

Back Trauma Description: Scattered foci of subcutaneous hemorrhage, predominately upper lateral regions

Clothing Reviewed by DME

- No

Tissue retention

- Stock Jar(s)
- Quantity: 1

Histology Key

- Applicable

Microscopic Diagnoses and Description:

- Lungs with vascular congestion and aspiration of foreign material
- Mild hepatic steatosis

Slide #1

- Tissue Type: Heart

Microscopic Description: A section of the heart shows myocardium without myocardiocyte hypertrophy, necrosis, fibrosis, or acute or chronic inflammation.

Slide #2

- Tissue Type: Right lung

Microscopic Description: Sections of the lung show vascular congestion with extravasation of red blood cells into the alveolar spaces. Multiple bronchi have foreign material present. There is no smooth muscle hyperplasia, eosinophilic infiltration, or basement membrane thickening of the bronchi/bronchioles. There is no alveolar, interstitial, or bronchial inflammation, chronic or acute identified.

Slide #3

- Tissue Type: Left lung

Microscopic Description: Sections of the lung show vascular congestion with extravasation of red blood cells into the alveolar spaces. Multiple bronchi have foreign material present some of which is polarizable. There is no smooth muscle hyperplasia, eosinophilic infiltration, or basement membrane thickening of the bronchi/bronchioles. There is no alveolar, interstitial, or bronchial inflammation, chronic or acute identified.

Slide #4

- Tissue Type: Liver and Spleen

Microscopic Description: A section of the liver shows mild large droplet steatosis (<5%). There is no fibrosis, sinusoidal dilation, or acute or chronic inflammation.

A section of the spleen is unremarkable.

Slide #5

- Tissue Type: Kidney

Microscopic Description: A section of the kidney shows glomeruli with no hypertrophy, sclerosis, basement membrane thickening, mesangial expansion, or chronic or acute inflammation. The tubules show no atrophy, basement membrane thickening, matrix expansion, or chronic or acute inflammation. No arteriosclerosis or vascular hyalinosis identified. There are no crystals identified upon polarization.

Additional Samples Taken

- Typing Blood - Heart, Vitreous, Urine, Liver, Gastric Contents, Femoral Blood, Heart Blood

