KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	21-657-CJ	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	1/19/2022 2:26 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Harris County Sheriff's Dept.	Agency Address:	1200 Baker Street
Agency City:	Houston	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	77002		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Sheriff	Director First Name:	Ed
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Gonzalez		
Reporter Name:	Jeffery Vickery	Reporter Email:	jeffery.vickery@sheriff.hctx.net

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Rory

Middle Name: Gene

Last Name: Ward

Suffix: Jr

Date of Birth: 2/25/1988 Sex: Male

Race: Black or African American

Age At Time Of Death: 33

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 5/23/2020 8:20 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 5/12/2021 4:20 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:

Complications of blunt head trauma

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?: Other detainee(s)

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: Other, specify

Means of Death Other: Hands

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address:	1200 Baker Street	City:	Houston
County:	Harris	Zip:	77002

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 - multiple occupancy 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:	5/23/2020 8:20 PM

Where did the death occur?

Death Location:	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:

Assault Peace Officer

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: Violent Crime Against Persons

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?: Unknown

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

Appear intoxicated (alcohol or drugs): Unknown

Make suicidal statements?: Unknown

Exhibit any mental health problems?: Unknown

Exhibit any medical problems?: Unknown

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?:	Unknown
Physically attempt/assault officer(s):	Unknown	Gain possession of officer's weapon:	No
Verbally threaten other(s) including law:	Unknown	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 May 8, 2021, the decedent was assaulted by inmates inside a cell and was escorted to the clinic. A medical provider assessed and treated the decedent and he was medically cleared to be released from the clinic. The decedent was reassigned to a single cell. On May 11, 2021, the decedent was observed slumped over inside his cell and medical staff responded. The decedent was transported to and assessed in the clinic, where HFD (Houston Fire Department) was called. HFD transported the decedent to Ben Taub Hospital with a pulse. On May 12, 2021, a medical doctor pronounced the decedent's death.