



# Office of the Sheriff

MONROE COUNTY  
"ONE TEAM"



Sheriff Todd K. Baxter

Undersheriff Korey K. Brown

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130 SOUTH PLYMOUTH AVENUE, ROCHESTER, NY 14614

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## MCSO JAIL INMATE COMMITS SUICIDE INSIDE CELL AT DOWNTOWN FACILITY

**Rochester, NY (August 29, 2019)** – On today's date, August 29, 2019 at 5:32 a.m., while conducting a check of the jail cells at the Monroe County Jail, located at 130 S. Plymouth Ave., Rochester, NY, a Monroe County Sheriff's deputy discovered a male inmate unresponsive in his cell with a jail-issued bed sheet tied around his neck and connected to his cell bars. Per MCSO training and protocol, the deputy alerted facility staff of a medical emergency. Additional security and medical staff responded. Deputies removed the sheet and began life saving measures on the individual to include CPR and utilization of an AED. The Rochester Fire Department and AMR Ambulance Service arrived on scene and assumed life-saving measures and medical treatment of the individual. The inmate was transported to Strong Memorial Hospital and pronounced deceased by hospital personnel at 6:20 a.m.

The Monroe County Sheriff's Office expresses its condolences to the family of the inmate. Attempts to save the individual's life were made, unfortunately they were ultimately unsuccessful. The Monroe County Medical Examiner's Office will perform an autopsy. MCSO staff notified the man's family. As a result of this incident, mental health services were provided to the inmates in the cell block and peer support to the deputies.

Anytime there is a death that occurs inside the MCSO Jail, a five-layer review process is launched to include: a command review, criminal investigation, internal investigation, New York State Commission of Corrections investigation, and an independent medical auditor's review to ensure all procedures and protocols are followed.



The initial MCSO review shows checks of the cell block were made every 24 to 25 minutes, within the 30-minute mandate set by the New York State Commission of Corrections.

*“While procedures in this incident appear to have been followed to standard, my job is to do all I can to ensure we have the personnel, systems, and protocols in place to prevent tragedies, like the one today, from occurring,” said Monroe County Sheriff Todd K. Baxter. “In addition to the aforementioned five-layer review of critical incidents, MCSO is also conducting a comprehensive research project on jail suicides within our jail and other such similar facilities to be sure we identify and are following best practices.”*

The inmate entered the jail on July 26, 2019 on a parole violation.

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