



KEN PAXTON

ATTORNEY GENERAL *of* TEXAS

CUSTODIAL DEATH REPORT

Agency Information

CDR Number: 25-1110-UF

Version Type: ORIGINAL
VERSION

Report Date: 9/21/2026 2:20 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: Chief

Director First Name: J. Noe

Director Middle Name:

Director Last Name: Diaz

Reporter Name: Angeline Grimes

Reporter Email: angeline.grimes@houstonpolice.org

Decedent Information

Identity of Deceased

First Name: Ronald

Middle Name:

Last Name: Gilkey

Suffix:

Date of Birth: 12/11/1964

Sex: Male

Race: Black or African
American

Age At Time Of Death: 61

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

Date/Time of Custody or Incident: 12/20/2025 12:11
AM

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

Death Date and Time: 12/20/2025 6:35
AM

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:

Suicide - Single gunshot wound of the head.

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: 5401 Werner Street
#54

City: Houston

County: Harris

Zip: 77076

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

Location Category: Residence/Home

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 Against Public Servant

Offense 2:

Unlawful Possession Firearm by Felon

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: Yes, mark all that apply

Decedent Display or Use
Weapon Details: Displayed firearm
without discharge;
Discharged firearm

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

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?: 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?: Yes

Resist being handcuffed or arrested?: Yes

Physically attempt/assault officer(s): Yes

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 Saturday, December 25, 2025, officers from the Houston Police Department's North Patrol Division were dispatched to a Suspicious Person with a Weapon call for service at approximately 12:11 A.M.

Upon arrival, officers observed the decedent outside of his apartment to have a silver firearm. Officers ordered him to drop the weapon, but he refused and retreated inside of his apartment, where he fired multiple shots at officers. The officers did not return gunfire, and then contacted the Harris County District Attorney's Office, which accepted charges for Aggravated Assault Against a Public Servant and Unlawful Possession of a Firearm by a Felon.

HPD SWAT and the HPD Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT) were requested to the scene and made multiple attempts to have the decedent exit the apartment peacefully. SWAT deployed four (4) gas canisters to assist in resolution efforts. After communication ceased, a drone was used to enter the apartment, where the decedent was observed with an apparent gunshot wound to the head. SWAT forced entry through the locked front door and found the decedent with a single gunshot wound to the head and a silver firearm, near his feet.

He was pronounced deceased at approximately 6:35 A.M.

On Sunday, December 21, 2025, Dr. Ross, of the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences Medical Examiner's Office ruled the cause of death as a single contact gunshot wound to the head, and the manner of death as suicide. There were no injuries to officers or citizens related to this incident.