



KEN PAXTON

ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number: 23-933-PF

Version Type: AMENDED

Report Date: 3/13/2024 2:16 PM

Status: Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name: Comal County
Sheriff's Dept.

Agency Address: 3005 W. San
Antonio St.

Agency City: New Braunfels

Agency State: TX

Agency Zip: 78130

Director Information

Director Salutation: Sheriff

Director First Name: Mark

Director Middle Name: W.

Director Last Name: Reynolds

Reporter Name: Mark Reynolds

Reporter Email: soamwr@co.comal.tx.us

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Ronald

Middle Name: Tracy

Last Name: Bush

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 5/18/1970

Sex: Male

Race: Anglo or White

Age At Time Of Death: 53

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

Date/Time of Custody or
Incident: 6/8/2023 11:30 AM

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

Death Date and Time: 7/11/2023 9:32 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:

Complications of diabetic ketoacidosis

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

Medical Treatment: Unknown

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: Other, specify

Means of Death Other: Atherosclerotic and hypertensive cardiovascular disease; liver cirrhosis of uncertain etiology

Location / Custody Information

Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street Address: 555 Creekside
Crossing

City: New Braunfels

County: Comal

Zip: 78130

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

Location Category: Other, specify

Other Location Category:

Resolute Hospital

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

Type of Custody: Private Facility

Specific type of custody/facility:

Specific Type of Custody/Facility:

Hospital/Infirmary

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: 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:

F3 Violation Bod DWI 3rd or More

Offense 2:

MA Assault Bodily Injury FV

Offense 3:

MA Resist Arrest Search or Transport

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:

VCOB, Capias by District Judge

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):	Unknown	Make suicidal statements?:	No
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	Yes	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 06/08/23, Ronald Tracy Bush DOB:05/18/70, appeared in Comal County District Court for a hearing in case #CR2023-048. The bond in the case was increased by Judge Wright-Reneau. A Alias Capias for violation of conditions of bond - Driving While Intoxicated 3rd or more was issued and Mr. Bush was taken into custody. Mr. Bush was transported and released in the care and control of the Comal County Jail. Mr. Bush was booked into the jail with unknown preexisting health issue. While incarcerated Mr. Bush requested stool softener as he had no bowel movement for 5 days. Mr. Bush also complained of back pain/issues. On 06/14/2023, Mr. Bush had complaints of sickness and abdominal pain. Mr. Bush was transported from the jail to the Resolute Hospital emergency room and admitted. Examination revealed Mr. Bush to be suffering from diabetic keto acidosis, sepsis, high blood sugar, and low sodium. Mr. Bush was treated and transferred to the intensive care unit for further care. On 06/15/2023, Mr. Bush was placed on a ventilator due to low oxygen levels. Mr. Bush remained in care and was further treated for a urinary tract infection. On 06/16/2023, Mr. Bush was released from custody on personal recognizance (PR) bond; authorized by Judge Leonie. On 06/30/2023, a tracheotomy was placed and Mr. Bush was treated for bleeding of the liver due to cirrhosis.

Mr. Bush remained in care and continued to decline. On 07/11/2023, an examination revealed Mr. Bush to be suffering from perforated bowels and emergent surgery was performed. Hospital personnel consulted with Mr. Bush's family regarding his poor medical status and they instructed hospital personnel to place Mr. Bush on comfort measures. At approximately 8:15 pm on 07/11/23, Mr. Bush was placed on comfort measures. Death was pronounced by Nurse Practitioner Whitehawk at 9:32 pm. There is no known history of suicidal ideations or past attempts. There is no known history of drug or tobacco abuse. There is a suspected history of alcohol abuse. No signs of trauma. Foul play is not suspected.

Mr. Bush is a 53-year-old Caucasian man with brown hair, brown eyes, all natural teeth, and a beard and mustache. Mr. Bush was observed lying supine on a medical bed in the intensive care unit. Mr. Bush was noted wearing a hospital gown. A medical tube was noted in place to the right nostril. A medical tube was noted in place to the neck. EKG patches were noted to the chest and abdomen. Intravenous catheters were noted to the bilateral arms. A medical identification band was noted to the left wrist, reading, "BUSH, RONALD T" and "MRN #000610069". A medical bandage was noted to the abdomen. A skin defect was noted to the abdomen. A urinary catheter was noted in place. A skin defect was noted to the right ear. A large hole was noted to the abdomen that appeared consistent with a medical surgery. Swelling was noted to the bilateral feet.

The back was unremarkable. Rigor was noted to be absent from the body. Lividity blanched with light pressure and appeared consistent with Mr. Bush's position upon CSS arrival.

Justice of the Peace Mike Rust was informed of the death and ordered a full autopsy to be completed at the Travis County Medical Examiner's Office.