

Memo

To: Elvia Arriola

From: Sofia Ramos

Date: 09/03/26

Subject: 2026 ICE Deaths

Listed below are the 24 deaths that have occurred in ICE detention centers this year in chronological order along with links to sources. List gathered from the [National Immigration Project](#) and the official [ICE](#) website.

- **Geraldo Lunas Campos**

- When: Jan. 3, 2026
- Age: 55
- Country of Origin: Cuba
- Duration in U.S: 30 years
- Where they lived: Rochester, NY
- Profession: N/A
- Cause of Death: Asphyxia due to neck and torso compression by ICE staff
- <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/cuban-immigrant-in-ice-custody-died-of-homicide-due-to-asphyxia-autopsy-finds>
- <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/ice-reports-aggravated-felon-and-convicted-child-sex-offenders-death-camp-east>
- <https://www.texastribune.org/2026/02/20/texas-ice-detention-death-use-of-force-camp-east-montana/>

- **Luis Gustavo Nunez Caceres**

- When: Jan. 5, 2026
- Age: 42
- Country of Origin: Honduras
- Duration in U.S: N/A
- Where they lived: N/A
- Profession: N/A
- Cause of Death: Congestive heart failure
- <https://detentionkills.substack.com/p/the-ice-death-you-wont-hear-about>
- <https://www.facebook.com/christiandkunuz/posts/this-is-luis-gustavo-n%C3%BA%C3%B1ez-c%C3%A1ceres-2nd-ice-death-in-2026he-was-a-42-year-old-imm/10241872424163216/>
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- **Luis Beltran Yanez-Cruz**

- When: Jan. 6, 2026
- Age: 68
- Country of Origin: Honduras
- Duration in U.S: approx. 30 years
- Where they lived: Newark, NJ
- Profession: Painter and construction worker

- Cause of Death: Chest pains/ heart-related health issues
- <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/illegal-alien-ice-custody-passes-away-california-hospital>
- <https://www.daylightsandiego.org/honduran-grandfather-who-died-in-ice-custody-told-family-hed-felt-ill-for-weeks/>
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- **Parady La**
 - When: Jan. 9, 2026
 - Age: 46
 - Country of Origin: Cambodia
 - Duration in U.S: 45 years
 - Where they lived: Philadelphia, PA
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: Brain and organ failure during opioid withdrawal
 - <https://www.aclupa.org/press-releases/family-of-parady-la-and-advocacy-groups-publicly-demand-accountability-after-death-in-ice-custody/>
 - <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/career-criminal-illegal-alien-ice-custody-passes-away-local-hospital>
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- **Victor Manuel Diaz**
 - When: Jan. 14, 2026
 - Age: 36
 - Country of Origin: Nicaragua
 - Duration in U.S: less than 2 years
 - Where they lived: Minneapolis, MN
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: Presumed suicide
 - <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/ice-reports-death-illegal-alien-custody-el-paso>
 - <https://www.propublica.org/article/911-calls-camp-east-montana-texas-detention>
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- **Heber Sanchez Dominguez**
 - When: Jan. 14, 2026
 - Age: 34
 - Country of Origin: Mexico
 - Duration in U.S: 2 years
 - Where they lived: Richmond County, Georgia
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: Presumed suicide
 - <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/ice-detainee-passes-away-georgias-robert-deyton-detention-center>
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- **Lorth Sim**
 - When: Feb. 16, 2026
 - Age: 59

