

Contra Costa County
Office of the Sheriff
David O. Livingston
Sheriff



PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

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TO: **News / Assignment Desk or News Editor**

Coroner's Inquest Finding

Sheriff-Coroner David O. Livingston announces that a Coroner's Jury has reached a finding in the April 13, 2019 death of 36-year-old Maria Barraza of El Cerrito. The finding of the jury is that the manner of death is a suicide.

The Coroner's Jury reached the 12-0 verdict after hearing the testimony of witnesses called by the hearing officer, Matthew Guichard.

A Coroner's Inquest, which Sheriff-Coroner Livingston convenes in fatal incidents involving police officers, is a public hearing, during which a jury rules on the manner of a person's death. Jury members can choose from the following four options when making their finding:

- Accident
- Suicide
- Natural Causes
- At the hands of another person, other than by accident.

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For more information, please call:

Jimmy Lee, Public Information Officer: (925) 313-2643

The Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office offers a full range of law enforcement services to over 1,000,000 residents in the 715 square mile county. Besides patrolling the unincorporated areas, Deputy Sheriffs provide comprehensive police services to a number of contract cities and special districts. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office operates county detention facilities, provides security for the courts and runs the Office of Emergency Services. Log on www.cocosheriff.org for more information.