



Fresno County Sheriff – Coroner's Office

Margaret Mims, Sheriff-Coroner

September 15, 2016

News Release

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Farmworker Dies While Operating Almond Harvesting Machine

The Coroner's Office has scheduled an autopsy to be performed tomorrow on a 21 year old Jorge Barraza of Huron, who died while working in an almond orchard.

Around 10:00 am on Thursday, a farmer worker called the Fresno County Sheriff's Office to report that one of his co-workers was injured. Deputies responded to an orchard located near Highway 198 and Lassen Ave. in Huron. They found the victim deceased and seated in a machine that picks up almonds in the field. While operating this piece of equipment, he struck an electrical pole and then collided with a tree. Deputies have not determined what caused the man to crash. More should be known from the results of the autopsy.

Members from the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (aka Cal/OSHA) are conducting an investigation into the accident. PG&E crews responded to repair the damaged electrical pole.

Case # 16-14900