- Country of Origin: Cambodia
- Duration in U.S: 43 years
- Where they lived: Boston, MA
- Profession: N/A
- Cause of Death: Under investigation - found unresponsive
- <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/convicted-alien-felon-passes-away-indiana-hospital>
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- **Jairo Garcia-Hernandez**
 - When: Feb. 16, 2026
 - Age: 27
 - Country of Origin: Guatemala
 - Duration in U.S: approx. 5 years
 - Where they lived: New York/ New Mexico
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: Under investigation - treated for being “immunocompromised”
 - <https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/immigration/article314836655.html>
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- **Alberto Gutierrez Reyes**
 - When: Feb. 27, 2026
 - Age: 48
 - Country of Origin: Mexico
 - Duration in U.S: 25 years
 - Where they lived: Los Angeles, CA
 - Profession: construction worker
 - Cause of Death: chest pain and shortness of breath - history of diabetes and high blood pressure
 - <https://www.latimes.com/espanol/california/articulo/2026-03-04/murio-pidiendo-ayuda-migrante-mexicano-fallecio-bajo-custodia-de-ice-y-su-familia-clama-justicia>
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- **Pejman Karshenas Najafabadi**
 - When: Mar. 1 2026
 - Age: 59
 - Country of Origin: Iran
 - Duration in U.S: 35 years
 - Where they lived: Nashville, TN
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: Cardiac arrest
 - <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/criminal-illegal-alien-ice-custody-passes-away-natchez-mississippi>
 - <https://austinkocher.substack.com/p/third-ice-custody-death-this-week>
- **Emmanuel Cleeford Damas**
 - When: Mar. 2, 2026
 - Age: 56

- Country of Origin: Haiti
- Duration in U.S: 2 years
- Where they lived: Boston, MA
- Profession: N/A
- Cause of Death: Unknown - had an untreated toothache that family suspects was the cause of death
- <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/criminal-illegal-alien-ice-custody-passes-away-scottsdale-arizona>
- <https://www.tucsonsentinel.com/tag/corecivic/>
- <https://www.wbur.org/news/2026/03/18/emmanuel-damas-ice-custody-death-toothache-family-answers>
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- **Mohammed Nazeer Paktiawal**
 - When: Mar. 14, 2026
 - Age: 41
 - Country of Origin: Afghanistan
 - Duration in U.S: 4.5 years
 - Where they lived: Richardson, TX
 - Profession: former U.S. Special Forces Soldier, truck driver, employee at a market and bakery
 - Cause of Death: Unknown - suspected allergic reaction
 - <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/criminal-illegal-alien-afghanistan-previous-arrests-fraud-and-theft-passes-away-texas>
 - <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/afghan-national-died-ice-custody-allergic-reaction-rcna353290>
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- **Royer Perez Jiminez**
 - When: Mar. 16, 2026
 - Age: 19
 - Country of Origin: Mexico
 - Duration in U.S: 4 years
 - Where they lived: Volusia County, Florida
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: Under investigation - presumed suicide
 - <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/mexican-teen-died-ice-custody-funeral-denounce-charges/>
 - <https://truthout.org/articles/19-year-old-royer-perez-jimenez-dies-in-ice-jail-known-for-abuse/>
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- **Jose Guadalupe Ramos-Solano**
 - When: Mar. 25, 2026
 - Age: 52
 - Country of Origin: Mexico
 - Duration in U.S: approx. 31 years

- Where they lived: Torrance, CA
- Profession: N/A
- Cause of Death: Unknown - had diabetes and high blood pressure
- <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/longform/2026/6/16/a-mexican-citizen-died-in-ice-custody-now-his-family-is-demanding-answers>
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- **Tuan Van Bui**
 - When: Apr. 1, 2026
 - Age: 55
 - Country of Origin: Vietnam
 - Duration in U.S: 36 years
 - Where they lived: Philadelphia, PA
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: cardiovascular diseases and diabetes complications
 - <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/criminal-illegal-alien-vietnam-passes-away-miami-correctional-center>
 - <https://www.gofundme.com/f/justice-and-memorial-for-tuan-van-bui-ice-detention-death>
 - <https://indianacapitalchronicle.com/2026/04/15/ice-detainees-deaths-raise-questions-about-news-coverage-of-asian-communities/>
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- **Alejandro Cabrera Clemente**
 - When: Apr. 11, 2026
 - Age: 49
 - Country of Origin: Mexico
 - Duration in U.S: over 25 years
 - Where they lived: Chattanooga, TN
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: Under investigation - found unresponsive
 - <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/ice-criminal-illegal-alien-detainee-passes-away-louisiana>
- **Aled Damien Carbonell-Betancourt**
 - When: Apr. 12, 2026
 - Age: 27
 - Country of Origin: Cuba
 - Duration in U.S: 1.5 years
 - Where they lived: Miami-Dade County, FL
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: Under investigation - presumed suicide
 - <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/ice-criminal-illegal-alien-detainee-cuba-passes-away-miami>
 - <https://www.miaminewtimes.com/news/miami-federal-prison-detaining-hundreds-of-immigrants-23177326/>
- **Denny Adan Gonzalez**

