



KEN PAXTON

ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number: 18-1388-CJ

Version Type: ORIGINAL
VERSION

Report Date: 1/24/2019 2:00 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: John

Middle Name: Wayne

Last Name: Gestes

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 11/15/1946

Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 72

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

Date/Time of Custody or
Incident: 12/2/2018 8:25 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 12/14/2018 5:28
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:

Chronic myocarditis

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

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 - 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: 12/4/2018 4:00 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:

DWI 3rd or More

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: 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?

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

Resist being handcuffed or

standoff?:	No	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 12/14/18 at approximately 1630 Medical Officer Wallace and Officer Ramirez were escorting (in wheelchair) Inmate J.Gestes #15080 from cell 161 to observation cell 195 due to Inmate Gestes stating that he was vomiting. Officer Wallace and Officer Ramirez exited cell 195 at approximately 1634. Medical Officer Wallace advised me that Inmate Gestes had told her he was vomiting and showed her what appeared to be a small amount of spit on the floor in cell 161. Officer Wallace stated that Inmate Gestes was also stating that he was having problems urinating and breathing. Officer Wallace checked Inmate Gestes pulse ox before Inmate Gestes was moved to observation and his pulse ox was between 97% and 98%. At approximately 1644, Officer Ramirez called, via 2 way radio, for Officer Wallace to meet her at cell 195. I Lt. Ward exited my office and responded to that cell. As I entered the cell I observed Inmate Gestes laying on his right side, facing the door, and he was unresponsive. At this time Officers Zapata, Wallace, and Vizcaino arrived at the cell. Officer Wallace, Officer Zapata, and I moved Inmate Gestes to a prone position on the floor. At approximately 1645 Officer Wallace, Officer Vizcaino, and I began taking turns on chest compressions. Officer Zapata (with face mask) was conducting breaths in between compressions. EMS arrived at approximately 1627 and took over CPR.