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News Releases

July 27, 2009

Detainee passes away at South Carolina hospital

COLUMBIA, S.C. - On July 24, 2009, Vera Stojka, a 55-year-old Czech Republic national being held on immigration violations, passed away at the Columbia Care Regional Center (CCRC) in Columbia, South Carolina. The preliminary cause of death is cardiac arrest. Stojka was admitted to the CCRC on March 31, 2009, due to longstanding medical conditions.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials notified Stojka's next of kin and have placed calls to the Consulate General of the Czech Republic in New York. In addition, consistent with ICE protocol, the appropriate state health and local law enforcement agencies have been notified and an autopsy has been performed.

-- ICE --

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.

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