



KEN PAXTON

ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number: 17-516-UF

Version Type: ORIGINAL
VERSION

Report Date: 10/2/2017 4:56 PM

Status: Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name: Plano Police Dept.

Agency Address: PO BOX 860358

Agency City: Plano

Agency State: TX

Agency Zip: 75086

Director Information

Director Salutation: Chief

Director First Name: Gregory

Director Middle Name:

Director Last Name: Rushin

Reporter Name: Gregory Rushin

Reporter Email: gregr@plano.gov

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Spencer

Middle Name: James

Last Name: Hight

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 10/20/1984

Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 32

Date/Time of Custody (arrest, incarceration) (mm/dd/yyyy hh:mm AM/PM):

Date/Time of Custody or
Incident: 9/10/2017 8:05 PM

Date/Time of Death (mm/dd/yyyy hh:mm AM/PM):

Death Date and Time: 9/20/2017 8:11 PM

Manner / Cause of Death

Has a medical examiner or coroner conducted an evaluation to determine a cause of death?

Medical Examiner/Coroner
Evaluation?: Yes, results are
available

What was the manner of death? (select only one)

Manner of Death: Homicide (includes
Justifiable
Homicide)

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Rifle wounds of trunk

Had the decedent been receiving treatment for the medical condition that caused the death after admission to your jail's jurisdiction?

Medical Treatment: Not Applicable

If death was an accident, homicide or suicide, who caused the death?

Who caused the death?: Law
enforcement/correctional
personnel

If a weapon caused the death, what type of weapon caused the death? (Hold CTRL to select all that apply)

Type of weapon that caused
death?: Rifle/shotgun

Was the cause of death the result of a pre-existing medical condition or did the decedent develop the condition after admission?

Pre existing medical
condition?: Not Applicable;
cause of death was
accidental injury,
intoxication, suicide
or homicide

If death was an accident, homicide or suicide, what was the means of death?

Means of Death: Firearm

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address: 1712 West Spring
Creek Pkwy.

City: Plano

County: Collin

Zip: 75023

What location category best describes where the event causing the death occurred?

Location Category: Residence/Home

What type of custody/facility was the Decedent in at the time of death:

Type of Custody: Pre-Custodial Use
of Force

Specific type of custody/facility:

Specific Type of Custody/Facility:

N/A

What was the time and date of the deceased's entry into the law enforcement facility where the death occurred (mm/dd/yyyy hh:mm AM/PM):

Entry Date Time:

Entry Date Time N/A: 

Where did the death occur?

Death Location: Scene of incident

General Information

Did any other law enforcement agencies respond to calls for service related to this incident?

Other Agencies Respond?: No

What were the most serious offense(s) with which the deceased was (or would have been) charged with at the time of death?

Offense 1:

Capital Murder

Offense 2:

Offense 3:

Were the Charges:: Not filed at time of death

What were the types of charges or reason for contact? (Hold CTRL to select all that apply)

Type of Offense: Violent Crime
Against Persons

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent display or use a weapon?

Decedent display/use of weapons: Yes, mark all that apply

Decedent Display or Use Weapon Details: Discharged firearm

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Attempt to Injure Others?: Yes (select all that apply)

Ways Decedent Attempted To Injure Others: Killed civilian(s) or other inmate(s);
Injured civilian(s) or other inmate(s)

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Appear intoxicated (alcohol or drugs): Unknown

Make suicidal statements?: Unknown

Exhibit any mental health problems?: Unknown

Exhibit any medical problems?: Unknown

At any time during the incident and/or entry into the law enforcement facility, did the decedent:

Barricade self or initiate standoff?: No

Resist being handcuffed or arrested?: No

Physically attempt/assault officer(s): No

Gain possession of officer's weapon: No

Verbally threaten other(s) including law: Unknown

Escape or attempt to escape/flee custody: No

Attempt gain possession officer's weapon: No

Was the deceased under restraint in the time leading up to the death or the events causing the death?

Under Restraint: No

Summary of Incident

Summary of How the Death Occurred: (max. 30,000 characters)

Summary:

On September 10, 2017 at approximately 8:05 pm, officers were dispatched to a weapons call at 1712 West Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, Texas. The call notes indicated that there was a male who was attempting to get into that residence and was armed with a gun and a knife. The notes also indicated that the subject's vehicle was possibly parked in the rear alley driveway. The responding officer arrived at the location and drove to the alley in back of the residence to prevent the suspect from fleeing the area in his vehicle if necessary. While the officer was driving through the alley in an attempt to locate the correct house, he heard a long burst of gunfire. The officer exited his squad car and heard another long burst of gunfire. This allowed the officer to locate the correct house and continue up the driveway. The officer heard another burst of gunfire which was more muffled than the previous bursts. The officer entered the backyard and saw a female crouching down with her hands covering her head. He asked her if the noise had been fireworks and she responded that it was a "gun." He saw multiple people lying on the ground and was able to determine that they had been shot due to the large amount of blood surrounding them. Based on the information at that time, the officer believed that there was an active shooter inside the house and feared that other occupants of the house were in danger of being shot.

The officer opened the patio door and saw people sitting and lying in the living room whom appeared to have been shot. He heard footsteps coming from the nearby hallway and believed that his position would allow him to provide cover to the victims. He observed a white male, later determined to be Spencer Hight, exit the hallway carrying an AR-15 style rifle, wearing a sling, positioned as if he was ready to fire. Based on the totality of the circumstances, the officer believed the suspect presented a clear and continuing threat to the victims in the living room and to the officer himself and shot the subject to neutralize the threat.

Additional officers immediately arrived and were able to find two gunshot victims who were alive and one uninjured female in a bedroom. One of the surviving victims subsequently died at the hospital resulting in a total of eight fatalities caused by the subject.