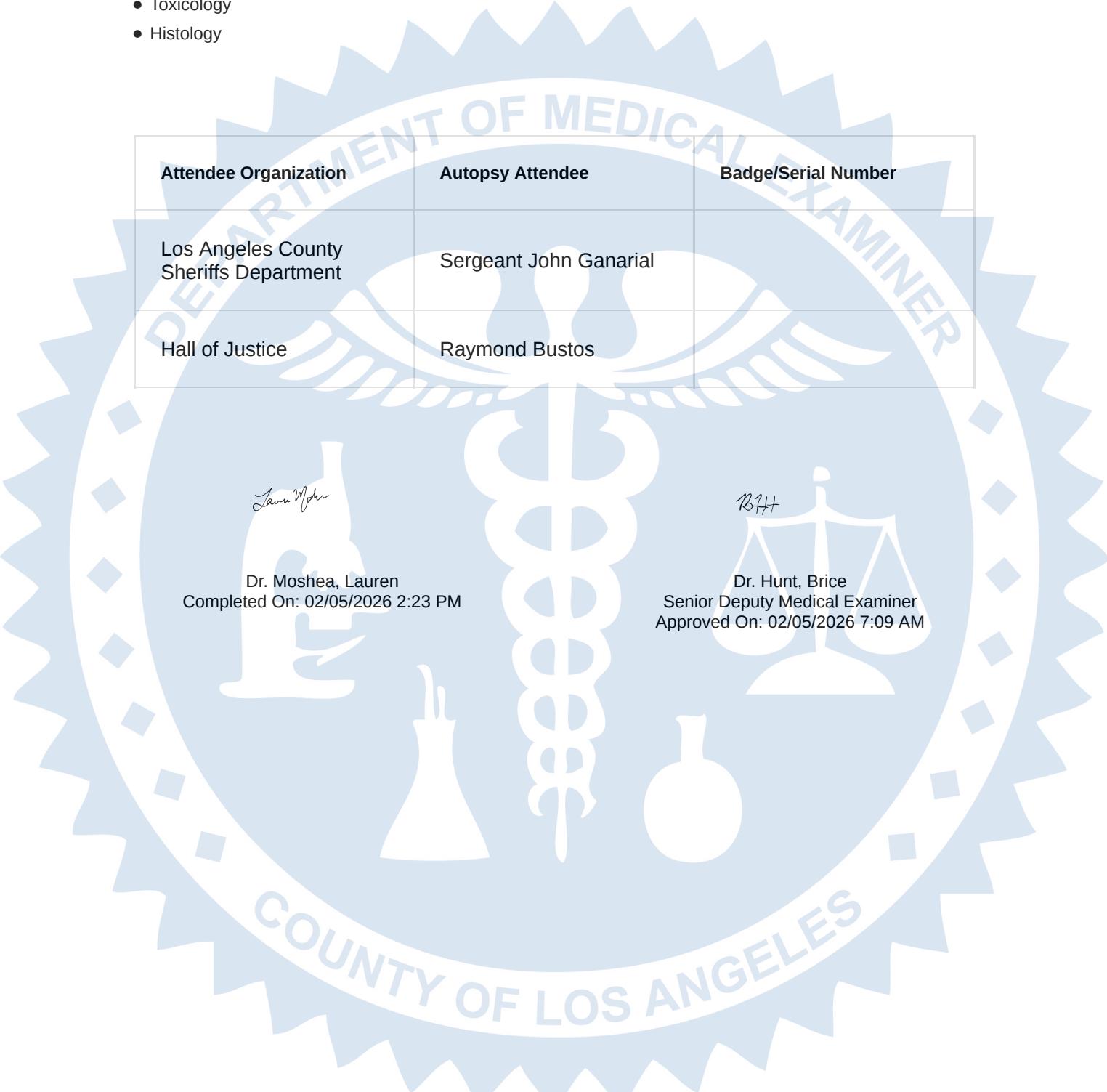
Ancillary testing

- Radiology

Please see Prior Postmortem Procedures Radiology section for details.

- Toxicology
- Histology

Attendee Organization	Autopsy Attendee	Badge/Serial Number
Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department	Sergeant John Ganarial	
Hall of Justice	Raymond Bustos	



