KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

**CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT**

# Agency Information

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| CDR Number: | 17-636-CJ | Version Type: | AMENDED |
| Report Date: | 12/4/2017 3:47 PM | Status: | Submitted |

## Agency/Facility Information

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| Agency Name: | Bowie County Sheriff's Office | Agency Address: | 100 North State Line, BOX 18 |
| Agency City: | Texarkana | Agency State: | TX |
| Agency Zip: | 75501 | | |

## Director Information

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| Director Salutation: | Sheriff | Director First Name: | JAMES |
| Director Middle Name: | | | |
| Director Last Name: | PRINCE | | |
| Reporter Name: | Jeffrey Neal | Reporter Email: | jneal@txkusa.org |

# Decedent Information

## Identity of Deceased

First Name: Juan

Middle Name: Jose

Last Name: Cordova-Sanchez

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 3/6/1991 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 26

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 11/18/2017 2:02 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 11/18/2017 3:42 AM

## 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: Accidental

## Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Toxic effects of methamphetamine

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

Medical Treatment: No

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

Who caused the death?: Decedent

## 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?: Not Applicable

## 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: Drug overdose

# Location / Custody Information

## Where did the event causing the death occur?

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| Street Address: | 100 North State Line Avenue | City: | Texarkana |
| County: | Bowie | Zip: | 75501 |

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

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| Location Category: | Law Enforcement Facility |

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

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| Type of Custody: | County Jail |

### Specific type of custody/facility:

| Specific Type of Custody/Facility: |
|---|
| Jail - holding cell |

### 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):

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| Entry Date Time: | 11/18/2017 2:15 AM |

### Where did the death occur?

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| Death Location: | Dead on arrival at medical facility |

## General Information

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

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| Other Agencies Respond?: | Yes |

## 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:

Evading Arrest in a Vehicle

Offense 2:

Resisting Arrest

Offense 3:

Driving While Intoxicated

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| 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)

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| Type of Offense: | Violent Crime Against Persons; Alcohol / drug offense |

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

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| Decedent display/use of weapons: | No |

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

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| Attempt to Injure Others?: | Yes (select all that apply) |
| Ways Decedent Attempted To Injure Others: | Attempted to injure law enforcement personnel |

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

Appear intoxicated (alcohol or

| | | | |
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| drugs): | Yes | Make suicidal statements?: | No |
| Exhibit any mental health problems?: | No | Exhibit any medical problems?: | No |

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

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| Barricade self or initiate standoff?: | No | Resist being handcuffed or arrested?: | Yes |
| Physically attempt/assault officer(s): | Yes | Gain possession of officer's weapon: | No |
| Verbally threaten other(s) including law: | No | Escape or attempt to escape/flee custody: | Yes |
| 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?

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| Under Restraint: | Yes, mark which restraint devices were used |

### Type of restraint

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| Type of Restraint: | Handcuffs |

## Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

On 11-18-2017, the Texarkana Texas Police Department attempted to stop a 2007 Chevrolet Tahoe bearing TX license plate BXG1784. The driver had flagged down law enforcement and claimed that he had been shot at before he fled the scene in the aforementioned vehicle. The driver (later identified as Juan Jose Cordova-Sanchez) led law enforcement on a low speed pursuit that ended in front of the Bi State Justice Center. Officers with the Texarkana TX Police Department arrested the driver for suspicion of DWI and attempted to place him in a patrol vehicle. Though he spoke limited English, he can be heard claiming that someone placed something in his margarita and random comments about being made to take drugs. He was handcuffed without incident but refused to cooperate as they attempted to place him into the car. He resisted violently and the Texarkana TX Police Department decided to walk him into the jail since they were directly in front of the Bi State Justice Center (100 North State Line Ave. Texarkana, TX), the locale for the jail. He was

escorted up the public elevator but resisted violently each time that he passed through a threshold. He was held against the elevator wall and then the jail lobby wall while still handcuffed behind his back. Jail staff (Lassalle Corrections-subcontractor operating the jail for Bowie County) took possession of Cordova-Sanchez and escorted him to the book-in bathroom where he was to be changed into jail clothing. Cordova-Sanchez resisted violently as jail staff attempted to remove his clothing. He was subsequently sprayed twice with OC Spray during the effort to subdue him. Cordova-Sanchez remained handcuffed behind his back as he resisted with jail staff (4 persons) attempting to hold him still. After a protracted effort, Cordova-Sanchez became unresponsive and it was clear that he was in distress. Medical attention was rendered within moments and CPR was administered until ambulance staff arrived and took over. Life Net ambulance service reported that they were able to obtain a faint heart rate and blood pressure before attempting to transport him to Wadley Regional Medical Center. He was pronounced deceased at Wadley Regional Medical Center. The entirety of law enforcement/jail staff interactions with Cordova-Sanchez was captured on video. Other than restraining him, no obvious cause of injury can be observed. He simply became unresponsive while resisting efforts to control him. His body was sent to the Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences at Dallas for autopsy the same date. To date, the autopsy results are “Pending” on Cause of Death as well as “Pending” on manner of death.

A cause of death report dated 01/03/18 was received from the Southwest Institute of Forensic Sciences on 01/05/18. This report shows Cordova-Sanchez's cause of death as the toxic effects of methamphetamine and his manner of death as accident.