

CITY OF INDIAN HARBOUR BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT



NEWS RELEASE

Chief David Butler

Released By: PIO Det. Cpl. Jim Adams

Date: October 16, 2024

Hurricane Milton Related Death

CR #2024-00014216

On 10/09/24, at approximately 9:00PM, during Hurricane Milton, the HOA President from Lantana Condominiums, 1851 Highway A1A, Unit #4202, Indian Harbour Beach, FL, contacted the Indian Harbour Beach Police Department requesting a well-being check on a 78yo WF resident who he had not been able to reach. According to the HOA President, the resident's second floor unit was the only ocean facing unit which did not have the hurricane shutters closed, and he was concerned.

Upon officer's arrival at the unit, there was no response received to multiple knocks on the unit's front door, which was found to be locked. After the HOA President unlocked the unit's front door, officers announced themselves, entered the unit, and were unable to locate the resident. At the rear of the unit, officer's observed a sliding glass door, leading out to the ocean facing balcony, and the doors were open approximately 6".

As officers exited the unit onto the rear balcony, the 78yo WF resident was found, deceased, lying on the balcony's painted concrete floor. The resident was found in the corner of the balcony, near the hurricane shutters.

The deceased resident showed no signs of trauma.

After a complete investigation, there were no signs of foul play detected, as the resident had already moved the plastic balcony patio chairs into her dining room, and appeared to have been in the process of closing her hurricane shutters when she either had a medical episode, or lost her balance and slipped on the wet painted concrete balcony floor.

The Brevard County Medical Examiner's Office On-Call Investigator was contacted, all information was provided, and the Brevard County Medical Examiner's Office waived the case, and released the decedent to a local funeral home at the family's request.