Lauren Moshea

Dr. Moshea, Lauren
Completed On: 02/05/2026 2:23 PM

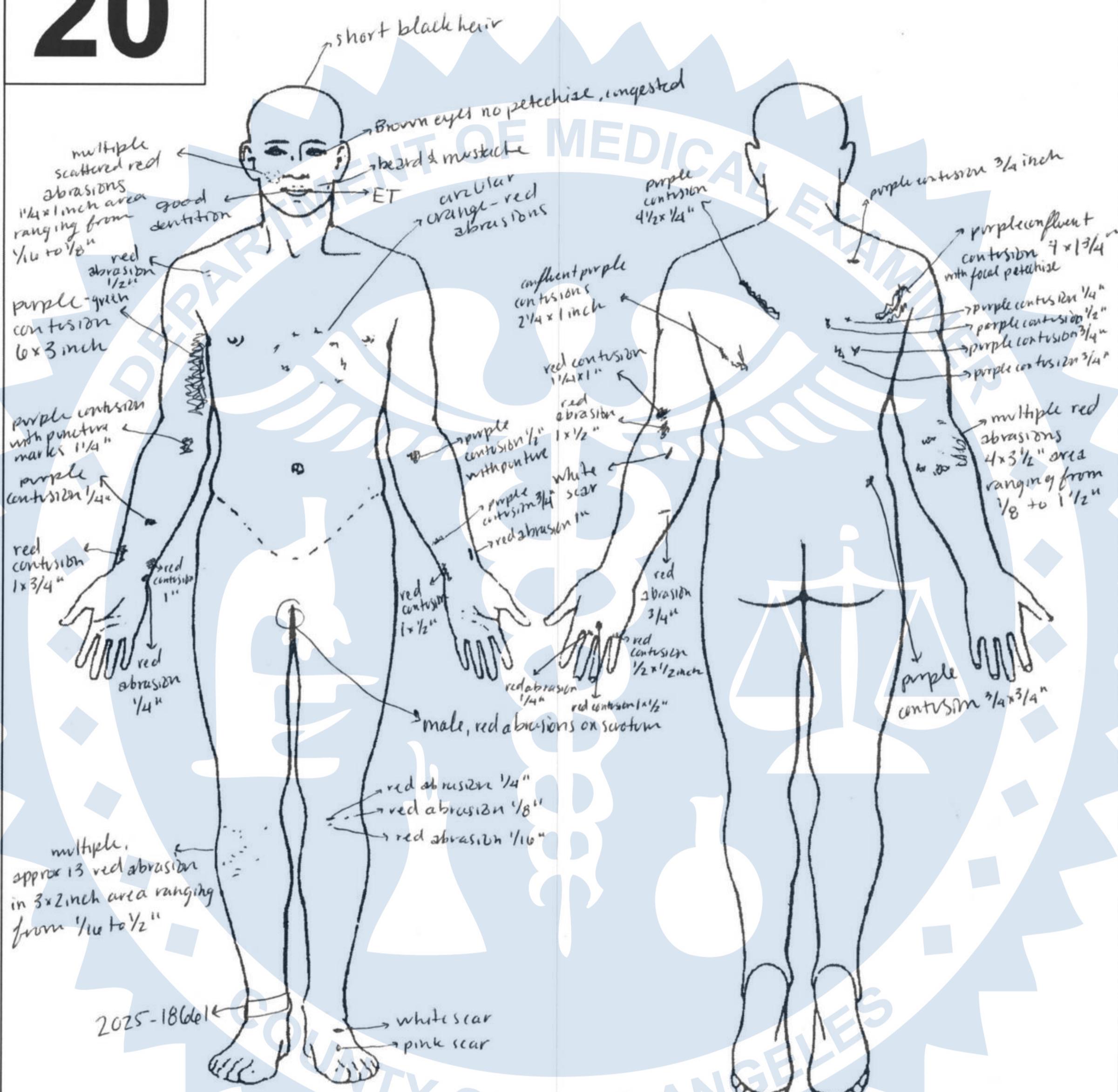
Brice Hunt

Dr. Hunt, Brice
Senior Deputy Medical Examiner
Approved On: 02/05/2026 7:09 AM

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Decedent: RIOS, DIEGO ALFONSO

Case Number: 2025-18661



Date: 12/04/2025 start 0854
end 1128

B74

Dr. Hunt, Brice
Supervisor DME

Lauren Moshea

Dr. Moshea, Lauren
Medical Examiner

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Decedent: RIOS, DIEGO ALFONSO

Case Number: 2025-18661

EXTERNAL EXAM

Sex
Race
Age
Height
Weight
Hair
Eyes
Sclera
Teeth
Mouth
Tongue
Nose
Chest
Breasts
Abdomen
Scar
Genitals
Edema
Skin
Decubitus
HEART Wt. 400
Pericardium
Hypertrophy
Dilation
Muscle
Valves
Coronaries

RV 0.3
Septum 1-1
LV 1-2
TV/PV/MV/AV:
LAB 70-80% RUA 70-80% LCA 50%

AORTA VESSELS
LUNGS Wt.
R 150
L 700
Adhesions
Fluid
Atelectasis
Oedema
Congestion
Consolidation
Bronchi
Nodes
PHARYNX
TRACHEA
THYROID
THYMUS
LARYNX
HYOID
ABDOMINAL WALL FAT

PERITONEUM

Fluid
Adhesions
LIVER Wt. 1 150
Capsule
Lobules
Fibros
G B +
Calculus -
Bile ducts
SPLEEN Wt. 150
Color
Consistency
Capsule
Malpigment
PANCREAS +
ADRENALS +
KIDNEYS Wt.

