

NEWS SERVICE
BREAKING NEWS
2:00 PM TODAY
JOHN BURRIS PRESS CONFERENCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: John Burris (510) 928-5392
john.burris@johnburrislaw.com,

Lee Houskeeper (415) 777-4700
Cell: (415) 654-9141
NewsService@aol.com

COMPLAINT

CIVIL RIGHTS ATTORNEY JOHN BURRIS CHARGES FREMONT AND ALAMEDA COUNTY OF BRUTALITY IN DEATH OF 20 YEAR OLD HISPANIC INMATE

"Law Enforcement failed Christian Madrigal and his family at every turn! Christian needed and deserved medical help; instead, he was met with indifference and brutality, which ultimately led to him suffering a lacerated spleen and liver along with pulmonary contusions. Deputies at Santa Rita Jail later isolated him and chained him to a cell door. Christian reportedly attempted to commit suicide which ultimately resulted in his death. Christian's family is demanding Fremont Police and the Alameda County Sherriff's Department immediately release the videos of their contacts with Christian Madrigal and that the Alameda County District Attorney's Office conduct a full and transparent investigation into his death." - Attorney John L. Burris

What: Press Conference

Who: John Burris, Adante Pointer and Patrick Buelna (Attorneys for Madrigal family), Christian Madrigal's mother, stepfather and family friends.

Where: Law Offices of John Burris, 7677 Oakport Street, Suite 1120 Oakland, CA 94621

When: Monday, September 9, 2019, at 2:00 PM

What: Announcement of the Filing of Government Tort Claims Against the City of Fremont and Alameda County for the Death of Christian Madrigal

OAKLAND CA-On June 10, 2019, Christian Madrigal's family sought medical assistance for their 20-year-old son because he was suffering a mental health crisis. Fremont Police responded to the call for service. When police arrived, Christian's parents informed the officers that Christian had recently been released from the psychiatric hospital for mental health issues and needed to return. However, Fremont officers ignored Christian's mental health needs and instead determined to arrest him for being criminally under the influence. He was first taken to Fremont City Jail where officers beat, choked and placed the disoriented and mentally-ill young man in a WRAP device. After brutalizing Christian, Fremont Police Officers transported him to Santa Rita Jail.

At Santa Rita Jail, Alameda County Sheriffs Deputies also ignored Christian's parent's pleas to have him examined by a mental health professional and/or transferred to a mental health facility. Instead, a Lieutenant with the Alameda County Sheriffs Department ordered his deputies to chain Christian to a cell door, in violation of the Jail's internal policies. The deputies initially protested the Lieutenant's commands but ultimately relented to their superior officer's authority. Christian was left unattended for at least 10 minutes and reportedly was found trying to commit suicide by hanging himself using the very same chains the Deputies restrained him to the door with. Christian was taken to a nearby hospital where doctors refused to treat Christian because they noted his internal injuries were so severe they warranted emergent trauma care.

Christian was then brought to Eden Medical Center where doctors diagnosed Christian as suffering from a lacerated spleen and liver along with bruising all over his body, including pulmonary contusions. Christian never recovered and ultimately passed away a few days later.

John Burris is outraged by the callous and inhumane manner in which the Fremont Police and later the Alameda County Sheriffs's Department treated Christian. Burris believes "the system failed Christian and his family at each and every turn. A person should never be treated this way. Christian deserved medical care; instead, he received brutality. Christian needed support; instead, he was met with death." Burris demands "The Alameda County District Attorney's Office bring criminal charges against the Fremont Police Officers that beat, choked and pulverized Christian and the Alameda County Sherriff Lieutenant that ordered Christian to be chained to his cell door." Burris goes on to declare "Christian's family deserves to know the truth about how their loved one suffered and died" and commands Fremont Police and the Alameda County Sherriff "to immediately release their videotapes of Christian in their jails if they have nothing to hide."

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Lee Houskeeper
[San Francisco Stories](http://SanFranciscoStories.com)
(415) 777-4700
Cell: (415) 654-9141
NewsService@aol.com

615 Burnett Avenue, Suite 2, San Francisco, CA 94131