

05-11-2007 – Niland CA - Richard Goldstein - Border Patrol LEO Suspicious



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REMEMBERING ALL OF LAW ENFORCEMENT'S HEROES

<http://www.odmp.org/officer/18881-border-patrol-agent-richard-goldstein>



Bio & Incident Details
Age: 37
Tour: 5 years
Badge # BPM01568
Cause: Drowned
Location: California

Border Patrol Agent

Richard Goldstein

United States Department of Homeland Security - Customs and Border Protection - United States Border Patrol, U.S. Government

End of Watch: Friday, May 11, 2007

Border Patrol Agent Richard Goldstein drowned in the Coachella Canal near Niland, California, east of the Salton Sea.

After he went missing, Agent Goldstein's canine partner was found sitting alongside his vehicle, which was parked and idling near the canal. The Customs and Border Protection and California Highway Patrol Air divisions assisted several border patrol agents in the search for the missing agent. A short time later he was found drowned a few miles from his vehicle.

Agent Goldstein's canine partner, Carlo, was wet, and markings in the area indicate the dog had been in the water and struggled to get out of the canal. It is believed that Agent Goldstein entered the canal in an attempt to rescue Carlo.

Agent Goldstein was a five-year veteran of the United States Border Patrol and was assigned to the El Centro Sector's Indio Station. He is survived by his wife, two stepsons, parents, five siblings, and a granddaughter, who was born the night before his death.



Richard Goldstein

<https://www.cbp.gov/about/in-memoriam/richard-goldstein>

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Agent Goldstein's K-9 partner, Carlo, was wet, and markings in the area indicate the dog had been in the water and struggled to get out of the canal. Early reports indicated Agent Goldstein entered the canal in order to rescue his K-9 partner.

Agent Goldstein was a five-year veteran of the Border Patrol and was assigned to the El Centro Sector's Indio Station. He is survived by his wife, two stepsons, parents, and a granddaughter, who was born the night before his death.



Border Patrol agent found dead near Salton Sea(CA)

http://www.kesq.com/Global/story.asp...&nav=menu191_2

May 11, 2007

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department, the Imperial County Sheriff's Department and the Border Patrol have confirmed that deputies have found a dead Border Patrol K-9 agent near the Salton Sea.

Border Patrol agents responded to a call of a missing agent around 11 AM Friday morning and began searching the Coachella Canal around noon.

The body of the agent - who remains unidentified -- was found in that canal and

appeared to have drowned.

Sheriff's Investigators from the Imperial County Sheriff's Department and Border Patrol agents remain on scene investigating.

Authorities say they found the body at Mineral Spa Road near Niland

Deputies say they found the person's dog running around in the area, but, then, later discovered the person's vehicle and body.

Deputies believe the person's death was caused by drowning, and they believe the person was on duty.

Sheriff's Investigators from the Imperial County Sheriff's Department and Border Patrol agents remain on scene investigating.

If you have any information on this case, you can call the Imperial County Sheriff's Department at 1-800-452-2051.

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Border Patrol Agent Found Dead in Canal - Imperial County Sheriff's Department Investigating

<http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?secti...id=5299382>

INDIO, May 12, 2007 (CNS)

A U.S. Customs and Border Patrol agent was found dead floating in a canal near the city of Niland, east of Salton Sea, authorities announced Saturday.

Richard Goldstein, 37, a five-year veteran of the Border Patrol assigned to the El Centro Sector's Indio Station, was found floating in the Coachella Canal after agents reported him missing around 3 p.m., Border Patrol Agent David Kim told reporters.

Goldstein was reported missing after agents found his vehicle parked and idling along the Coachella Canal, Border Patrol officials said.

"The loss of such a promising young agent, bravely carrying out his duty, has created a great emptiness within our ranks," said Carl L. McClafferty, chief patrol agent of the El Centro Sector.

"Our thoughts and prayers are now with his family, as we honor his courage and sacrifice," he said.