R 150
L 175
Capsule
Cortex
Vessels
Pelvis
Ureters

BLADDER 150u yellow

GENITALIA

Prostate +
Testes +
Uterus
Tubes
Ovaries

OESOPHAGUS

STOMACH
Contents 200 cc brown semi-solid

DUOD. & SM. INT. +

APPENDIX +

LARGE INT. +

ABDOM. NODES

SKELETON

Spine
Marrow
Rib Cage ① 6-8 ② 5 fracture int.
Long bones
Pelvis

SCALP ① post subgaleal + scalp

CALVARIUM
BRAIN Wt. 1450

Dura
Fluid
Ventricles
Vessels
Middle ears
Other
PITUITARY +

SPINAL CORD

TOXICOLOGY SPECIMENS

SECTIONS FOR
HISTOPATHOLOGY

MICROBIOLOGY

DIAGRAMS
X-RAYS

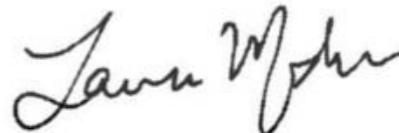
OTHER PROCEDURES

GROSS IMPRESSIONS

Date: 12/04/2025

BH

Dr. Hunt, Brice
Supervisor DME



Dr. Moshea, Lauren
Medical Examiner



Department of Medical Examiner, County of Los Angeles
FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORIES
1104 North Mission Road, Los Angeles, CA 90033
Laboratory Analysis Summary Report



Hunt, Brice M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiner
1104 North Mission Road
Los Angeles, CA 90033

PendingTox

Case Number 2025-18661 **Decedent:** RIOS, DIEGO ALFONSO

<u>SPECIMEN</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>DRUG</u>	<u>RESULT</u>	<u>ANALYST</u>
Alcohol Quantitation/Confirmation				
Blood, Heart	Alcohol-GC/FID-HS	Ethanol	Negative	C. Castellino
Drug Screen				
Blood, Heart	ELISA-Immunoassay	Benzodiazepines	ND	J. Posada
	ELISA-Immunoassay	Cocaine and Metabolites	PP	J. Posada
	ELISA-Immunoassay	Fentanyl	ND	J. Posada
	ELISA-Immunoassay	Methamphetamine & MDMA	ND	J. Posada
	ELISA-Immunoassay	Opiates: Codeine & Morphine	ND	J. Posada
	ELISA-Immunoassay	Opiates: Hydrocodone & Hydromorphone	ND	J. Posada
	ELISA-Immunoassay	Phencyclidine	ND	J. Posada
Drug Screen/Confirmation				
Blood, Femoral	Cocaine-GC/MS	Benzoylecgonine	3.2 ug/mL	J. Reyes
	Cocaine-GC/MS	Cocaethylene	ND	J. Reyes
	Cocaine-GC/MS	Cocaine	2.8 ug/mL	J. Reyes
Blood, Heart	Bases-GC/NPD &/or MS	Basic Drugs	ND	M. Liebl
	Cocaine-GC/MS	Benzoylecgonine	4.8 ug/mL	J. Reyes
	Cocaine-GC/MS	Cocaethylene	ND	J. Reyes
	Cocaine-GC/MS	Cocaine	6.0 ug/mL	J. Reyes

<u>SPECIMEN</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>DRUG</u>	<u>RESULT</u>	<u>ANALYST</u>
Legend:				
g	Grams	ND	Not Detected	SNS Specimen Not Suitable
g%	Gram Percent	ng/g	Nanograms per Gram	TNP Test Not Performed
Inc.	Inconclusive	ng/mL	Nanograms per Milliliter	ug Micrograms
mg	Milligrams	PP	Presumptive Positive	ug/g Micrograms per Gram
		QNS	Quantity Not Sufficient	ug/mL Micrograms per Milliliter

The alcohol analysis was performed in accordance to California Code of Regulations "Title 17" compliance by a qualified analyst in the Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, Forensic Laboratories Division, County of Los Angeles Department of Medical Examiner.

