

U.S. border agent charged with murder

by UPI

TUCSON - Arizona prosecutors have charged a U.S. Border Patrol agent with first-degree murder in the shooting death of a Mexican man trying to enter the United States.

Cochise County, Ariz., Attorney Ed Rheinheimer said after reviewing the January shooting, it was decided to charge agent Nicholas Corbett with first-degree murder, as well as counts of second-degree murder, manslaughter and negligent homicide, the Arizona Republic reported Tuesday.

A judge will decide which charges are best supported by the evidence, Rheinheimer said.

Francisco Dominguez-Rivera and three other men were spotted trying to enter Arizona's border county of Cochise.

After the shooting, the Border Patrol said a scuffle led to it and that Corbett "feared for his life" as he believed Dominguez-Rivera was about to throw a rock at him. Rheinheimer said witness testimony didn't back up the claim.

"We have concluded that the evidence shows that, at the time he was shot, Mr. Dominguez-Rivera presented no threat to Agent Corbett," he said in the Republic's report.

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