Goldstein's death was being investigated by the Imperial County Sheriff's Department, officials said.

Border Patrol Agent Found Dead

<http://politicalpistachio.blogspot.com/2007/05/border-patrol-agent-found-dead.html>

May 13, 2007 Douglas V. Gibbs

Last night, after you get pass my loud and out of control sound effects (I am having fun experimenting with them), my radio show went beyond its normal one hour length, finishing at the 1 hour, 56 minutes, and 21 seconds mark. The reason for the long show was a caller that engaged me in conversation that was both fascinating, and made for good radio. You'll have to listen to the archive at [Political Pistachio Radio](#) to see what I mean.

His name is Tim, and he is a contributor to the site: [A Newt One](#). Anyhow, at one point of the show he asked me if I had heard about the Border Patrol agent found dead near the Salton Sea not too far from me here in Southern California.



I hadn't heard about it yet, but after investigating, this is what I know, so far, about this incident:

A U.S. Border Patrol Agent, Richard Goldstein, 37, was found dead drowned in the Coachella Canal near Niland, California just east of the Salton Sea, and about 40 miles north of the Mexican Border. His SUV was still idling, and his K-9 partner was loose, but sitting next to the vehicle. The body was found on Friday, and the incident is now being investigated as a homicide. Investigators are looking into possible connections between the agent's death and the known criminal activities in the area. The area the agent was located is a hot spot for drug smuggling, and illegal alien smuggling. A few years back an agent was involved in a shooting in the area with smugglers.

Goldstein was based at the Indio station which is in the desert east of Palm Springs. He served with the Border Patrol for five years. He was a resident of the area and is survived by a wife and two children.

A search for him had been initiated on Friday when Goldstein did not report in. A fellow Border Patrol agent discovered the body floating in the canal. The canal is mostly lined with concrete, and delivers Colorado River water to farms in the area.

If this turns out to be a homicide, and if the death of the agent was at the hands of illegals, drug runners, or Mexican Supremacists, the story will be buried and forgotten; unlike when an agent uses force to control a foreign-born law breaker, at which time the story becomes front page news and the agents are accused of abuse of power and unnecessary force.

My prayers are with this agent's family, and I applaud all of the heroes of the Border Patrol that put their life on the line to protect the sovereignty of our nation.

And this may be just another piece of proof that a large portion of illegals are not here to be law abiding citizens. Where the illegals go, their crime follows them. In this case, the crime may be murder.

Agent found in canal ID'd

http://articles.ivpressonline.com/2007-05-13/border-patrol_24175901

May 13, 2007 By DARREN SIMON, Staff Writer

NILAND — The Imperial County Sheriff's Office on Saturday was leading the investigation into the mysterious drowning of a U.S. Border Patrol agent whose body was found in the Coachella Canal on Friday.

Few new details of the death were released Saturday, but the Border Patrol did release the name of the agent — Richard Goldstein.

The 37-year-old husband and father of two sons was a five-year Border Patrol veteran who had spent his entire career assigned to the Border Patrol's El Centro Sector.

As part of that assignment, he was based out of the Indio station.

Border Patrol officials said Goldstein was on duty and working at the Highway 111 checkpoint north of Niland at the time other agents noticed he was missing Friday. That was about 3:30 p.m., said Supervisory Border Patrol Agent David Kim.

A short time later agents found Goldstein's vehicle idling near the Coachella Canal not from the checkpoint, Kim said. Goldstein was a dog handler and his dog was sitting next to the vehicle.

A search involving local, state and federal authorities was launched and at some point after 4 p.m. Goldstein's body was found in the canal.

What authorities have not yet determined is what led Goldstein to enter the canal. Imperial County Sheriff's Office Lt. George Moreno said no conclusion had been reached as of Saturday.

He said investigators "are trying to determine whether he fell in accidentally or not."

Moreno added authorities are probing the area to see if there were other footprints or signs of struggles.