Enzyme-linked immunosorbant assay (ELISA) provides only a preliminary analytical result that is contingent upon a confirmatory test. A "presumptive positive" (PP) signifies a detection of a drug class and must be confirmed by additional testing for true identification and/or quantitation of specific drug(s) present in the specimen.

Per the Department's Evidence Retention Policy, the blood specimen(s) will be retained for one year (minimum) and all other specimens six months (minimum) from Postmortem Exam.

Final Review By:

Sarah Buxton de Quintana
Supervising Criminalist II

The above results relate only to the items sampled and tested and have been technically and administratively reviewed and are the opinions and conclusions of the analysts noted. The final review has been certified by the noted Toxicologist to ensure that all standard operating procedures were followed as set by the Forensic Toxicology Laboratory, Forensic Sciences Laboratory Division, County of Los Angeles Department of Medical Examiner.





COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER

1104 N. MISSION RD, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90033

Case Number: 2025-18661 - Decedent's Name: RIOS, DIEGO ALFONSO



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER

1	APPARENT MODE	Accident/Natural					CASE NO 2025-18661					
	SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES In Custody / Law Enforcement Related					CRYPT R-42						
LAST, FIRST MIDDLE RIOS, DIEGO ALFONSO						AKA		#				
ADDRESS						CITY		STATE	ZIP			
SEX Male	RACE APPEARS Hispanic/Latin	DOB 2/3/1995	AGE 30 y	HGT 69 in	WGT 222 lb	EYES Brown	HAIR Brown	TEETH	FACIAL HAIR Yes	ID VIEW No	CONDITION FAIR	
MARK TYPE		MARK LOCATION				MARK DESCRIPTION						
NOK		ADDRESS				CITY		STATE	ZIP			
RELATIONSHIP Mother		PHONE				PENDING BY		DATE 11/29/2025	TIME 00:05:00			
SSN		DL ID				STATE						
ID METHOD Fingerprints-Livescan												
L.A. #	MAIN #	CII #	FBI #	MILITARY #			POB					
IDENTIFIED BY NAME(PRINT)			RELATIONSHIP		PHONE			DATE 12/2/2025		TIME 07:41:00		
PLACE OF DEATH/PLACE FOUND Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, Hospital			ADDRESS OR LOCATION 1798 North Garey Avenue						CITY Pomona		ZIP 91767	
PLACE OF INJURY Street		AT WORK No	DATE 11/28/2025		TIME 15:18:00	LOCATION OR ADDRESS North Claremont Blvd at Andrew Drive , Claremont					ZIP 91711	
DOD 11/28/2025	TIME 16:37:00	FOUND OR PRONOUNCED BY Dr. Tom, Jonathan										
OTHER AGENCY INV OFFICER LASD Homicide Bureau			PHONE 323-890-5500			REPORT No 025-00105-3199-058						
TRANSPORTED BY MAI,			DATE 12/1/2025			TIME 19:30:00						
FINGERPRINTS? Yes		CLOTHING No			PA RPT No			MORTUARY				
MED EV Yes		INVEST PHOTOS#			SEAL TYPE			HOSP RPT Yes				
PHYS EV Yes					PROPERTY? No			HOSP CHART No				
SUICIDE NOTE No								PF NO				
SYNOPSIS 2 HOUR NOTIFICATION REQUESTED The decedent is a 30-year-old Hispanic male who became unresponsive during a traffic stop. On 11/28/2025 Claremont Police Department received a call of a person acting erratically. Officers conducted a traffic stop on the decedent and as he was being handcuffed he became unresponsive and went into cardiac arrest. He was transported to the hospital via ambulance. Upon admission to the hospital he was unable to be resuscitated and was pronounced dead at 1637 hours by Dr. Tom.												



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER

1104 N. MISSION RD, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90033

Case Number: 2025-18661 - Decedent's Name: RIOS, DIEGO ALFONSO



Odey C. Ukpø, M.D., M.S.
Chief Medical Examiner

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Investigator's Narrative

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER

Information Sources:

1. Detective Machuca, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department-Homicide Bureau, 1 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755, (323) 890-5500.
2. Medical Records, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, 1798 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA 91767, (909) 865-9500.
3. [REDACTED], brother of the decedent, [REDACTED].

