KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	20-1117-UF	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	11/30/2020 11:39 AM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	San Benito Police Dept.	Agency Address:	485 N. Sam Houston Blvd.
Agency City:	San Benito	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	78586		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Chief	Director First Name:	Fred
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Bell		
Reporter Name:	Mario Perea	Reporter Email:	mperea@cityofsanbenito.com

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Samuel

Middle Name:

Last Name: Mata

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 2/13/1999 Sex: Male

Race: Hispanic or Latino

Age At Time Of Death: 21

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 8/19/2020 11:08 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 8/19/2020 11:18 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:

Preliminary autopsy report shows gunshot wound to the chest. Toxicology report is pending.

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?: 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?: Handgun

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: 531 E Powers
City: San Benito
County: Cameron
Zip: 78586

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

Location Category: Roadway/highway/street/sidewalk

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:

Custody of Law Enforcement Personnel during/fleeing arrest

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:

Aggravated Assault w/ Deadly Weapon

Offense 2:

Abandoning or Endangering a Child

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: Other, specify

Type of Offense, Other:

Neighbors called stating they heard a male and female arguing as well as items being broken.

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: Displayed firearm without discharge

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:	Attempted to injure law enforcement personnel; Attempted to injure 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):	Yes	Make suicidal statements?:	No
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Unknown	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):	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?

Under Restraint:	No

Summary of Incident

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

Summary:

On 08/19/2020 at approximately 23:04 pm, a call for service was placed to this department in regards to a domestic disturbance in progress in the alley behind 390 S Bonham St. The caller informed the dispatcher that he could hear glass breaking and requested for officers to hurry to the scene. An officer was dispatched to the location and upon arrival he observed a male hiding behind a vehicle parked in front of 531 E Powers St.

As the officer approached the vehicle, the male later identified as Samuel Mata got into the driver seat of the vehicle and attempted to leave the area. A female, later identified as Mata's mother was arguing with him and physically trying to get him to exit the vehicle. Mata's mother did not want Samuel to drive and informed the officer that she believed he was under the influence of narcotics to which Samuel replied that he was. The officer at the scene ordered Mata to calm down several times and told him that he would get pepper sprayed if he didn't comply.

Samuel exited the vehicle and began pushing his mother telling her to get out of the way. As Samuel got out of the vehicle he displayed a firearm and pointed it in the direction of his mother. The officer then fired his handgun at Samuel striking him in the upper torso. The officer and backup officers who arrived began performing CPR on Samuel, but he was later pronounced dead at the scene.