Kim added: "Whether anything was suspicious or not, I could not tell you." Moreno said there were people in the area along the canal but as of Saturday no one had come forward with information that would shed light on what occurred. Moreno asked that anyone with information contact the Sheriff's Office at 339-6324.

As the investigation moves forward, the Border Patrol is planning a memorial service for Goldstein, but the details have not yet been finalized.

Border Patrol officials said Saturday they have lost one of their own and they grieve for his loss and his family's loss.

"The Border Patrol family has suffered a great loss with the death of Border Patrol Agent Richard Goldstein," said Carl McClafferty, senior Border Patrol agent for the El Centro Sector.

"The loss of such a promising young agent, bravely carrying out his duty, has created a great emptiness within our ranks," McClafferty said.

Border agent found dead of apparent drowning in Calif.

<http://www.policeone.com/news/1245085/>

05-14-2007 By SHARON McNARY The Press-Enterprise

The death of a Border Patrol agent in the Coachella Canal remains under investigation but was likely an accidental drowning, Border Patrol spokesman David Kim said Sunday.

The body of Agent Richard Goldstein, 37, was found Friday floating in the canal near Niland, east of the Salton Sea and about 40 miles north of the U.S.-Mexico border, said Kim, a supervisory agent in the El Centro Sector of the Border Patrol.

"At this point it doesn't appear initially that there's anything other than an accident that occurred," Kim said, describing Goldstein as a hero.

"He was on the front lines of securing the American border."

Border Patrol agents monitor the canal, which runs north to south, because smugglers of drugs and people often drive on its narrow banks to bypass an immigration checkpoint on Highway 111, several miles north of Niland, Kim said.

Authorities began a search for Goldstein soon after they realized he was away from his K-9 patrol vehicle.

They found his dog near the idling vehicle, and Goldstein in the canal water.

A search by California Highway Patrol and Border Patrol helicopters did not locate other vehicles that might have been involved in the incident, Kim said.

Although he did not have statistics available, Kim said agents face an increasing amount of violence from smugglers, "mostly assaults, whether they are immigrants or drug smugglers, throwing rocks, sticks, even shooting paint balls."

Last week a smuggler fired about 20 paint-ball rounds at agents monitoring the New River near Calexico, Kim said.

Services for Goldstein had not been scheduled, said Agent Enrique Lozano, a spokesman for the Border Patrol's El Centro Sector.

Goldstein lived in the Coachella Valley and is survived by his wife and two children.

Border agent apparently drowned in desert canal

<http://articles.latimes.com/2007/may/17/local/me-agent17>

May 17, 2007 Maeve Reston | Times Staff Writer

A Border Patrol agent whose body was found floating in the Coachella Canal on Friday appears to have accidentally fallen in and drowned, authorities said Wednesday.

Agent Richard Goldstein, a five-year employee based at the Indio station of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, was out with his working dog Friday checking for footprints and tire tracks on the dirt roads that border the Coachella Canal near Niland, on the southeastern end of the Salton Sea in Imperial County. The dirt roads are a favorite path for illegal immigrants leaving paved roads.

Goldstein, 37, checked in by radio Friday to indicate that he was safe, officials said, though they could not pinpoint the time.

In the afternoon, agents monitoring video surveillance of the canal noticed that Goldstein's SUV was parked along the concrete-lined canal with its engine running.

A coroner's official said another Border Patrol unit found Goldstein's body about three miles north in the fast-moving Coachella Canal, which runs north from the All-American Canal toward the Coachella Valley in Riverside County.

Lt. George Moreno of the Imperial County Sheriff's Department said there were "no signs of struggle and no signs of a point of entry" into the canal.

Charles Lucas, Imperial County's supervising deputy coroner, said Goldstein's only injuries were minor scrapes consistent with slipping and falling.

"There's no evidence of foul play," Lucas said. "The indications are that he fell in.... The canal banks are dirt, and you can lose your balance on the dirt and slip and fall in."