Investigation:

On 11/28/2025 at 1703 hours hospital personnel from Pomona Valley Medical Center called to report this apparent accidental versus natural in-custody death to Beverly Ramirez, reporting desk, at the Los Angeles County Department of the Medical Examiner. It was reported that the decedent went into cardiac arrest while being handcuffed during a traffic stop. He was transported to the hospital and was subsequently pronounced dead. I was assigned this hospital investigation on 12/03/2025 by Acting Supervisor Elisa Ising. On 12/03/2025 I conducted a telephone interview with Detective Machuca from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department-Homicide Bureau and [REDACTED], brother of the decedent.

Location:

Location of Death: 1798 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA 91767, +1 909-865-9500 Location of Injury: North Claremont Blvd at Andrew Drive, Claremont, CALIFORNIA 91711

Informant/Witness Statements:

On 12/03/2025 I conducted a telephone interview with Detective Machuca from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department-Homicide Bureau. All information provided is preliminary and the investigation is ongoing. He relayed the following information:

Detective Machuca stated in essence that on 11/28/2025 a 911 call was received for a person, identified as the decedent, acting erratically. The decedent proceeded to drive away in a vehicle. At approximately 1518 hours a traffic stop was initiated by Claremont Police Department. During the traffic stop the decedent exited the vehicle and began to resist Officers. They were able to place one handcuff on the decedent and he was taken to the ground. The second handcuff was placed on the decedent and he was rolled onto his side. Upon rolling the decedent onto his side he was found to be unresponsive and cardiopulmonary resuscitation was initiated.

A review of medical records from Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center revealed the following information:

[REDACTED] he decedent was unable to be resuscitated and was pronounced dead at 1637

hours by Dr. [REDACTED].

On 12/03/2025 I conducted a telephone interview with [REDACTED], brother of the decedent. He relayed the following information:

[REDACTED] stated in essence that his brother has no known medical history. It is unknown if he smokes cigarettes, he drinks alcohol socially and it is unknown if he uses illicit substances.

Scene Description:

Medical Examiner personnel did not visit the scene.

Body Examination:

Please see the Deputy Medical Examiner's report for body examination information.

Identification:

On 12/02/2025 at 0741 hours the decedent was positively identified as Diego Alfonso Rios (DOB: 02/03/1995) via Department of Justice fingerprints.



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Chief Medical Examiner

Next of Kin Notification:

[REDACTED] mother of the decedent, was notified of the decedent's death by law enforcement personnel.

Tissue Donation:

Not addressed.

Autopsy Notification:

Detective Machuca and Sergeant Ganarial from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department-Homicide Bureau are requesting a 2-hour autopsy notification. Please see case notes for contact information.

Evidence:

Underwear collected on 2025-12-02, at approximately 09:51:00 hours - Forensic Technician Supervisor - White, Tara

Socks x2 collected on 2025-12-02, at approximately 09:51:00 hours - Forensic Technician Supervisor - White, Tara

Pants collected on 2025-12-02, at approximately 09:51:00 hours - Forensic Technician Supervisor - White, Tara

Bloodstain card collected on 2025-12-09, at approximately 13:37:00 hours - Criminalist - NonTox - Hardy, Winters

Fingernail Kit collected on 2025-12-02, at approximately 07:20:00 hours - Forensic Attendant - Wheeldon, Cody

Hair Kit collected on 2025-12-02, at approximately 07:18:00 hours - Forensic Attendant - Wheeldon, Cody

baggie with residue collected on 2025-12-02, at approximately 08:36:00 hours - Forensic Technician Supervisor - White, Tara

Investigator: McGuire, Kristina

Inv. Report Date/Time: 12/27/2025 at 19:49:33.3133333

Reviewed By: Epperson, Justine

Reviewed Date/Time: 1/4/2026 at 03:38:49.9866667