- When: Apr. 28, 2026
- Age: 33
- Country of Origin: Cuba
- Duration in U.S: approx. 4 years
- Where they lived: Charlotte, NC
- Profession: construction worker
- Cause of Death: under investigation - presumed investigation
- <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/cuban-illegal-alien-arrested-domestic-violence-dies-ice-custody-georgia-detention>
- <https://english.elpais.com/usa/2026-07-26/ices-corpses-and-the-search-for-answers-let-the-truth-come-out-my-son-was-killed-by-the-guard.html>
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- **Mamuka Artmeladze**
 - When: Jun. 4, 2026
 - Age: 43
 - Country of Origin: Georgia
 - Duration in U.S: N/A
 - Where they lived: New Orleans, LA
 - Profession: Commercial vehicle driver
 - Cause of Death: Pending autopsy - found unresponsive
 - <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/ice-detainee-passes-away-louisiana-0>
- **Felix Alcorta-Rodriguez**
 - When: Jan. 19, 2026
 - Age: 63
 - Country of Origin: Mexico
 - Duration in U.S: N/A
 - Where they lived: Laredo, TX
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: Pending autopsy - “natural causes”
 - <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/criminal-illegal-alien-mexico-passes-away-ice-custody>
 - <https://www.texastribune.org/2026/06/24/ice-detention-webb-county-laredo/>
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- **Adrian Andreas Florian**
 - When: Jan. 24, 2026
 - Age: 85
 - Country of Origin: Germany
 - Duration in U.S: approx 1 year
 - Where they lived: Laredo, TX
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: Pending autopsy - possible dementia, ulcers, and other health conditions
 - <https://austinkocher.substack.com/p/an-85-year-old-german-man-is-the>

- **Jesus Manuel Arenas-Silva**
 - When: Jul. 13, 2026
 - Age: 45
 - Country of Origin: Venezuela
 - Duration in U.S: almost 5 years
 - Where they lived: Dallas, GA
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: Cardiac arrest - lack of medication suspected
 - <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/venezuelan-detainee-dies-ice-custody-during-transfer-georgia>
 - <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/jul/15/man-dies-georgia-ice-detention>
- **Jose Efrain Chajon-Raxon**
 - When: N/A
 - Age: 37
 - Country of Origin: Guatemala
 - Duration in U.S: N/A
 - Where they lived: NJ
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: Under investigation - "seizure like activity"
 - <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/immigrant-detained-ice-facility-new-jersey-died-medical-emergency-rcna592301>
 - https://www.instagram.com/p/Db_z5tTjZrI/
- **Prisciliano Trejo**
 - When: Jul 24, 2026
 - Age: 29
 - Country of Origin: Mexico
 - Duration in U.S: 26 years
 - Where they lived: Durham, NC
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: Acute leukemia
 - <https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/counties/durham-county/article316753090.html>
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- **Edwin Lopez-Cornejo**
 - When: Aug. 1, 2026
 - Age: 41
 - Country of Origin: El Salvador
 - Duration in U.S: approx. 20 years
 - Where they lived: Plainfield, NJ
 - Profession: N/A
 - Cause of Death: pending further examination - history of diabetes and high blood pressure

- <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/detainee-passes-following-medical-emergency-new-jersey>
- <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/death-ice-custody-lopez-cornejo-family-speaks-rcna590751>

- **Lianyong Wei**

- When: Aug. 23, 2026
- Age: 51
- Country of Origin: China
- Duration in U.S: 7 years
- Where they lived: Saipan, Commonwealth of North Mariana Islands
- Profession: N/A
- Cause of Death: Under investigation - found unresponsive
- <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/amp/world/china-presses-u-s-for-answers-after-a-man-dies-hours-after-entering-ice-custody>
- <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/criminal-illegal-alien-china-passes-away-saipan-ice-facility>