



Office of the New York State Attorney General Letitia James

Office of Special Investigation

May 4, 2023

Report on the Investigation into the Death of Angely Solis

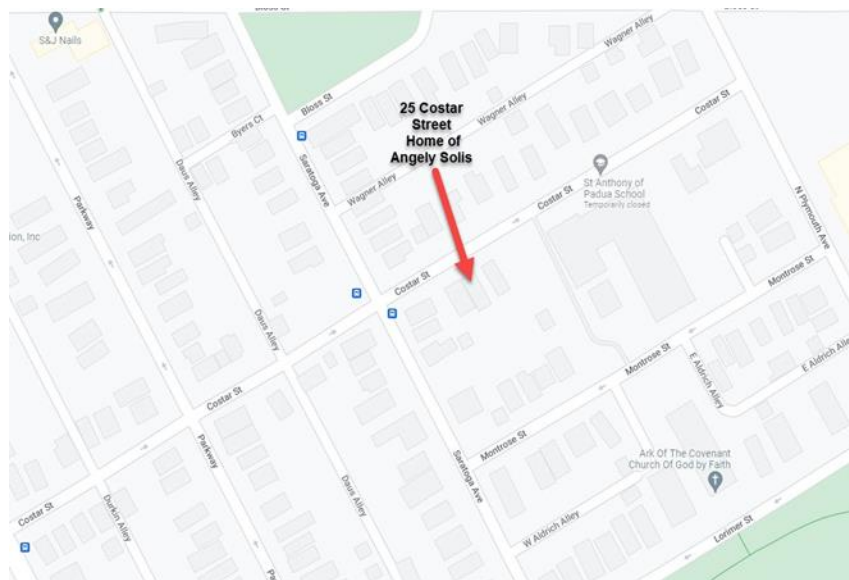
SUMMARY

New York Executive Law Section 70-b directs the Attorney General's Office of Special Investigation (OSI) to investigate and, if warranted, prosecute offenses arising from any incident in which the death of a person is caused by a police officer, whether on or off duty. When OSI does not seek charges against the officer, Section 70-b requires OSI to issue a public report describing its investigation.

In a residential neighborhood in the City of Rochester, on the evening of November 14, 2022, off-duty Greece Police Department Officer Tiffani Gatson shot Angely Solis, causing her death. Within minutes, Officer Gatson took her own life. This is OSI's report of its investigation of the death of Angely Solis. As the investigation provides no reason to believe that any person other than Officer Gatson was involved in the death of Ms. Solis, there is no person left alive who could be prosecuted for that death.

FACTS

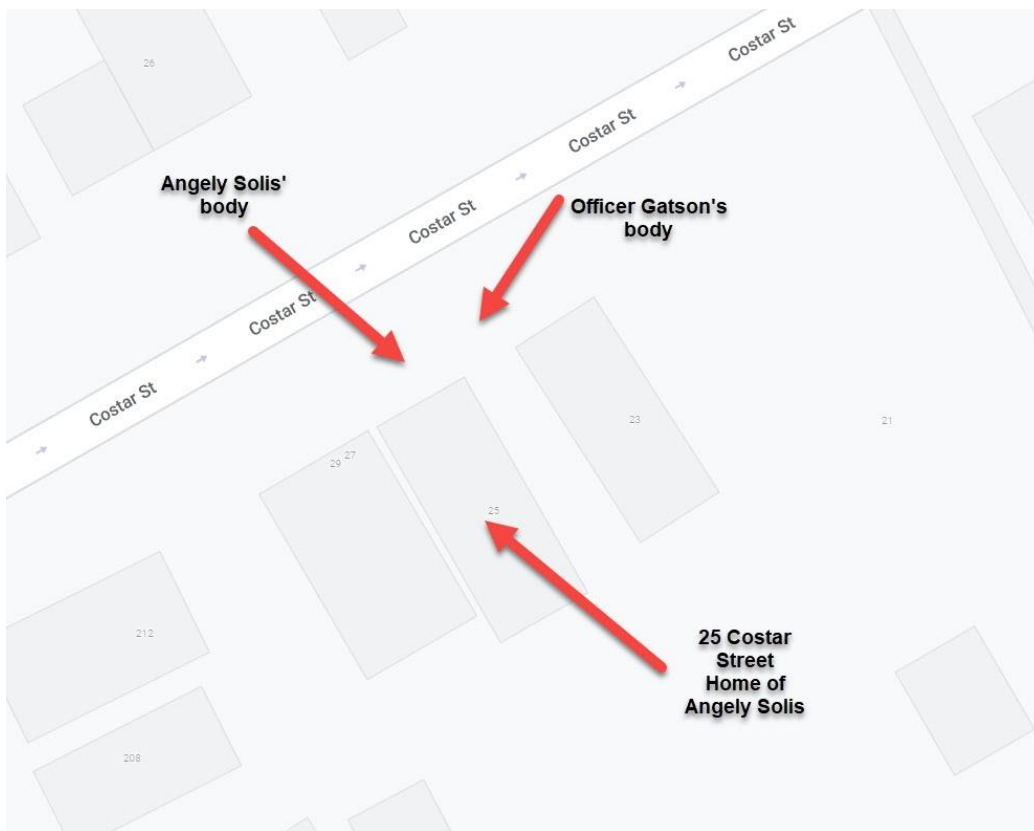
The death of Ms. Solis took place outside her home at 25 Costar Street in the city of Rochester, shown on the map below:



OSI and members of the Rochester Police Department (RPD) interviewed Deanette Solis, Angely Solis's sister. She said she got a call from Angely Solis on November 14, 2022, which cell phone records show was at 7:06 pm. She said she could hear Angely Solis arguing with Officer Gatson, whom Deanette Solis knew. At 7:10 p.m. Angely Solis called 911.¹ The 911 recording seemed to have the sounds of a physical fight or struggle. As captured by a

¹ 911 calls are received by the Rochester/Monroe County Emergency Communication Department.

dashboard camera² in Deanette Solis's car, at 7:14 p.m. Deanette Solis drove toward Angely Solis's home, arriving at 7:17:23 p.m. As Deanette Solis got out of her car the dashboard camera captured her yelling, "Get the fuck off"; Deanette Solis told OSI she was telling Officer Gatson to get away from Angely Solis. Deanette Solis told OSI she moved to position herself between Officer Gatson and Angely Solis and that Officer Gatson pulled out a handgun and shot Angely Solis and then Deanette Solis; the dashcam captured audio of gunshots at 7:17:35 p.m. and at 7:17:37 p.m. Deanette Solis said Officer Gatson shot Angely Solis in the head and then in her chest as she lay on the ground; the dash cam captured audio of a third gunshot at 7:17:43 p.m. Angely Solis was fatally wounded. Finally, Officer Gatson shot herself in the head, and she died from this wound. A 9mm Smith & Wesson handgun, registered to Officer Gatson as a personal weapon, was recovered on the ground next to her.³



This map shows the relative location of the bodies of Angely Solis and Officer Gatson.

Angely Solis was pronounced dead at the scene. Officer Gatson was pronounced dead at

² The dashboard camera footage can be found here: [Dash Camera Footage](#).

³ The redacted body worn camera (BWC) footage of responding RPD Officer DeLella shows the positioning of the bodies of Officer Gatson and Angely Solis and has a narrative of the events by Deanette Solis. The BWC footage was redacted pursuant to Attorney General policy to protect civilian and bystander privacy. The relevant portion of Officer DeLella's BWC can be found here: [Officer DeLella's BWC](#).

Strong Memorial Hospital at 8:13 p.m. Deanette Solis was taken to Strong Memorial Hospital and treated for a bullet graze at the top of her head and a split to her left ear lobe.

On November 15, 2022, Dr. Chelsea Milito, from the Office of the Monroe County Medical Examiner (OMCME) conducted autopsies of the bodies of Angely Solis and Officer Gatson. According to the autopsy reports, the cause of death of Angely Solis was “gunshot wound to the head and chest” and the manner of death was “homicide”; the cause of death of Officer Gatson was “gunshot wound to the head” and the manner of death was “suicide.” During the autopsies of Angely Solis and Officer Gatson, bullet jackets and fragments were removed from their bodies. Monroe County Crime Laboratory tested the bullet jackets and fragments against the 9mm Smith & Wesson handgun found at the scene, registered to Officer Gatson, and determined that the jackets and fragments were fired from that gun.

A full review of the physical evidence, dash camera footage, and BWC footage, and the interview of Deanette Solis support the conclusion that Officer Gatson was solely responsible for Angely Solis’s death. OSI found no evidence indicating that any other person was involved in the homicide. Therefore, there is no basis on which OSI could seek charges against any living person in this case.

Dated: May 4, 2023