



KEN PAXTON

ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number: 18-1224-CJ

Version Type: AMENDED

Report Date: 12/27/2018 10:14
AM

Status: Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name: Fannin County
Sheriff's Dept.

Agency Address: 2375 Silo Rd

Agency City: Bonham

Agency State: TX

Agency Zip: 75418

Director Information

Director Salutation: Sheriff

Director First Name: Mark

Director Middle Name:

Director Last Name: Johnson

Reporter Name: Nicholas Tredway

Reporter Email: ntredway@fanninco.net

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Paul

Middle Name: Dennis

Last Name: Plecker

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 9/24/1951

Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 67

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

Date/Time of Custody or
Incident: 5/18/2018 6:50 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 11/29/2018 8:56
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: Natural

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Based upon the autopsy and history available to me, it is my opinion that Paul Dennis Plecker, a 67-year-old male, died as the result of hypertensive and atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease associated with congenital bicuspid aortic valve with his chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and diabetes mellitus contributing to his death. (Conclusion taken from Autopsy)

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

Medical Treatment: Yes

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?: Pre-existing medical condition

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: 2389 Silo Rd

City: Bonham

County: Fannin

Zip: 75418

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 - single 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: 5/18/2018 6:50 PM

Where did the death occur?

Death Location: Law enforcement
facility/booking
center

General Information

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

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:

AGG Sexual Assault of Child

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: Crimes Against
Child(ren)

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): No

Make suicidal statements?: No

Exhibit any mental health
problems?: No

Exhibit any medical problems?: Yes

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: No

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

On Thursday, 11-29-2018, at approximately 7:53 P.M., inmate Paul Plecker, W/M, DOB: 09-24-1951, at the Fannin County Jail, was found unresponsive in his single person cell (#204 –S3) by a correctional officer. Medical staff at the jail and local paramedics administered life saving measures without success. The inmate was subsequently pronounced dead by a Justice of the Peace. Texas Ranger Brad Oliver was contacted by the Fannin County Sheriff to conduct a custodial death investigation. Ranger Oliver responded to the Fannin County Jail and processed to the inmate's cell, located in the Restricted Housing Unit (RHU), and inspected the deceased's body, which was lying supine on the bed (Correction's staff and medical personnel placed the inmate in this position to administer the life saving measures) wearing his issued green and white jail clothing. There was no visible evidence of trauma to the body nor was there any evidence inside the jail cell indicating how the inmate died. Medical Staff at the jail indicated the inmate had pre-existing medical conditions, to include diabetes, upon his arrival to the jail on 05-18-2018. The inmate's cell was equipped with a digital surveillance camera. A review of the video recording from the inmate's jail cell showed the inmate to be alone in the cell sitting on the edge of the bed. He eventually laid back up against the wall where it was clearly obvious he suffered from an acute medical condition, causing his body to convulse, breath heavy and then to go limp. The video showed the first sign of the inmate being in medical distress at approximately 7:39 P.M. A correctional officer had visually observed the inmate at 7:37 P.M., by looking through the window on the jail cell door. At 7:53 P.M., well within the mandated every 30 minutes there had to be a visual check of the inmate, observed the inmate to be unresponsive on the bed. The correctional officer immediately called for assistance and eventually made his way into the cell to check the welfare of the inmate. The Emergency Response Team (HRT) arrived at the cell at approximately 7:56 P.M., and immediately began performing life saving measures to the inmate without success. The inmate was pronounced dead at 8:56 P.M. by the Justice of the Peace.

On 11-30-2018, Ranger Oliver attended the autopsy of the inmate at the Collin County Medical Examiner's Office. The autopsy did not reveal any trauma to the inmate suggesting the inmate died from a medical condition; however, the final autopsy is pending.

