KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL of TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number:	24-1347-UF	Version Type:	AMENDED
Report Date:	5/24/2024 2:41 PM	Status:	Submitted

Agency/Facility Information

Agency Name:	Houston Police Dept.	Agency Address:	1200 Travis, 16th Floor
Agency City:	Houston	Agency State:	TX
Agency Zip:	77002		

Director Information

Director Salutation:	Director	Director First Name:	Sheryal
Director Middle Name:			
Director Last Name:	Armstrong		

Reporter Name:	Melissa Countryman	Reporter Email:	melissa.countryman@houstonpolice.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: David

Middle Name: Earl

Last Name: James

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 2/3/1969

Sex: Male

Race: Black or African American

Age At Time Of Death: 55

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 5/3/2024 12:58 PM

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

Death Date and Time: 5/3/2024 1:04 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: Suicide

Medical Cause of Death:

Medical Cause of Death:

Gunshot wound

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

Medical Treatment: Not Applicable

If death was an accident, homicide or suicide, who caused the death?

Who caused the death?: Decedent

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: 2300 Hutton
City: Houston
County: Harris
Zip: 77026

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

Location Category: Other, specify

Other Location Category:

Residential driveway

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:

N/A

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:

Deadly Conduct

Offense 2:

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:

Discharged Firearm (Deadly Conduct)

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: Discharged firearm

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):	No	Make suicidal statements?:	No
Exhibit any mental health problems?:	No	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?:	Yes	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 Friday, May 3, 2024, at approximately 12:55 PM, Houston Police Department (HPD) patrol officers were dispatched to a "Shooting in Progress" call at 2300 Hutton St., Houston, Harris County, Texas 77026. Upon arriving at the scene, the officers observed the described suspect attempting to back out of the driveway of the residence in a blue vehicle. The officers stopped and exited their patrol vehicle in the roadway, behind the blue vehicle. The officers then began to give verbal instructions to the suspect, who failed to comply. While giving verbal instructions to the suspect, the officers observed the suspect raise a pistol and place it next to the left side of his head, and then they heard two gunshots. The officers on the scene created a contact team to approach the vehicle and found the suspect to be lifeless from a self-inflicted wound inside the vehicle. Once Houston Fire Department (HFD) personnel arrived on the scene, the suspect was pronounced deceased at the scene at approximately 1:04 PM.