

DANIEL T. SATTERBERG
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



King County

Office of the Prosecuting Attorney
CRIMINAL DIVISION
W554 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98104
(206) 296-9000

October 1, 2019

The Honorable Dow Constantine
King County Executive
401 5th Avenue, Suite 800
Chinook Building
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: Death of Wang S. Leng

Dear Executive Constantine:

On June 7, 2019, the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office received investigative materials from the King County Sheriff's Office concerning the in-custody death of Wang S. Leng on September 5, 2018. Pursuant to the Executive Order on the inquest process (PHL-7-1-2-EO), this office has reviewed those materials and recommends that an inquest be ordered. The Executive's Order mandates an inquest to investigate "any death of an individual involving a member of any law enforcement agency within King County while in the performance of the member's duties."

In this instance, on the afternoon of Sunday, August 5, 2018, Issaquah Police deputies responded to a domestic violence disturbance at the apartment of Wang Leng. Officers arrived at the residence to find Leng in a deteriorated mental state. A language barrier existed between the officers and Leng. When Leng stepped towards officers, Leng was placed into a hold and handcuffed. Once in handcuffs, officers observed Leng's body go limp. Leng's wife communicated to the officers that Leng was an Alzheimer's patient. An aid unit was called to transport him to a nearby hospital. While in hospital, Leng underwent surgery for a complex spinal injury/condition. Leng was later moved to a rehabilitation facility where he died on September 5, 2018.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (206) 477-1970. I would be more than happy to meet with you if you would like to discuss this matter in further detail.

Sincerely,
For DANIEL T. SATTERBERG,
King County Prosecuting Attorney

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Larson", written over the typed name.

Mark Larson
Chief Deputy, Criminal Division

cc: Scott Behrbaum, Chief of Police, City of Issaquah