



**CITY OF WAUWATOSA
POLICE DEPARTMENT**
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Investigative Synopsis – In-Custody Death of Edgar G. Rodriguez (M/W 7/25/2000)

On May 12th, 2022, the Milwaukee Area Investigative Team (MAIT) was activated to investigate an in-custody death near the intersection of Raynor Rd (Hwy 45) and Bennett Rd., in the Town of Yorkville, Racine County, State of Wisconsin, in accordance with Wisconsin State Statute §175.04. The request was made by the Oak Creek Police Department (OCPD). The decedent was identified as Edgar G. Rodriguez (M/W 7/25/2000).

The Wauwatosa Police Department was designated as the lead agency for the investigation. The following agencies assisted with this investigation: Racine County Sheriff's Office, West Milwaukee Police Department, Brown Deer Police Department, City of Waukesha Police Department, Greendale Police Department, South Milwaukee Police Department, Franklin Police Department, Oak Creek Police Department, Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office, and Wauwatosa Fire Department.

On May 12th, 2022, at approximately 5:30 AM, Oak Creek Police K9 Officer Nicole Raffini attempted to stop a reckless vehicle in the City of Oak Creek, Milwaukee County, State of Wisconsin. The driver of that vehicle, later identified as Edgar G. Rodriguez (M/W 7/25/2000), failed to stop for Officer Raffini and a vehicle pursuit for reckless driving began. Oak Creek Police Department Sergeant Thomas Loontjens joined the pursuit. The pursuit made its way out of the county, and into Racine County.

Officer Raffini terminated her pursuit southbound on Highway 45 near 4 ¼ Mile Road in the Town of North Cape, Racine County, State of Wisconsin. Officer Raffini, after terminating her pursuit, continued south on Highway 45 and found the vehicle in the ditch on the west side of the road just south of the intersection of Bennett Rd.

Officer Raffini, who was joined by Sgt. Loontjens, attempted to take Rodriguez into custody for fleeing. Rodriguez was initially uncooperative with officers and attempted to get back into his vehicle as they were giving him commands. Officer Raffini deployed her K9 partner REVI, but the deployment was unsuccessful. K9 REVI was not

able to apprehend Rodriguez, but was able to distract him so that Officer Raffini and Sgt. Loontjens could place him in handcuffs.

Once handcuffed, Rodriguez was able to walk back towards the squad cars with Sgt. Loontjens. Once back by the squads, Rodriguez began to suffer a medical emergency. Officers immediately began to render aid. Rodriguez later died at a local hospital. According to the Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office, Rodriguez died of Acute Cocaine Toxicity. Drug paraphernalia consistent with cocaine use was located inside of Rodriguez's vehicle.

Officer Raffini and Sgt. Loontjens cooperated fully with this investigation.