Gordon P. McLaughlin District Attorney



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May 5, 2025

RE: March 24, 2025, unattended inmate suicide attempt – incident review (FC25-4285; SO25-2896)

Sheriff Feyen -

I have reviewed the materials provided to the DA's office by the Critical Incident Response Team ("CIRT") regarding the March 24, 2025, incident at the Larimer County Detention Facility. In this incident, inmate Theodore Rowell was found by a deputy after an apparent alleged suicide attempt in his cell. A CIRT investigation was requested and performed by the 8th Judicial District's CIRT as the inmate's condition was critical at the time of the discovery, and it was clear that he may have suffered serious bodily injury or death. Fort Collins Police Services led the investigation with assistance from other agencies.

I reviewed numerous body-worn camera videos, jail surveillance footage, and photographic evidence, as well as other documentary evidence that was prepared as part of the investigation. In addition to a review of all available camera footage by the CIRT investigators, several witnesses were interviewed to establish the context within which the incident took place.

Based on a review of court records and witness interviews, it was determined that on March 24, 2025, Rowell attended a hearing in his criminal case (25CR5073) in which the DA's motion to increase Rowell's bond based on the DA filing more serious charges was addressed. As a result of the increase in charge type and level - from Vehicular Assault (F5) to First Degree Assault – Crime of Violence (F3), the Court increased Rowell's bond to \$1,000,000 cash only.

Jail personnel indicated that they had multiple brief interactions with Rowell after he returned from court (including discussions about his tablet not working, and an agreement that staff would get him a new one at the end of shift). Rowell's behavior was not reported as unusual - he did not appear agitated or upset and did not appear to be considering self-harm or suicide in his interactions with staff. While Rowell did request to be moved to a different housing area within the jail because of other inmates looking at him strangely, he provided no information which led jail personnel to believe he had any serious concerns regarding his health or safety. Jail staff discussed with CIRT investigators the jail's policy regarding status checks and more formal inmate "counts."

There appear to have been normal checks in the timeframe leading to Rowell's suicide attempt.

Rowell was the sole occupant of his cell, and there is surveillance footage showing him inside (through a narrow rectangular door window) from across the pod. The footage shows Rowell appearing to fall to the floor at 6:08 p.m. The same footage shows a jail deputy walk by Rowell's cell at 6:16 p.m. and then immediately double back to take a closer look. The deputy opens the door and immediately calls for help on his chest-mounted radio.

Jail medical staff arrive within 90 to 120 seconds and continue lifesaving efforts on Rowell. Rowell was ultimately taken to the hospital and survived the incident.

In conclusion, the CIRT investigation found no probable cause for any criminal conduct, and the District Attorney agrees. There was no peace officer "use of force" on Mr. Rowell, and there was absolutely no action or inaction that could be deemed criminal. Jail staff conducted routine checks, and when they found Mr. Rowell, they acted swiftly and appropriately to render life-saving efforts and facilitate more intensive medical treatment.

Sincerely, /s/ Matt Maillaro Matt Maillaro Assistant District Attorney

cc: Troy Badberg, Captain – Larimer County Sheriff's Office Bobby Moll, Captain – Larimer County Sheriff's Office Robert Tuttle, CIRT Investigator – Fort Collins Police Services