

A Utah jail refused medical care to a woman who died of an infection from gastric bypass surgery, even though she showed symptoms of pain, her family alleges in a wrongful death lawsuit.

Lisa Marie Ostler, 37, spent roughly four days in Salt Lake County Jail before she passed in April 2016, according to her family in the lawsuit filed Thursday.

Rocky Anderson, the family's attorney, asserts that the the jail broke Utah law by denying the Riverton native her rights of due process.



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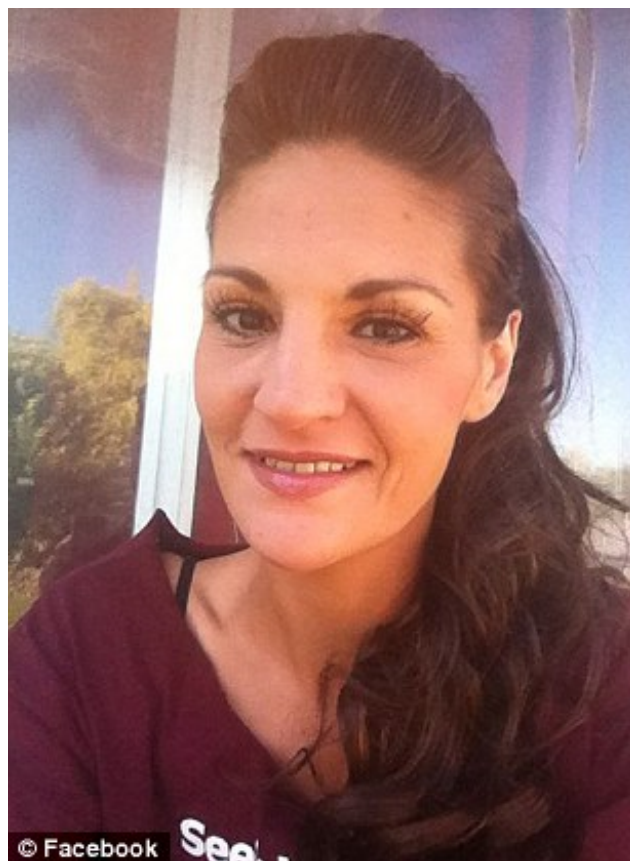
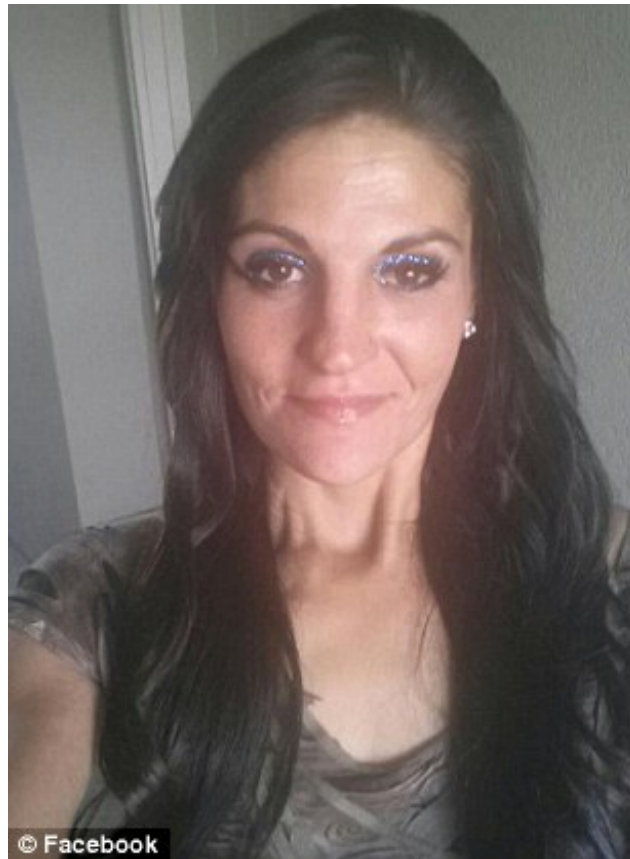
Family sues jail for failing to give medical help to dying woman

'Our daughter died a very painful death from a medical cause that was not related to drugs. And they couldn't get beyond looking at it as a drug event to get her any kind of help,' father Calvin Ostler said, according to [Desert News](#).

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According to the woman's family, Ostler showed 'obvious signs of excruciating pain' from inflammation of lining of the abdominal organs, or peritonitis. Jail employees refused to help her however.

'It's torture,' added mother, Kim Ostler.





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Inmates in the jail reported hearing the woman yell, moan, curl up in a ball and refused eating for two days and showing signs of dehydration.

She was pronounced dead at the hospital on the morning of April 3, 2016.

An employee filled out forms when the woman first arrived on March 30, explaining that Ostler had several medical condition that she took medication for, including Crohn's disease.

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And when inmates tried to inform guards at the jail, they were told that Ostler was 'coming down off drugs,' and told said to the woman, 'I'll bet it feels like you're going to die, doesn't it? Just a couple more days.'



She was told to stop pushing the alarm button, asking for help, the suit alleges.

For over two days, inmates pleaded that guards assist the woman and told them that she was crying and yelling.

When they found that Ostler stopped breathing, jail staff came and tried to perform CPR before taking her to the hospital.

The woman's parents explained how Ostler became dependent on painkillers after undergoing gastric bypass surgery. The bank manager then developed Grohn's disease and turned to heroin after losing insurance, they added.

She was being held in jail for drug charges and was expected to appear in court.

An autopsy revealed that inflamed abdominal lining from a rupture where the surgery took place, along with complications the Crohn's, contributed to her death.

Named in the lawsuit are former Salt Lake County Sheriff Jim Winder, chief deputy Pam Lofgreen, jail medical director Todd Wilcox, and several other staff members from the jail.

The suit claims that Olster was exposed to unnecessarily harsh treatment and violation of her Constitutional rights.



The Salt Lake County Jail campus includes the Sheriff's Office and the Metro and Oxbow

Utah County Sheriff's Sgt. Kevin Hunter said the sheriff's office 'does not comment on active lawsuits.'

The lawsuit asks for unspecified damages for the woman's suffering, medical and funeral expenses, family distress, attorney fees and other losses.

Ostler's family hopes the jail reforms how it deals with medical issues for inmates and want to work to create a review board to evaluate the jail, comprised of civilians.

The suit mentions that Ostler is a mother of a seven, 12 and 14-year-old.