



Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Custody Compliance & Sustainability Bureau

Captain Monica L. Botello



In-Custody Deaths

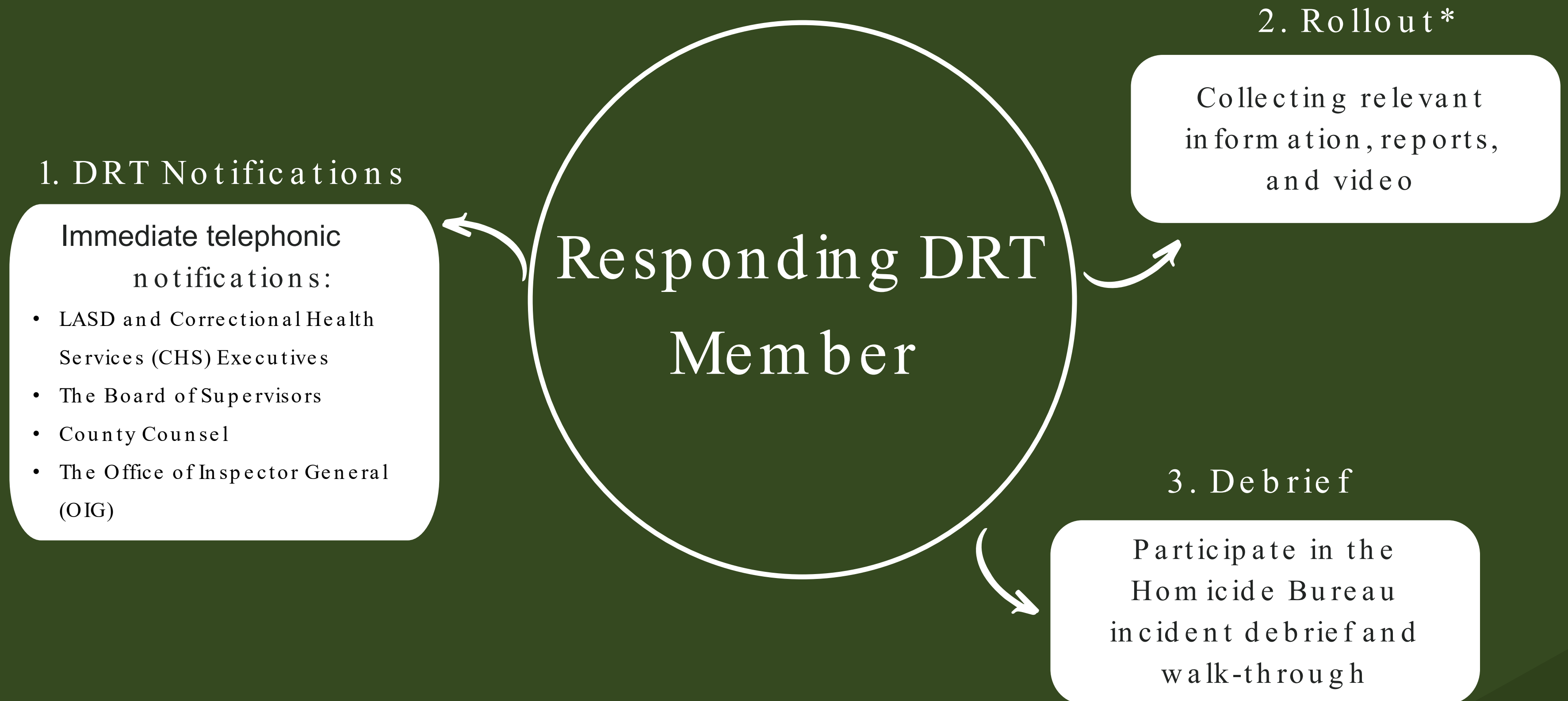
- An In-Custody Death is defined as any inmate death that occurs in Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Custody Services Division jail facilities, Court Services Division lock-ups, and Patrol Operations Division station jails.

Procedures Immediately Following an Inmate Death

The concerned facility **watch commander** is responsible for making a telephonic notification to the following personnel and units:

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| • Concerned Custody Services Division Chief(s) | • Sheriff's Information Bureau (SIB) - |
| • Area Commander | Operations Center |
| • Unit Commander | • Sheriff's Medical Command Center, |
| • Homicide Bureau | Twin Towers Correctional Facility |
| • Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) | • Risk Management Bureau - Civil |
| • Office of Inspector General (notified by IAB) | Litigation Unit |
| • Inmate Reception Center (IRC) Watch Deputy | • Custody Compliance and Sustainability Bureau (CCSB) - DRT |

Upon Death Review Team (DRT) Notification





Next of Kin Notifications

County of Los Angeles Medical Examiner (DME) - responsible for making next of kin (NOK) notifications.

Homicide Bureau - assists the DME with making NOK notifications when they investigate.

LAGMC Medical Staff - notifies the NOK if the family is identified and/or involved in the inmate's care. Otherwise, the DME's office makes the NOK notification.

Family Assistance Program - provides trauma informed responses, services and support to the families, friends, and witnesses following an in-custody death.

Days Following the Death

DRT completes the following tasks :

- Written notifications
- Reviews CCTV and BWC footage (if available)
- Prepares a Preliminary Review Summary
- Prepares a multimedia presentation containing the inmate's custody profile, incident video footage (if available), and timeline.
- Updates LASD public transparency in -custody website, per legislation
- Schedules Preliminary Executive Inmate Death Review and invites all relevant personnel.



Executive Inmate Death Reviews

The Department conducts a series of executive administrative reviews for each In-Custody Death to identify and remedy any systemic issues or areas of concern associated with the deaths.

Meeting Attendees:

- Custody Services Division Chief
- Facility Commander
- Facility Captain(s)
- CCSB Captain and DRT
- Custody Training & Standards Bureau (CTSB)
- Custody Support Services Bureau
- Access to Care Bureau (ACB)
- Homicide Bureau (when applicable)
- Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB)
- Risk Management Bureau (RMB) -
Civil Litigation Unit
- County Counsel (LASD & CHS)
- Correctional Health Services (CHS) Executives
- BOS CEO Compliance Office
- Office of Inspector General (OIG)
- US Department Of Justice (DOJ) and Monitors

Preliminary Executive Inmate Death Review

- DRT presents a Preliminary Review Summary and multi-media incident review.
- Department personnel discuss the inmate's custodial history, events leading up to the inmate's death, and subsequent emergency response.
- The Division Chief identifies areas of concern, issues inquiries, and/or requests follow-up and assigns them to the respective units.
- Attendees are given an opportunity to provide input.
- Inquiries, or follow-ups, for CHS are forwarded and included in CHS' Clinical Mortality Review.



Conclusion of Death Reviews

DRT creates a Death Review Book and ensures all concerned units provide sufficient and necessary documentation for the book, including outstanding task or follow up items. The DRT also includes the Homicide Book, Autopsy, and Psychological Autopsy.

-TASK ITEMS

- Monitored by the DRT for updates on completion and proof of practice

-EXAMPLES

- Unit specific safety check training scenarios and drills (unannounced)
- Emergency response drills focusing on CPR/AED, Narcan, and radio communication (custody and medical personnel)
- Training on applicable policies
- Expanded contraband searches
- Facility upgrades (CCTV, radio, wireless connectivity alterations)
- Policy revisions