



KEN PAXTON

ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number: 18-119-CJ

Version Type: ORIGINAL
VERSION

Report Date: 3/5/2018 2:33 PM

Status: Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name: Garza County
Sheriff's Office

Agency Address: 412 E. 15th

Agency City: Post

Agency State: TX

Agency Zip: 79356

Director Information

Director Salutation: Sheriff

Director First Name: Terry

Director Middle Name:

Director Last Name: Morgan

Reporter Name: Michael
Copeland

Reporter Email: michael.copeland@co.garza.tx.us

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Juan

Middle Name: Raul

Last Name: Garcia

Suffix: Jr

Date of Birth: 6/23/1969

Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 48

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

Date/Time of Custody or
Incident: 2/9/2018 3:49 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 2/9/2018 6:39 PM

Manner / Cause of Death

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

Medical Examiner/Coroner Yes, results
Evaluation?: pending

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

Manner of Death: Pending autopsy
results

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Thrombosis of the right coronary artery.

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?: Not applicable

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?: Could not be determined

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

Means of Death: Not applicable, cause of death was illness/natural cause

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address: 412 East 15th street

City: Post

County: Garza

Zip: 79356

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

Location Category: Law Enforcement
Facility

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

Type of Custody: County Jail

Specific type of custody/facility:

Specific Type of Custody/Facility:

Jail - detox 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):

Entry Date Time: 2/9/2018 3:49 PM

Where did the death occur?

Death Location: Elsewhere, specify

Death Location Elsewhere:

En route to medical facility

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:

Hale County Warrant DWLI

Offense 2:

Offense 3:

Were the Charges:: Filed

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

Type of Offense: Other, specify

Type of Offense, Other:

DWLI With previous conviction

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: No

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

Attempt to Injure Others?: No

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

Appear intoxicated (alcohol or
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:

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:	No	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: Yes, mark which restraint devices were used

Type of restraint

Type of Restraint: Other device, specify

Other device, specify: Restraint Chair

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

1. On February 9, 2018 at approximately 15:49, inmate Juan Raul Garcia Jr. enters the Garza County Jail to be booked in on a warrant out of Hale County for Driving While License Invalid with Previous Conviction. Inmate Garcia was changed out and secured in holding cell 188 for observation. At approximately 18:00, EMS was called due to inmate Garcia was not breathing. EMS arrives and continues chest compressions. At approximately 18:32, inmate Garcia is taken to the hospital by ambulance. At 18:39, EMS contacted the doctor on call at UMC Hospital. The on call doctor instructed EMS to stop compressions and pronounced inmate Garcia dead.

DETAILS

2. At approximately 15:39, DPS Trooper enters the Garza County Jail's sally port with one male in custody (later identify as Juan Raul Garcia Jr.). Medical Officer Wallace contacts dispatch to call EMS to jail to check inmate Garcia. Captain Michael Copeland enters the sally port after the call goes out to EMS. The Trooper explains that inmate Garcia was doing fine until they entered the sally port and got out of the vehicle. Inmate Garcia started shaking and stated he was not feeling well. EMS arrives to check inmate Garcia. EMS stated that Garcia vitals look good and believe he is having a panic attack and should be ok to enter the jail. At approximately 15:49, inmate Garcia is walked into the Garza County Jail and escorted to cell 192 to be changed out. Captain Copeland signs the EMS paper work and enters cell 192 with inmate Garcia. Medical Officer Wallace advises Captain Copeland that inmate Garcia is going to be move to Detox holding cell 188 for observation. Captain Copeland assists with moving inmate Garcia to Detox cell 188. Captain Copeland calls Transport Officer Timothy Flaxington to assist him with the strip out.

3. Officer Flaxington enters Detox cell 188 to assist Captain Copeland. Inmate Garcia stated that he was not going to make it. Captain Copeland asked, "Why do you think you are not going to make it?" Inmate Garcia stated that he had swallowed about a gram of meth. Inmate Garcia was shaking and sweating profusely. Officer Flaxington asked inmate Garcia if his body felt hot. Inmate Garcia answered yes. Officer Flaxington asked inmate Garcia if he would like to take a shower to cool down and maybe it would calm his nerves. Inmate Garcia answered yes I would. Officer Flaxington and Captain Copeland escort inmate Garcia from Detox cell 188 to holding cell 192 to shower. Officer Flaxington sat inmate Garcia down on the bench in cell 192. Inmate Garcia needed to rest. Inmate Garcia changed his mind on the shower. Officer Flaxington asked if he would like a cold towel. Inmate Garcia answered yes. Captain Copeland helped inmate Garcia take his shirt and socks off while Officer Flaxington wet the towel. Inmate Garcia said to take the towel off because he was going to start freaking out. Captain Copeland asked Garcia how much meth did you swallow. Inmate Garcia answered about a gram. Captain Copeland asked how often you use meth. Inmate Garcia answered about three times a week. Captain Copeland asked how long have you used meth. Inmate Garcia answered about three years. Captain Copeland exits cell 192 to request the wheel chair. Medical Officer Wallace enters the cell with the wheel chair and Captain Copeland and Officer Flaxington assist inmate Garcia to the chair. Captain Copeland and Officer Flaxington escort inmate Garcia from cell 192 back to Detox cell 188. Captain Copeland and Officer Flaxington lay inmate Garcia on the matt and remove inmate Garcia's pants and help him put on the jail issued pants. Captain Copeland and Officer Flaxington secured inmate Garcia in Detox cell 188 at approximately 16:45.

4. At approximately 18:05, Medical Officer Wallace calls Captain Copeland on the phone and states that she needed him in the jail. Captain Copeland enters the book in area in the jail. Captain Copeland observes inmate Garcia on the floor in Detox cell 188, and Officer Ward doing chest compressions. At approximately 18:10, Medical Officer Wallace relieves Officer Ward and continues chest compressions. At approximately 18:12, EMS arrives and relieves Medical Officer Wallace and continues chest compression. Chest compressions continue for approximately 20 minutes. At approximately 18:32, inmate Garcia is placed on a stretcher with chest compression continuing and loaded into the ambulance. Officer Ward and Officer Soto enter the ambulance to assist with chest compressions. At approximately 18:35, the ambulance exits the sally port and Officer Flaxington follows in the transport van. At approximately 18:40, the ambulance pulls in front of the sheriff's office and EMS advises at 18:39 the on call doctor at UMC Hospital instructed them to stop all compressions and pronounced inmate Garcia. At approximately 18:45, Captain Copeland advises Jail Inspector Shane Sowell of the Death in custody, and Chief Hamilton contacts DPS Texas Ranger Michael Villanueva to request his presence to investigate the Death.