



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

July 18, 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]
Field Office Director
San Diego, CA.

THROUGH: [REDACTED]
Official Channels

FROM: [REDACTED]
Paul N. [REDACTED]
Deportation Officer
Otay Detention Facility

SUBJECT: Death of a Detainee in Custody

Introduction:

On June 27, 2006, Detainee Yusif OSMAN, A# 77 987 986 died of a heart attack while in custody of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. By the authority of Contract number ODT-5-C-0003, Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) was directly responsible for the supervision, and control of OSMAN. The Public Health Service (PHS) is tasked to assist with the care of the detained population to include OSMAN before his demise.

Issues/Concerns

After each call for help was received and upon arrival at the cell both officers on two separate occasions did not enter OSMAN'S cell. They stood on the tier, looked through the cell door window and observed OSMAN lying on the ground. The reasoning is stated in AW [REDACTED] report (tab #5, page 2).

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] did not adequately make direct verbal contact with OSMAN to ascertain if OSMAN could or could not clearly communicate and report his condition in the English language. According to CCA reports, the Officers relied upon [REDACTED]'s translation advising them about what OSMAN was saying and or doing. After observing OSMAN lying on the ground, both Officers walked away leaving OSMAN un-attended.

Between 2:50 a.m. until 3:30 a.m., the Officers did not physically access the cell and touch OSMAN. Officer [REDACTED] arrived on scene with a wheel chair at 3:30 a.m. and then entered into the cell accompanied by Officer [REDACTED].

After the second notification by [REDACTED] was received, Control Officer [REDACTED] contacted the Medical Unit; and received an order to bring OSMAN to the clinic. That directive was not immediately followed. Officer [REDACTED] continued to perform routine duties while working his way towards the clinic instead of placing emphasis on getting the apparently ill detainee to the clinic.

#4 At 0230 at night the detainees are locked in their cells where the only visual are two approximately 4x 24 inch windows on the upper half of the cell door. The CCA officers report that at night the light in the cell is out and hallway lighting outside is diminished and each officer carries a flashlight. Without opening the cell door to assess the detainee it would be difficult to know if he was in fact praying or in distress. Officers report that they cannot open the door without there being two officers on site. No request was made by officers for an additional officer so that detainee complaint can be assessed.

Interviewer: WHO PRONOUNCED THE DETAINEE DEAD?

Ms. [REDACTED]: I don't know...

Interviewer: WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

Ms. [REDACTED]: The EMS left and we returned to medical.

Interviewer: DID ANYONE STAY WITH THE DETAINEE?

Ms. [REDACTED]: No.